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Many Monterey Peninsula cities consider new waste hauler

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A technical advisory panel says six Monterey Peninsula cities and Pebble Beach should switch waste haulers.

GreenWaste Recovery of San Jose, one of four solid-waste companies that responded to a request from the Monterey Regional Waste Management District, won unanimous backing from the district's technical panel.

The recommendation will go to the waste management district board at a special meeting Wednesday in Seaside.

The participating agencies — the cities of Carmel, Del Rey Oaks, Marina, Pacific Grove, Sand City and Seaside along with the Pebble Beach Community Service District — will have the final say on the recommendation. They are not bound to agree on one provider but the district is encouraging that outcome.

Each of the entities now has a waste-services agreement with Waste Management Co. of Houston, which is due to expire in 2015. Waste Management also was among the companies submitting proposals to the district.

The services cover solid-waste collection, recycling and organics collection.

The technical panel said the collective value of 10-year agreements for the seven agencies would be \$170 million.

The other two companies seeking the Peninsula business were Monarch Resource Recovery of Fresno and Bayside Sanitation of Santa Clara.

GreenWaste Recovery's proposal "provided the greatest overall value" relative to the objectives sought by the waste management district, the technical panel said.

The key reasons for the recommendation were service cost, recycling, labor, facilities, public outreach, reduced vehicle emissions, local presence and contract exceptions, the district said Monday.

As to cost, the district said GreenWaste Recovery offers the lowest service cost for the seven areas as a whole, though it would be slightly more costly than Waste Management in Carmel and Sand City.

The technical panel also said GreenWaste Recovery would provide leadership to help the communities reach a state goal of 75 percent waste recycling by 2020.

The company also said it would retain the current labor force if it became the service provider. GreenWaste Recovery followed Waste Management in 2007 in Santa Cruz County, Capitola and Scotts Valley and kept 100 percent of the workforce, the district said.

Monterey is opting not to join the group because it is served by a local firm.