From: Walt and Kay Hays [mailto:wkhays@igc.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 15, 2012 1:45 PM
To: Bobel, Phil; bob@pagreenenergy.org; Harrington, Caroll; ccurtis@ix.netcom.com; de La Beaujardiere, Cedric; hilary.gans@gmail.com; pdrekmeler@earthlink.net; adigiorgio@gmail.com
Subject: Fwd: RFP for Compost Facility

Same letter sent to all Committee members.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Walt and Kay Hays <wkhays@igc.org>
Subject: RFP for Compost Facility
Date: May 15, 2012 1:38:50 PM PDT
To: gail.price3@gmail.com

Hi,

I am writing you as a member of the Finance Committee. I understand that the Committee will review the Public Works budget next Tuesday, and I assume that my request for the Council to consider adding $300,000 to the Refuse Fund to expedite preparation of the RFP described above will be considered then.

As indicated in my letter (copy attached), Phil Bobel indicated that such expedition would save much more than it would cost. Accordingly, it would seem a worthy investment. It is also strongly desired by all who worked on Measure E, so we would appreciate your support.

I will call you between now and then to answer any questions you might have.

Thanks.

Walt
Dear Council:

I am writing on behalf of Palo Alto Green Energy (PAGE), the group that sponsored Measure E, to urge you to find a way to add $300,000 to the forthcoming Refuse Fund Budget, to enable Public Works to expedite preparation of an RFP for an Energy/Compost Facility.

Preparation of that RFP is a key step in implementing Measure E, and under the Action Plan drafted by ARI, it will not be completed until March 2013. However, we have been informed by staff that expediting such preparation would save substantial money on issues like landfill capping, water treatment planning and plant landscaping.

At the Public review of the Action Plan on April 25, PAGE representatives asked if expediting the RFP would be possible, and the answer was that since staffing is so thin, it could be done only if there were money in the budget to hire a consultant. Staff added that there is currently no money in the Refuse Fund for such purpose either this year or next.

Our next question was how much money would be needed, and the answer was $300,000. A PAGE member then noted that one benefit provided by Stanford in exchange for approval of its hospital expansion was $10 million for dealing with sustainability and climate change, and since a main thrust of Measure E was to deal with those issues, an expedited RFP would be an appropriate use of a portion of those funds.

Regardless of the source of the funds, the overwhelming voter support for Measure E, together with the savings to be gained by expediting the RFP, clearly justify this addition to the Refuse Fund budget. Please approve it.

Sincerely yours,

Walter V. Hays