

Summary of Key Issues and Review of Alternatives

Section 10.5 Waste Management

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Key Topics and Issues	Plan Update Approach (Alternative B)	Existing Framework Plan (Alternative D)	Alternative A	Alternative C
<p>Integrated Waste Management Planning. The County's Integrated Waste Management Plan (IWMP), which is jointly adopted by the cities, provides the primary policy framework for waste management planning in the County.</p> <p>Coordinated implementation occurs through the Humboldt Waste Management Authority.</p> <p>Does the existing policy administrative and implementation framework fulfill the County's needs?</p>	<p>Recognizes and supports coordinated IWMP and Humboldt Waste Management approach (WM-G8, WM-P 4, WM-P5, WM-P 7, WM- IM2)</p>	<p>The Framework Plan solid waste policies (Section 4600) were formally superseded by the adoption of the Integrated Waste Management Plan (IWMP) in 1995.</p> <p>Old Framework Plan policies recognized the need for integrated solid waste management planning but did not establish an administrative framework</p>	<p>Same as B.</p>	<p>Same as B.</p>
<p>Waste Diversion Goals. The California Integrated Waste Management Board has set an overall statewide</p>	<p>Supports waste reduction objectives (WM-G5, WM-P 1) and programs (WM-P 1, WM-P 2).</p>	<p>Referenced state waste reduction objectives and supported waste</p>	<p>Same as B.</p>	<p>Same as B.</p>

Section 10.5 Waste Management				
Key Topics and Issues	Plan Update Approach (Alternative B)	Existing Framework Plan (Alternative D)	Alternative A	Alternative C
<p>diversion rate target of 75% by 2020.</p> <p>What combination of policies and programs will accomplish this objective?</p>		<p>reduction efforts (4611.3,.6-.8)</p>		
<p>Solid Waste Facility Siting. Additional waste handling facilities that may be required over the life of this Plan include specialized waste handling facilities, such as green waste and composting sites, household hazardous waste transfer, and recycling.</p> <p>What land use clearance standards should be included to address this potential need?</p> <p>Key Policies: WM-P3, WM-S1, WM-S4</p>	<p>References the need for Conditional Use Permit for most solid waste facilities (WM-S-4) and includes standards for facility siting (WM-S1) and conformance with the IWMP and state laws (WM-S2,3). Provides support for facilities that reduce waste (WM-Px, WM-IM-4). Identifies County Division of Environmental Health as lead permitting agency for solid waste facilities (WM-IM-1).</p>	<p>Included extensive landfill siting criteria (4612).</p>	<p>Same as B.</p>	<p>Same as B.</p>
<p>Litter and Illegal Waste Disposal. Improper disposal of waste undercuts any planned approach to waste</p>	<p>Promotes public education, maintaining easily accessed affordable disposal and</p>	<p>Did not specifically address illegal waste disposal.</p>	<p>Same as B</p>	<p>Does not support County implementation of pro-active litter and</p>

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<p>management and can severely impact communities and the environment.</p> <p>What steps should the County take to reduce illegal disposal of wastes?</p> <p>Key Policies: WM-P6</p>	<p>recycling opportunities (WM-P6). Supports code enforcement (WM-IM3) and waste diversion and recycling operations that reduce illegal disposal activities (WM-IM4).</p>			<p>illegal waste disposal program (P6)</p>

Plan Alternatives Comparison Chart Section 10.5 Waste Management


Note: The Framework Plan solid waste policies (Section 4600) were formally superseded by the adoption of the Integrated Waste Management Plan (IWMP) in 1995. Because of this, the following chart compares only alternatives A through C.


Plan Alternative				Section 10.5 Waste Management	Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R, M, D
10.5.3 Goals						
A	B	C		WM-G1. Comprehensive System. A flexible system for the management of solid wastes and waste resources on a countywide basis, which encompasses storage, collection, separation, processing, reduction, reuse and repair, recycling, recovery, marketing, and, when necessary, landfill disposal.		
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4610.1 Establish and maintain a dynamic and flexible system for the management of solid wastes and waste resources which encompasses the storage, collection, transportation, separation, processing, reduction, reuse and repair, recycling, recovery, marketing, and disposal of solid waste and resources which would otherwise become solid waste, on a Countywide basis..		
				COMMENTS:		
A	B	C		WM-G2. Environment, Health, and Safety. A solid waste management system that protects and improves the county's environment, public health, safety, and economy.		

