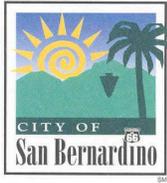


**SECTION 5.18
SOLID WASTE**



5.18 SOLID WASTE

This section identifies existing solid waste disposal facilities within the City of San Bernardino and provides an analysis of potential solid waste impacts associated with the implementation of the proposed project. This section is based on information obtained from the *General Plan Utilities Element*, the *San Bernardino Final General Plan Update and Associated Specific Plans Environmental Impact Report*, the *City of San Bernardino Municipal Code*, the City of San Bernardino website, and the City of San Bernardino Integrated Waste Management Division.

5.18.1 REGULATORY SETTING

California Integrated Waste Management Act

The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939) requires every city and county in the state to prepare a Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE) to its Solid Waste Management Plan, that identifies how each jurisdiction will meet the mandatory state waste diversion goal of 50 percent by and after the year 2000. The purpose of AB 939 is to “reduce, recycle, and re-use solid waste generated in the state to the maximum extent feasible.”

The term “integrated waste management” refers to the use of a variety of waste management practices to safely and effectively handle the municipal solid waste stream with the least adverse impact on human health and the environment. AB 939 established a waste management hierarchy as follows:

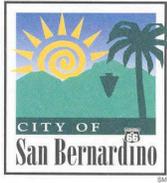
- Source Reduction;
- Recycling;
- Composting;
- Transformation; and
- Disposal.

California State Mandated Solid Waste Diversion¹

As landfills reach their capacities and new landfill sites become increasingly difficult to establish, the need to reduce solid waste generation is significant. State law currently requires that local jurisdictions divert at least 50 percent of their solid waste from landfills through recycling, conservation, and composting. The City of San Bernardino is required to comply with State regulations.

Currently, there no collection service deficiencies and all sites utilized by the City are considered to adequate. In 2002, the City diverted 45 percent of its solid waste, five percent less than the 50 percent diversion rates required by the State. Local governments are subject to fines of up to \$10,000 per day if the waste diversion goals are not met. Since 1995, the City has received either a Board Approved or Good Faith Effort in reaching waste diversion goals required by the law.

¹ *Final San Bernardino General Plan Update and Associated Specific Plans Environmental Impact Report*, prepared by The Planning Center, dated September 30, 2005.



City of San Bernardino Waste Reduction Programs

The City's programs to divert solid waste from landfills include composting, facility recovery, policy incentives, household hazardous waste management, public education recycling, reduction of the amount of solid waste produced, special waste materials, and transformation.² In addition to reducing the amount of waste that might otherwise be sent to a landfill, the City's household hazardous waste management program is an important facet in the City's effort to clean up the solid waste stream.

City of San Bernardino Municipal Code

Title 8 Health and Safety, Chapter 8.24 Refuse and Solid Waste sets forth uniform requirements and regulations for the direct and indirect users of the refuse and recycling collection services of the City. The chapter also allows for the City to comply with all applicable state and federal laws, including, but not limited to, the Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989, State Assembly Bill 75, Public Resources Code 49520-49524, California Code Title 14 Division 7 and any subsequent amendments to each.

5.18.2 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

EXISTING SOLID WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Solid waste collection within much of the City and a portion of the unincorporated area is provided by the Solid Waste Services and Refuse and Recycling Division of the City of San Bernardino Department of Public Services. Solid waste collection in the remainder of the City is provided by private haulers through franchise contracts with the City.³ According to the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB), a total of 206,947 tons of solid waste was deposited in local landfills in 2008. The latest recorded diversion rate was 54 percent reduction in the total amount of refuse produced due to the waste diversion programs in 2006.⁴ According to CIWMB in 2005, residential land uses in the City were responsible for disposing 58,454 tons of solid waste while businesses in the City were responsible for 136,392 tons of solid waste resulting in a total of 194,846 tons of solid waste deposited in local landfills. The total amount represents a 45 percent reduction in the total amount of refuse produced due to the waste diversion programs. With diversion the average amount contributed to landfills by each resident would be two pounds of solid waste per day or 730 pounds per year. Employees/businesses produced 13 pounds of solid waste per person per day or 4,745 tons per year after 45 percent waste diversion.⁵

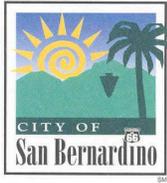
The County of San Bernardino Solid Waste Management Division (SWMD) is responsible for the management and operation of the County's solid waste disposal system which consists of six regional landfills, eight transfer stations, and two community collection centers; refer to Table

² CalRecycle website, <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Profiles/Juris/JurProfile1.asp?RG=C&JURID=426&JUR=San+Bernardino>, accessed March 26, 2010.

