



To: Board of Supervisors  
From: Birgitta E. Corsello, County Administrator  
Date: July 7, 2017  
Subject: Significant Issues Update

---

### **1) County Administrator's Update on Contracts**

- The Department of General Services, Nut Tree Airport, a contract with Brick Architecture and Interiors for hangar A roof design and rehabilitation, \$27,530, from June 1, 2017 to May 31, 2018. The funding source is the Nut Tree Airport's operational revenue.

### **2) Annual Update on Garbage, Recyclable and Green Waste Collection Services in the Unincorporated Areas of Solano County**

In November 2014, the Board of Supervisors approved amendments to the service agreements with Recology Vacaville Solano (Recology) and Solano Garbage Company to extend the terms by ten years from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2024 for garbage, recyclable, and green waste collection services in the majority of the unincorporated areas of Solano County. In March 2015, the Board approved a new service agreement with Rio Vista Sanitation Service for the same term and services in the unincorporated areas of Rio Vista.

The data collected and illustrated in the tables and chart below shows the second annual (2016) results of the garbage diversion efforts and additional services offered to customers compared to the first-year results (2015). This data will continue to be tracked and evaluated annually to determine the progress towards improving customer recycling behavior, reduction of waste from neighborhoods, and customer satisfaction.

The lines highlighted green indicate a positive year-over-year change from 2015 to 2016 (note: a negative percentage change for the amount of garbage collected - and the ratio of garbage divided by the sum of recyclables and green waste - are positive changes). Lines highlighted red indicate a negative year-over-year change. Lines not highlighted are not applicable.

#### **Solano Garbage Company – Unincorporated Fairfield and Suisun Areas**

Less garbage was collected while more recyclables were collected – both positive trends - which resulted in a 2% drop in the actual ratio between the two reported years. This drop is positive but does not meet the 6% drop set as the benchmark ratio goal, so additional customer outreach will be conducted to try to improve customer recycling behavior. There were significant decreases in green waste and the number of bulky items collected; one possible explanation is that there was less volume generated in 2016.

	2015	2016	% Change
Garbage Collected (tons)	3,015	2,213	-27%
Recyclables Collected (tons)	781	852	9%
Green Waste Collected (tons)	1,352	753	-44%
Bulky Item Customers	51	13	-75%
Landfill Coupon Customers	661	748	13%
Landfill Coupon Volume (yards)	1,090	1,267	16%
Actual Ratio (garbage / (recyclables + green waste))	1.41	1.38	-2%
Benchmark Ratio (garbage / (recyclables + green waste))	1.31	1.23	-6%
Total Complaints	310	201	-35%

### Rio Vista Sanitation Service – Unincorporated Rio Vista Areas

Although there was an increase in garbage collected, the increase in recycling was outstanding, and while this change did not hit the benchmark goal, the actual ratio still reflects a 33% drop from 2015, which is excellent for a one-year move. Additional customer outreach will be conducted to try to improve customer recycling behavior even further. As seen in the unincorporated Fairfield and Suisun areas, there was a significant decrease in green waste and the number of bulky items collected. Landfill volume associated with the free coupons was not available but has been requested for subsequent years.

	2015	2016	% Change
Garbage Collected (tons)	349	411	18%
Recyclables Collected (tons)	58	104	80%
Green Waste Collected (tons)	2	1	-57%
Bulky Item Customers	10	6	-40%
Landfill Coupon Customers	26	27	4%
Landfill Coupon Volume (yards)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Actual Ratio (garbage / (recyclables + green waste))	5.79	3.9	-33%
Benchmark Ratio (garbage / (recyclables + green waste))	3.24	3.04	-6%
Total Complaints	10	2	-80%

### Recology - Unincorporated Vacaville, Dixon and Elmira Areas

Overall results for this area reflect a 3% increase in garbage and only a 1% increase in recycling. In 2015, the actual ratio was spot-on with the benchmark ratio at 3.24, but the change in 2016 led to an increase in the actual ratio rather than a decline. Subscription for green waste is a fee-based option for customers in this area. More customer outreach is needed to try to improve customer recycling behavior. Additionally, customer complaints increased. On the bright side, bulky item and landfill customers increased.