Plan Alternative				Section 10.5 Waste Management	Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R,M,D
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4610.2. Protect and improve the County' environment, public health, safety, and economy.		
				COMMENTS:		
A	B	C		WM-G3. Reduce Waste Toxicity. A low toxicity waste stream that reduces risk of exposure to residents, solid waste and recycling industry workers, and the environment.		
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4610.3. Reduce the amount and toxicity of waste generated by residents, businesses, industries, and institutions in the County to the greatest degree possible.		
				COMMENTS:		
A	B	C		WM-G4. Management Strategy Hierarchy. An integrated waste management hierarchy that first emphasizes source reduction, followed by reuse and repair, recycling, composting, materials recovery, environmentally safe energy recovery, environmentally safe transformation, and, as a last resort, landfill disposal.		
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4610.4. Establish an integrated waste management hierarchy consisting of the following: Source reduction, reuse and repair, recycling, composting, materials recovery, environmentally safe energy recovery, environmentally safe transformation, and landfill disposal.		

Plan Alternative				Section 10.5 Waste Management	Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R,M,D
				COMMENTS:		
A	B	C		WM-G5. Maximize Achievement of Objectives. Successful achievement of integrated waste management objectives through education, economic incentives, and voluntary participation in waste reduction programs.		
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4610.5. Maximize the achievement of integrated waste management objectives through education, economic incentives and voluntary participation in waste reduction programs.		
				COMMENTS:		
A	B	C		WM-G6. Participation. Widespread participation by individuals and groups in the planning and the implementation of waste reduction programs.		
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4610.6. Maximize the opportunity for individuals and groups to participate in the planning and the implementation of waste reduction programs.		
				COMMENTS:		
A	B	C		WM-G7. Recovered Materials for Local Industry. Growth in local businesses using previously discarded materials as a resource for value added manufacturing.		

Plan Alternative				Section 10.5 Waste Management	Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R,M,D
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4610.7. Maximize the use of previously discarded materials as a resource for local businesses and manufacturers.		
				COMMENTS:		
A	B	C		WM-G8. Coordination. An integrated waste management strategy emphasizing cooperation and coordination among local jurisdictions, waste haulers, and recyclers consistent with state and federal regulations and programs.		
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4610.8. Minimize, to the greatest degree possible, the per capita waste generated by the users.		
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4610.9. Ensure the coordination of and cooperation with all Federal, State and local programs and regulations.		
				COMMENTS:		
10.5.4 Policies						

Plan Alternative			Section 10.5 Waste Management	Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R,M,D
A	B	C	<p>WM-P1. Implementation of Waste Reduction Programs. Waste reduction, re-use and recycling programs should be implemented countywide on a continuous basis to achieve waste diversion goals using the following criteria for program prioritization and selection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Achieves the maximum feasible reduction in volume and/or weight of waste requiring landfill disposal; B. Maximizes the economic value of materials heretofore discarded; C. Benefits the environment and health and safety of county citizens; D. Is able to be implemented on a timely, practical, and cooperative basis; E. Lowers impacts to existing or planned waste diversion programs; F. Is supported by and is sustainable over the long-term by residents, businesses, and jurisdictions; G. Allows cost-effective achievement of the above criteria. 	 , Iss, Prog IM2, 4	
			COMMENTS:		
A	B	C	<p>WM-P2. Support Successful Programs. Support successful existing programs and diversion activities through increased promotion and technical assistance. Identify, develop, and fund new programs using selection and prioritization criteria identified in WM-P1.</p>	Iss, Prog IM2, 4	
			COMMENTS:		