³ *Final San Bernardino General Plan Update and Associated Specific Plans Environmental Impact Report*, prepared by The Planning Center, dated September 30, 2005.

⁴ CalRecycle website, <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Profiles/Juris/JurProfile1.asp?RG=C&JURID=426&JUR=San+Bernardino>, accessed March 26, 2010.

⁵ *Final San Bernardino General Plan Update and Associated Specific Plans Environmental Impact Report*, prepared by The Planning Center, dated September 30, 2005.



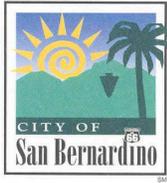
5.18-1, Landfill Facilities Serving San Bernardino. The County contracts with Burrtec Waste Industries for disposal site operations and maintenance. The SWMD also administers the County’s solid waste handling franchise program and the refuse collection permit program which authorizes and regulates trash collection by private haulers in the unincorporated area. The City has no active landfills but primarily utilizes the San Timoteo and Mid-Valley landfills. The San Timoteo Landfill is located in the City of Redlands, to the southeast of the City and the Fontana Sanitary Landfill (Mid-Valley) to the west of the City. The San Timoteo landfill is permitted to accept 1,000 tons per day and has an estimated capacity of 20,400,000 cubic yards. The estimated remaining capacity is 10,908,837 tons and has an anticipated closure date of May 2016. Mid-Valley is permitted to accept 7,500 tons per day of solid waste and has an estimated capacity of 101,300,000 cubic yards. The estimated remaining capacity is 670,000 tons and has an estimated closure date of April 2033. The remaining landfills in the County, which could also be used by the City and Project Area, are also shown in Table 5.18-1.

**Table 5.18-1
Landfill Facilities Servicing San Bernardino**

Facility (County)	Capacity (Cubic Yards)	Permitted Daily Tonnage (Tons)	Remaining Capacity (Tons)	Closure Date
San Timoteo Sanitary Landfill (San Bernardino)	20,400,000	1,000	10,908,837	May 2016
Fontana Sanitary Landfill (Mid-Valley) (San Bernardino)	101,300,000	7,500	670,000	April 2033
Colton Sanitary Landfill (San Bernardino)	13,297,000	3,100	610,000	October 2014
Barstow Sanitary Landfill (San Bernardino)	3,584,500	7,500	924,401	May 2010
Landers Sanitary Landfill (San Bernardino)	3,080,000	1,200	765,098	January 2013
Victorville Sanitary Landfill (San Bernardino)	83,200,000	3,000	82,200,000	October 2047
Total:	224,861,500	23,300	96,078,336	-
Source: CalRecycle website, http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Profiles/Juris/JurProfile1.asp?RG=C&JURID=426&JUR=San+Bernardino , accessed March 26, 2010.				

Regional planning for solid waste issues is conducted by the San Bernardino County Solid Waste Advisory Committee governed by the County Solid Waste Management Plan. The City has a representative serving on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee. Any future solid waste facilities, such as transfer stations and/or landfills, must be incorporated in the County Solid Waste Management Plan.⁶

⁶ *Final San Bernardino General Plan Update and Associated Specific Plans Environmental Impact Report*, prepared by The Planning Center, dated September 30, 2005.



5.18.3 SIGNIFICANCE THRESHOLD CRITERIA

The environmental analysis in this section is patterned after the Initial Study Checklist recommended by the *CEQA Guidelines*, as amended, and used by the City of San Bernardino in its environmental review process, and is contained in Appendix A of the EIR. The Initial Study includes questions relating to solid waste. The issues presented in the Initial Study Checklist have been utilized as thresholds of significance in this section. Accordingly, a project may create a significant environmental impact if it causes one or more of the following to occur:

- Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs.
- Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste (refer to Section 8.0, Effects Found Not To Be Significant).

Based on these standards, the effects of the proposed project have been categorized as either a “less than significant impact” or a “potentially significant impact.” Mitigation measures are recommended for potentially significant impacts. If a potentially significant impact cannot be reduced to a less than significant level through the application of mitigation, it is categorized as a significant unavoidable impact.

5.18.4 PROJECT IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

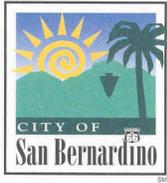
◆ **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT COULD POTENTIALLY RESULT IN INCREASED SOLID WASTE GENERATION IN EXCEEDANCE OF LANDFILL CAPACITY.**

Level of Significance Before Mitigation: Less Than Significant Impact.

