REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA AND RECORD OF ACTION

July 11, 2017

FROM:

KEVIN BLAKESLEE, Director

Department of Public Works - Solid Waste Management

SUBJECT:

AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT REASSIGNING BENZ SANITATION, INC. TO

USA WASTE OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

Approve Amendment No. 5 to Franchise Agreement No. 09-616 approving the assignment from Benz Sanitation, Inc. (Benz Sanitation) to USA Waste of California, Inc. (USA Waste) for the exclusive provision of solid waste handling services within County Franchise Area 21 (unincorporated area of Trona, Windy Acres, Four Corners, and Red Mountain), contingent upon the closing of the sale of Benz Sanitation to USA Waste within 60 days from date of the Board of Supervisors' approval.

(Presenter: Kevin Blakeslee, Director, 387-7906)

COUNTY AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Operate in a Fiscally-Responsible and Business-Like Manner.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Approval of this item will not result in the use of Discretionary General Funding (Net County Cost) and will have no financial impact on the Department of Public Works - Solid Waste Management Division (SWMD) because the recommended amendment is non-financial in nature.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Benz Sanitation is requesting the County's approval to assign to USA Waste solid waste handling Franchise Agreement No. 09-616 (Agreement) to facilitate its anticipated change in ownership. Any change in ownership of a solid waste handling franchisee must be approved by the Board of Supervisors (Board) prior to the effective date of the change. In 2016, Benz first requested the County's approval of the assignment to USA Waste, however, the closing of that transaction was delayed by those parties. They have now advised SWMD that their transaction is set to close on July 11, 2017. Under the recommended Amendment No. 5 to the Agreement, USA Waste assumes the duties and obligations of the Agreement and becomes the Grantee of the exclusive franchise for County Franchise Area 21. No other changes to the Agreement are made through this amendment.

Page 1 of 3

MOVE

cc: DPW-Ignatius w/ agree
Contractor c/o DPW w/ agree
ATC-Acct Pay Mgr w/ agree
DPW-Blakeslee
CAO-Garth
File - w/ agree
mb 07/24/17

ITEM 18

Record of ction of the Board of Supervisors

APPROVED (CONSENT CALENDAR)

COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

Board of Supervisors

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LAURA, H. PEL H. CLERK OF THE BOA

DATED: July 11, 2017

AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT REASSIGNING BENZ SANITATION, INC. TO USA WASTE OF CALIFORNIA, INC. JULY 11, 2017 PAGE 2 OF 3

This action aligns with the County and Chief Executive Officer's goals and objectives of operating in a fiscally-responsible and business-like manner to ensure uninterrupted solid waste handling services for county residents.

The Agreement and County Code Section 46.0303 (b), "Assignment and Change in Ownership" (County Code), require that to consider such a request, the County review financial statements of the proposed transferee; and the County receive satisfactory proof that the proposed transferee (i) have at least three years of adequate solid waste experience; (ii) not have received certain violations related to its solid waste management operations; (iii) conducts its solid waste management operations in compliance with laws and in an environmentally safe and conscientious fashion; and (iv) has adequate financial strength and can obtain the required insurance and bonds.

The County Code and Agreement provide that the County shall not unreasonably withhold its consent to the transfer of a Franchise Agreement or to any Change of Ownership of a grantee under a Franchise Agreement. In this case, the proposed transferee, USA Waste, is currently under contract with the County to provide solid waste handling services in another franchise area. USA Waste has been under contract with the County since 1998 and has continuously provided solid waste handling services to county residents and businesses. The SWMD has reviewed the records and documents identified in the County Code and conclude that USA Waste is qualified, in accordance with the requirements set forth in the County Code and Section 11 of the Agreement to assume the obligations under the Benz Sanitation Agreement.

On June 16, 2009 (Item No. 92), the Board approved the amended and restated Agreement, effective July 2, 2009, granting an exclusive franchise to Benz Sanitation for the provision of solid waste handling services within County Franchise Area 21 (unincorporated area of Trona, Windy Acres, Four Corners, and Red Mountain). Under the Agreement, Benz Sanitation has been providing residential and commercial solid waste handling services for the franchise area. Since 2009, four amendments to the Agreement have been approved by the Board.

On August 23, 2016 (Item No. 51) the Board first approved the assignment of the Agreement from Benz Sanitation to USA Waste. That action became null and void and of no legal effect because the transaction didn't close within 60 days of the Board's approval. The Board approved two additional forms of assignment based on representations from Benz that the transaction was close to closing: on November 15, 2016 (Item No. 36) and on January 9, 2017.

Benz Sanitation advises that the delay in the closing of the transaction has resulted from their need to obtain approvals from several jurisdictions whose solid waste franchise agreements will be impacted by the transaction between Benz and USA Waste. At this time, Benz Sanitation advises that there are no contingencies to complete the transaction to assign the Franchise Agreement to USA Waste and that transaction will be completed by July 11, 2017 upon action by this Board.

AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT REASSIGNING BENZ SANITATION, INC. TO USA WASTE OF CALIFORNIA, INC. JULY 11, 2017 PAGE 3 OF 3

This amendment to the Agreement includes the County's consent to the assignment and assumption of the Agreement by USA Waste, and releases Benz Sanitation from its future obligations under the Agreement. In the event that the transaction does not close prior to the date that is 60 calendar days from the date of the Board's approval of this Agreement, the Board's consent and this amendment shall immediately become null and void and of no legal effect.

PROCUREMENT

Not applicable.

REVIEW BY OTHERS

This item has been reviewed by County Counsel (Penny Alexander-Kelley, Principal Assistant County Counsel, 387-5455) on June 14, 2017; Finance (Deborah Garth, Administrative Analyst, 387-5426) on June 20, 2017; and County Finance and Administration (Mary Olhasso, Assistant Executive Officer, 387-4599) on June 20, 2017.

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Amendment No. 5 to AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO AND BENZ SANITATION, INC.

FOR THE COLLECTION OF SOLID WASTE AND OTHER SERVICES dated June 16, 2009

- A. WHEREAS, on June 16, 2009 (Item No. 92) the Board of Supervisors approved County Contract No. 09-616 with BENZ SANITATION, INC. ("Grantee") to provide residential and commercial solid waste handling services.
- B. WHEREAS, on November 6, 2012 (Item No. 96), the Board approved Amendment No. 1 to the Franchise Agreement which amended Section 13.2 to clarify the methodology for the calculation of rates/Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA), allowed adjustments to be made in accordance with Section 13.2 when calculated in error, and updated the Exhibit "E" which sets the current rates for the franchise area.
- C. WHEREAS, on June 18, 2013 (Item No. 70) the Board approved Amendment No. 2 to the Franchise Agreement which amended Section 4. Term.
- D. WHEREAS, on November 19, 2013 (Item No. 35) the Board approved Amendment No. 3 to the Franchise Agreement which amended Section 4. Term.
- E. WHEREAS, on November 18, 2014 (Item No. 71) the Board approved Amendment No. 4 to the Franchise Agreement including Section 4. Term and Section 13.1 Compensation, and made other changes.
- F. WHEREAS, on June 7, 2016, the GRANTEE submitted to the County a request for approval of the assignment of the Franchise Agreement by Benz Sanitation, Inc. to USA Waste of California, Inc. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Franchise Agreement, Section 11 Franchise Transferability, a transfer of all or part of the GRANTEE's interest in the Franchise Agreement or change in ownership of the GRANTEE, must be approved by the County Board of Supervisors ("Board").

A. **NOW THEREFORE**, the parties agree as follows:

- 1. USA Waste of California, Inc. agrees that it is the GRANTEE under this Franchise Agreement effective on or before a date that is no later than 60 days from the date this amendment is approved by the Board, and that it succeeds to all of the obligations, as well as all of the rights, of Benz Sanitation, Inc. under this Franchise Agreement.
- 2. County consents to USA Waste of California, Inc. becoming the GRANTEE under this Franchise Agreement, effective on or before September 9, 2017 subject to its agreement, as provided above, that it succeeds to the obligations, as well as the rights, of Benz Sanitation, Inc. under the Franchise Agreement, including all amendments.

The address for USA Waste of California, Inc., as the GRANTEE, is 9081 Tujunga Avenue, Sun Valley, Ca. 91352.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Bernardino and the Contractor have each caused this Contract to be subscribed by its respective duly authorized officers on its respective behalf.

COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO	USA WASTE OF CALIFORNIA
	(Print or type name of corporation, company, contractor, etc.)
- Robert desidered	By: Agre Com.
Robert A. Lovingood, Chair, Board of Supervisors	(Authorized signature - sign in blue ink)
Dated:	Name: Joe Cassin
	(Print or type name of person signing contract)
SIGNED AND CERTIFIED THAT A COPY OF THIS	
DOCUMENT HAS BEEN DELIVERED TO THE	Title: <u>Vice President</u>
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD A COLOR	(Print or Type)
Laura H. Welch	6-29-17
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors	Dated:
of the County of San Bernardino	
зу:	Address: 9081 Tujunga Avenue
Deputy	0 - 1/-11 0 - 04050
	Sun Valley, Ca. 91352

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ASSIGNMENT, ASSUMPTION AND CONSENT AGREEMENT

THIS ASSIGNMENT, ASSUMPTION AND CONSENT AGREEMENT (this "Agreement"), is made and effective as provided for the benefit of the County of San Bernardino, a public body, organized and existing under the laws of the State of California ("County"), by and between BENZ SANITATION, INC., a California Corporation, ("Benz") and USA WASTE OF CALIFORNIA, INC., a Delaware Corporation ("USA Waste"). Each of the parties to this Agreement is sometimes referred to herein individually as a "Party" and collectively as the "Parties".

