

Alpine April 15, 2025

Bonita

Bonsall

Borrego Springs

Bostonia

Boulevard

Camp Pendleton

Campo

Carlsbad

Casa de Oro

Chula Vista

Coronado

Crest

Cuyamaca

Del Mar

Descanso

El Cajon

Encinitas

Escondido

Eucalyptus Hills

Fallbrook

Granite Hills

Imperial Beach

Harbison Canyon

Hidden Meadows

Jacumba

Jamul

Julian

La Mesa

La Presa

Lake Henshaw

Lake Morena

Lake San Marcos

Lakeside

Lemon Grove

Lincoln Acres

Mount Laguna

National City

Oceanside

Pala

Palomar Mountain

Pauma Valley

Pine Valley

Potrero

Poway

Rainbow

Ramona

Rancho San Diego

Rancho Santa Fe

Rincon

San Diego

San Luis Rey

San Marcos

Santa Ysabel

Santee

Solana Beach

Spring Valley

Valley Center

Vista

Warner Springs

Winter Gardens

Vice Chair Terra Lawson-Remer and Members of the Board of Supervisors
County of San Diego
1600 Pacific Highway
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Vice Chair Lawson-Remer and members of the Board of Supervisors,

The San Diego County Disposal Association has taken a **neutral position** on the solid waste Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) fee increases that are included within the cost recovery adjustments proposed by the Department of Environmental Health and Quality.

We understand that these fee increases are primarily driven by non-discretionary costs, such as the rising costs of salaries and benefits set through labor negotiations. However, the Board of Supervisors should understand that the cost recovery fees are rapidly outpacing the rate of inflation in the region.

For example, the County is proposing the following:

- An **8%** annual fee increase in the "Major Large" transfer station category, resulting in a cumulative fee increase of **44.4%** over the last three fiscal years
- A **9.8%** annual fee increase in the "Minor Large" transfer station category, resulting in a cumulative fee increase of **43.5%** over the last three fiscal years
- A **5.9%** annual fee increase in the "Full Permit" compost facility category, resulting in a cumulative fee increase of **41.4%** over the last three fiscal years

As a point of reference, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for San Diego has increased by **3.8%** in the last year, resulting in a cumulative CPI increase of **13.2%** over the last three years.

We urge the Board and staff to set an expectation that future cost recovery proposals should return to a level similar to the CPI increase. The Board should remember that fees charged to the haulers must be passed on to customers in the form of higher rates, creating real economic impacts that ripple throughout the region.

We appreciate the time dedicated by department leadership to meet directly with our members to discuss the fee increases and other issues of concern related to the LEA. Thank you for considering the perspective of the San Diego County Disposal Association.

Sincerely,



Jim Madaffer
Executive Director



County of San Diego

Environmental Health and Quality Advisory Board

Scott Snyder
Chairman

Kevin Sabellico
Vice Chair

May 1, 2025

TO: Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer, Vice Chair
Supervisor Joel Anderson, Chair Pro Tem
Supervisor Monica Montgomery Steppe
Supervisor Jim Desmond

FROM: Scott Snyder, Chair
Environmental Health and Quality Advisory Board

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND QUALITY ADVISORY BOARD LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR COST RECOVERY PROPOSAL

On April 16, 2025, the Environmental Health and Quality Advisory Board (EHQAB) took action to support the Department of Environmental Health and Quality's (DEHQ) cost recovery proposal for fiscal year 2025-26, as it is in compliance with the County of San Diego Board of Supervisor's Policy B-29, that directs departments to recover the full cost of services.

EHQAB expressed appreciation for the comprehensive review and analysis of costs, services, and benchmarking that DEHQ staff have conducted in preparing the cost recovery proposal. EHQAB recognizes the need for this proposal to address an increase in departmental costs. EHQAB encourages DEHQ to continue the practice of reviewing fees and bringing forward an annual cost recovery proposal which allows for smaller, more incremental cost increases to reduce the impact on businesses and consumers. EHQAB values the department's continued commitment to identify opportunities to streamline and innovate programs to help contain costs and/or enhance service to customers, which is included in DEHQ's FY 2025-26 cost recovery proposal.

EHQAB recognizes DEHQ staff are dedicated to protecting the health and safety of residents and visitors of San Diego County. DEHQ's FY 2025-26 cost recovery proposal will make it possible for DEHQ to maintain existing programs and services while providing the resources that are needed to meet anticipated demands. For these reasons, EHQAB supports DEHQ's FY 2025-26 cost recovery proposal.

If I can be of further assistance, please call me at (858) 505-6794 or email scott@snydergeologic.com.

Sincerely,

Scott Snyder, Chair
Environmental Health and Quality Advisory Board

Cc: Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
Ebony Shelton, Chief Administrative Officer
Dahvia Lynch, LUEG Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Amy Harbert, Director, Department of Environmental Health and Quality