Impact Analysis: Implementation of the proposed project would result in the addition of 1,833 dwelling units, 6,122 persons, 6,200,590 square feet of non-residential development, and 16,601 jobs beyond existing conditions. Future development associated with implementation of the proposed project would result in an increased demand for solid waste collection services and waste disposal at landfill facilities. However, this anticipated growth has been planned for within the *General Plan*.

The State of California has established 50 percent as the minimum waste reduction rate for all cities. Since 1995, the City has received either a Board Approved or Good Faith Effort in reaching waste diversion goals required by the law. Continuation of the recycling program and education on composting efforts would result in achieving the desired goal of 50 percent waste diversion in compliance with AB 939. Implementation of the *General Plan*, and therefore the proposed project, as it was planned for within the *General Plan* buildout, would not hinder efforts to achieve this requirement as educational material on reducing waste, recycling and composting would be provided to commercial and residential users. Therefore, the City is near compliance with the State solid waste reduction mandate.⁷

⁷ *Final San Bernardino General Plan Update and Associated Specific Plans Environmental Impact Report*, prepared by The Planning Center, dated September 30, 2005.



As indicated in *Table 5.16-2, Solid Waste Generated by Proposed Project*, implementation of the proposed project would generate 682,216 lbs/day of solid waste. However, local landfills would be able to handle the amount of refuse from the City and surrounding communities for some time and legislative requirements are in place for planning of new landfills in advance of closure of existing landfills. According to AB 939, jurisdictions are required to begin planning for new landfills when the jurisdiction’s primary disposal site reaches its 15-year capacity. Although the remaining County landfills are nearing capacity and closure dates, the landfills do provide alternatives for disposal of waste that help to reduce reliance on the San Timoteo, Mid-Valley, and Colton landfills, which may account for the lower than permitted disposal amounts.⁸

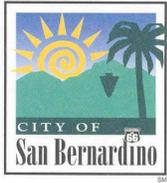
**Table 5.18-2
Solid Waste Generated by Proposed Project**

Land Use	Proposed Development	Generation Factor	Solid Waste Generation
Residential	1,833 du	5.6 lbs/unit/day ¹	10,265 lbs/day
Commercial (Retail/Office/Lodging)*	6,200,590 sf	0.1 lbs/unit/day ²	620,059 lbs/day
Industrial	518,916 sf	0.1 lbs/unit/day ²	51,892 lbs/day
Total			682,216 lbs/day
s.f. = square feet lbs = pounds du = dwelling units 1 ton = 2,000 pounds 1. City of San Bernardino Integrated Waste Management Division, Mrs. Deborah Allen, Environmental Projects Manager, Letter Correspondence, February 11, 2010. 2. <i>University Hills Specific Plan Environmental Impact Report</i> , prepared by Michael Brandman Associates, dated October 22, 2008.			

Compliance with City and County waste reduction programs and policies would reduce the volume of solid waste entering landfills. Future development projects within the City would be required to comply with applicable State and local regulations, thus reducing the amount of landfill waste by at least 50 percent. Nonetheless, implementation of the proposed project would increase the volume of solid waste generated in the City that is diverted to existing landfills, thus contributing to the acceleration of landfill closures or the use of more distant sites. However, this anticipated growth has been planned for within the *General Plan*. Furthermore, the closure dates for the landfills mostly used by the City and Project Area range from 2014 until 2033. Combined remaining capacities at the landfills would be adequate to accommodate implementation of the proposed project.

The *General Plan* Utilities Element includes goals and policies to provide an adequate and orderly system for the collection and disposal of solid waste to meet the demands of new and existing developments in the City. Additionally, future development resulting from the implementation of the proposed project would be reviewed on a project-by-project basis to ensure that solid waste disposal services and landfill facilities would be available to serve the development. Individual projects would be required to provide adequate storage areas for the storage and collection trash, recyclable, and green waste materials. All development projects would be required to comply with Federal, State, and local statutes and regulations related to

⁸ *Final San Bernardino General Plan Update and Associated Specific Plans Environmental Impact Report*, prepared by The Planning Center, dated September 30, 2005.



solid waste. Therefore, implementation of proposed project would result in less than significant impacts.

General Plan Goals and Policies:

UTILITIES ELEMENT

Goal 9.5 Provide an adequate and orderly system for the collection and disposal of solid waste to meet the demands of new and existing developments in the City.