	2015	2016	% Change
Garbage Collected (tons)	3,418	3,537	3%
Recyclables Collected (tons)	1,054	1,059	1%
Green Waste Collected (tons)	0	0	0%
Bulky Item Customers	84	145	73%
Landfill Coupon Customers	1,400	1,596	14%
Landfill Coupon Volume (tons)	498	628	26%
Actual Ratio (garbage / (recyclables + green waste))	3.24	3.34	3%
Benchmark Ratio (garbage / (recyclables + green waste))	3.24	3.04	-6%
Total Complaints	176	242	38%

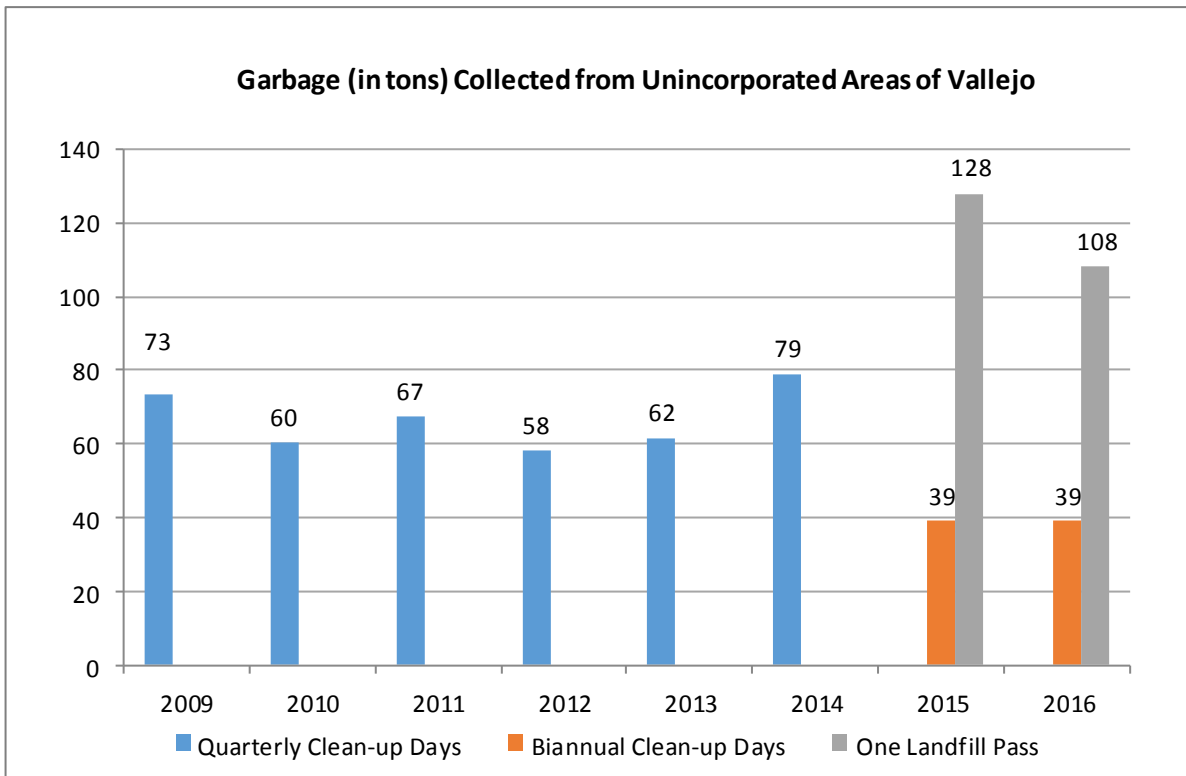
### Recology - Unincorporated Vallejo Areas

Almost every category was positive for this area in 2016, and although there was less volume collected with the landfill passes, the tonnage was still significantly higher than that collected through the clean-up days (see next section). Recycling continues to improve due to the replacement of the old 18-gallon recycling tubs with new 96-gallon wheeled totes and the actual ratio remains well below the benchmark ratio.