RECITALS

- A. On June 16, 2009, County and Benz entered into an agreement between the County of San Bernardino and Benz for the Collection and Transportation of Solid Waste and Other Services (the "Franchise Agreement") for County Franchise Area 21 ("CFA21"); Agreement No. 09-616.
- B. By letter dated June 7, 2016, Benz advised County that Benz has agreed to sell substantially all of its assets, including its rights under the Franchise Agreement, to USA Waste pursuant to an Agreement of Purchase and Sale of Assets dated as of April 22, 2016. At that time, Benz advised that the transaction included operations in San Bernardino County as well as Kern County and that the entire transaction involving operations in both counties was expected to close in August 2016. (the "Transaction"). While the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors has previously approved the transfer of the franchise in this County, Benz was unable to assign its Franchise Agreement prior to the expiration of such approval because the Transaction did not close as expected due to certain procedures required in Kern County regarding Benz's franchise operations in that County.
- C. Benz advises that as of June 21, 2017, it has closed certain portions of the Transaction not involving San Bernardino County or Kern County (the "First Closing"), and that now that the First Closing has occurred, there are no longer any conditions preventing Benz from assigning its Franchise Agreement to USA Waste other than obtaining the approval of the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors. Benz therefore requests that this County again indicate its approval of the assignment of its Franchise Agreement to USA Waste and advises that Benz intends to assign its Franchise Agreement to USA Waste immediately upon receiving the County's approval.
- D. On July 11, 2017, the County Board of Supervisors at its regularly scheduled meeting found, pursuant to Section 11 of the Franchise Agreement, that it had satisfactory information concerning WM as the proposed transferee in order to gauge its experience, management and good standing and, further, that WM is an existing franchise contractor to County residents and businesses since July 1, 1998.
- E. Subject to this County's approval, upon the assignment by Benz of its Franchise Agreement to USA Waste, USA Waste agrees to assume Benz's performance obligations

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- under the Franchise Agreement, and will abide by the terms and conditions of the Franchise Agreement.
- F. Subject to this County's approval, upon the assignment of its Franchise Agreement to USA Waste, Benz desires to have the County release Benz from all future obligations under the Franchise Agreement.

OPERATIVE PROVISIONS

- NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing Recitals, which are incorporated herein by this reference, the Parties hereto agree as follows:
- Section 1. <u>Assignment</u>. Upon the approval by the County at its regularly scheduled meeting on July 11, 2017, but not prior to, Benz hereby assigns, transfers, and conveys to USA Waste all of Benz's rights, benefits, and interests in the Franchise Agreement and delegates to USA Waste all of Benz's duties and obligations under the Franchise Agreement commencing on the Actual Effective Date as defined in Section 3, of this Agreement.
- by the County at its regularly scheduled meeting on July 11, 2017, but not prior to, USA Waste hereby accepts the assignment, transfer and conveyance of the Franchise Agreement and hereby assumes all of Benz's duties and obligations under the Franchise Agreement commencing on the Actual Effective Date as defined in Section 3, of this Agreement. Furthermore, USA Waste (i) approves, ratifies, and confirms the terms, covenants, conditions and provisions of the Franchise Agreement, (ii) agrees to perform all of the duties and obligations imposed by the Franchise Agreement, and (iii) agrees to be bound by all of the terms, covenants, conditions, provisions and obligations under the Franchise Agreement.
- Section 3. <u>County's Consent to Assignment</u>. In accordance with the Franchise Agreement, the County consents to the assignment and assumption of the Franchise Agreement by USA Waste, and releases Benz from its future obligations under the Franchise Agreement contingent upon the approval by the County at its regularly scheduled meeting on July 11, 2017.
- Section 4. Severability. If a court or an arbitrator of competent jurisdiction holds any provision of this Agreement to be illegal, unenforceable, or invalid in whole or in part for any reason, the validity and enforceability of the remaining provisions, or provisions of them, will not be affected.
- Section 5. <u>Headings</u>. The headings in this Agreement are included for convenience only and shall neither affect the construction nor the interpretation of any provision in this Agreement nor affect any of the rights and obligations of the Parties of this Agreement.
- **Section 6.** Ambiguities. Each Party has had an opportunity to consult with legal counsel and that legal counsel has participated fully in the review of this Agreement. Any rule of construction to the effect that ambiguities are to be resolved against the drafting Party shall not apply in interpreting this Agreement.

Section 7. <u>Counterparts.</u> This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, and all of which together shall be deemed one instrument. Facsimile copies shall be deemed to be original copies.

Section 8. Authority. Each signatory to this Agreement represents and warranties that he/she is duly authorized to execute this Agreement on behalf of the respective Party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto, intending to be legally bound, have executed this Assignment as of the date first above written.

[Signatures Follow]

Renz	San	ita	tion.	Inc.

USA Waste of California, Inc.

By: 30, 63	By: Doe Co
Name: PAUI BEV2	Name: JOE CASSIA!
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