Policy 9.5.1 Install and maintain public trash receptacles along incorporated City streets in commercial areas and along major arterials.

Policy 9.5.2 Provide regular street sweeping.

Policy 9.5.3 Continue to reduce the amount of solid waste that must be disposed of in area landfills, to conserve energy resources, and be consistent with the County Solid Waste Management Plan and State law.

Policy 9.5.4 Continue to support implementation of regional recycling programs through participation in the County Solid Waste Advisory Committee, the County Solid Waste Management Plan, and appropriate State programs.

Policy 9.5.5 Develop and participate in local recycling programs.

Policy 9.5.6 Develop and implement a program of public education regarding the benefits of recycling.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation measures beyond the goals and policies identified in the General Plan are required.

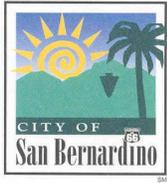
Level of Significance After Mitigation: Not Applicable.

5.18.5 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

◆ **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT COULD RESULT IN CUMULATIVELY CONSIDERABLE IMPACTS RELATED TO SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL SERVICES AND LANDFILL DISPOSAL CAPACITY.**

Level of Significance Before Mitigation: Less Than Significant Impact.

Impact Analysis: Future development associated with implementation of the proposed project and related cumulative projects served by the same solid waste hauler and/or disposal facilities could result in cumulative impacts to solid waste disposal services and landfill capacity. The City of San Bernardino along with cities in the surrounding area would continue to use common landfill resources, thereby reducing the capacity of landfills. Any additional solid waste incrementally added to existing facilities would shorten the amount of time until they reach maximum capacity. Implementation of the proposed project and related cumulative projects



together could significantly impact the finite resources associated with solid waste disposal. However, local landfills would be able to handle the amount of refuse from the City and surrounding communities for some time and legislative requirements are in place for planning of new landfills in advance of closure of existing landfills.⁹

Individual development projects and related cumulative projects would be required to meet current recycling goals, reducing the amount of solid waste requiring disposal at landfills. Future developments would be reviewed on a project-by-project basis; solid waste impacts would be evaluated based on existing and planned disposal facilities and capacities available. All development projects would be required to comply with Federal, State, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste. Pursuant to the AB 939, every city and county in the State is required to divert 50 percent of solid waste generated in its jurisdiction away from landfills. Implementation of source reduction measures, such as recycling and converting waste to energy, that would be implemented on a project-by-project basis would serve to divert solid waste away from landfills. The contribution of the proposed project to cumulative impacts associated with increased solid waste would be less than significant. Furthermore, this anticipated growth has been planned for within the *General Plan*. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in cumulatively considerable solid waste impacts.

General Plan Goals and Policies: Refer to the goals and policies identified above.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation measures beyond the goals and policies identified in the General Plan are required.

Level of Significance After Mitigation: Not Applicable.

5.18.6 SIGNIFICANT UNAVOIDABLE IMPACTS

Solid waste impacts associated with implementation of the proposed project would be less than significant with compliance with State and local requirements and the *General Plan* goals and policies. Therefore, no significant unavoidable solid waste impacts would occur as a result of the proposed project.

5.18.7 SOURCES CITED

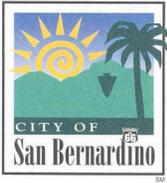
CalRecycle website, <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Profiles/Juris/JurProfile1.asp?RG=C&JURID=426&JUR=San+Bernardino> , accessed March 26, 2010.

California Integrated Waste Management Board, website, accessed March 26, 2010.

City of San Bernardino General Plan, Chapter 9, Utilities Element, prepared by The Planning Center, dated November 1, 2005.

City of San Bernardino Municipal Code, Revised November 2, 2009.

⁹ *Final San Bernardino General Plan Update and Associated Specific Plans Environmental Impact Report*, prepared by The Planning Center, dated September 30, 2005.



San Bernardino Merged Area A – Merger and Amendments Program Environmental Impact Report

City of San Bernardino Integrated Waste Management Division, Mrs. Deborah Allen, Environmental Projects Manager, Letter Correspondence, February 11, 2010.

City of San Bernardino Website, Public Services, Integrated Waste Management Division, http://www.ci.san-bernardino.ca.us/depts/publicserv/integrated_waste_management/default.asp accessed March 26, 2010.

Final San Bernardino General Plan Update and Associated Specific Plans Environmental Impact Report, prepared by The Planning Center, dated September 30, 2005.