	2015	2016	% Change
Garbage Collected (tons)	1,247	1,202	-4%
Recyclables Collected (tons)	261	324	24%
Green Waste Collected (tons)	409	471	15%
Bulky Item Customers	51	83	63%
Landfill Coupon Customers	163	164	1%
Landfill Coupon Volume (tons)	128	108	-16%
Actual Ratio (garbage / (recyclables + green waste))	1.86	1.51	-19%
Benchmark Ratio (garbage / (recyclables + green waste))	2.50	2.35	-6%
Total Complaints	217	190	-12%

### Vallejo "Clean-up" days and Free Landfill Pass Data

Recology had been providing four annual clean-up days (once per quarter). New services for 2015 included offering customers one free annual landfill pass. In exchange, the clean-up days were reduced to two a year. Data collected for 2016 compared against previous years shows the continued success of the free landfill pass as illustrated below.



**Contact:** Keith Hanson, Real Estate Manager – General Services Department  
(707) 784-7906 and [KDHanson@SolanoCounty.com](mailto:KDHanson@SolanoCounty.com)

### **3) Supplemental Information to the Annual Update on Garbage, Recyclable and Green Waste Collection Services in the Unincorporated Areas of Solano County from the Department of Resource Management**

The 2016 annual update on garbage, recyclable, and green waste collection services in the unincorporated areas of Solano County, submitted by General Services, indicates an overall increase from 2015 in recycling, but a decrease in green waste. In two of the four service areas, there was an increase in municipal solid waste (MSW) disposed at landfills.

While the statewide recycling rate dipped from 47% to 45%, Solano County residents and businesses responded well to direct outreach efforts by demonstrating strong increases. Meanwhile, green waste collection dropped in response to the public heeding drought restrictions that left brown and yellow lawns for dead. MSW increases in the unincorporated areas outside the city of Rio Vista, served by Rio Vista Sanitation Service (RVSS), and the unincorporated areas outside the cities of Dixon and Vacaville, served by Recology Vacaville Solano (RVS), are a result of the cleanup effort in Collinsville and generation of construction and demolition (C&D) debris.

In 2016, RVSS was instrumental in the Department of Resource Management’s year-long outreach efforts to promote County services and programs that addressed the needs of individual properties following the aftermath of the July 2014 fire in Collinsville. This included management of trash, green waste and recyclables.

A review of properties found only five of 32 addresses, subject to mandatory garbage service, with active accounts. The County directed RVSS to deliver garbage and recycling containers to the 27 non-subscribing addresses to start service. Additionally, RVSS donated multiple debris boxes to the Collinsville community to rid the accumulation of junk and debris on their properties to support voluntary compliance with Solano County Code. These actions certainly contributed to the increase in MSW but also provided the opportunity to double the recycling rate.

The increase in RVS' service can be attributed to the steady rise in Solano County building permits issued for re-models, additions, and new construction in the areas outside the cities of Dixon and Vacaville. The correlation between building permits and increasing property values is likely due to the renewed strength in the Bay Area housing market. California's Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) reports statewide disposal jumped significantly from 33.2 million tons in 2015 to an estimated 35 million tons in 2016; a result of the economic upturn.

Like Solano County, the State identifies C&D waste as one of the primary culprits. A public education campaign to promote C&D diversion to its highest and best end use will educate homeowners and contractors to source separate discards at their project site.

**Contact:** Narcisa Untal, Senior Planner, Department of Resource Management  
(707) 784-3172 and [NUntal@SolanoCounty.com](mailto:NUntal@SolanoCounty.com)