Plan Alternative				Section 10.5 Waste Management	Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R,M,D
A	B	C		<p>WM-P3. Joint Facility Planning. Facilities that are intended to serve all county residents should be jointly planned and implemented by all affected stakeholders. Priority facilities recommended for joint planning are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. County disposal facility: local new landfill, expansion, or export; B. Centralized composting facility: materials to be processed, size, location, design, and cost; and, C. Household hazardous waste transfer facility: ownership, operation, funding, and liability issues. 	Prog IM2	
				COMMENTS:		
A	B	C		<p>WM-P4. Information Sharing. The County shall support ongoing dialogue between city and County integrated waste management staff to reduce duplication of efforts and increase cooperative implementation of integrated waste management strategies.</p>	Iss, Prog IM2	
				COMMENTS:		
A	B	C		<p>WM-P5. Administrative Structure. The County supports unified administration and funding of countywide integrated waste management strategies and programs cooperatively sustained by the County and cities.</p>	Iss, Prog IM2	
				COMMENTS:		
A	B			<p>WM-P6. Illegal Waste Disposal. The County shall work to reduce litter and other illegal waste disposal items such as automobiles, e-wastes, and toxics through public education, maintaining affordable and geographically distributed opportunities for waste disposal and recycling, proactive prevention programs, site cleanup, and code enforcement.</p>	 , Prog IM1, 3	

Plan Alternative				Section 10.5 Waste Management	Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R,M,D
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4611.1 Reduce litter and other illegal solid waste disposal.		
				COMMENTS:		
A	B	C		WM-P7. Integrated Waste Management Plan (IWMP) Participate in Revisions. The County shall <u>abide by and</u> participate in revisions to the IWMP lead by the Humboldt Waste Management Authority and consider the need to amend this General Plan to maintain consistency.	New staff recommended policy language to improve meaning and clarity. Prog IM2	
				COMMENTS:		
	B	C		WM-Px. Support for Waste Diversion and Recycling Operations. <u>The County shall recognize the importance of siting waste diversion and recycling operations within the County to attain state mandated waste reduction goals. Permitting processes and decisions should balance this public interest with the health, safety and welfare of those living in the vicinity of proposed facilities.</u>	New staff recommended policy linked to IM-4.	
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4611.2 Provide a healthy, safe, and environmentally and economically sound system for the management of solid waste and recycled materials.		

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				COMMENTS:		
			D	4611.3 Establish and maintain a coordinated solid waste and recycled materials management program for the County.		
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4611.4 Minimize the environmental impact of solid waste handling and disposal by mitigation measures such as using bear proof containers and fencing.		
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4611.5 Establish and maintain an equitable system to finance the cost of integrated waste management.		
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4611.6 Encourage the establishment of resource and energy recovery systems throughout the County.		
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4611.7 Encourage waste reduction through source reduction, reuse and repair, recycling and recovery, and marketing programs.		

Plan Alternative				Section 10.5 Waste Management	Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R,M,D
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4611.8 Implement programs included in the County and cities' Source Reduction and Recycling Elements to minimize the amount of wastes requiring disposal.		
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4611.9 . Maintain flexibility in integrated waste planning to facilitate the permit issuance process.		
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4611.10 Provide public education programs which identify the problems, progress and needs of the County integrated waste management program.		
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4611.11 Encourage full service within the franchise areas.		
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4611.12 Encourage the development of a centralized composting facility for the County.		

Plan Alternative				Section 10.5 Waste Management	Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R,M,D
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4611.13 Maintain closed municipal landfills as open space.		
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4611.14 Include provisions for maximizing diversion of materials from landfill disposal in the planning and siting of disposal facilities.		
				COMMENTS:		
			D	4611.15 Define overlay areas on the Public Facilities map sheets of the Framework General Plan, which would define acceptable search areas within which a new or expanded municipal solid waste disposal facility could be considered. The overlay designation would not change the underlying land use designation, or permitted uses within the defined areas, without subsequent amendment.		
				COMMENTS:		
10.5.5 Standards						





Plan Alternative			Section 10.5 Waste Management	Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R,M,D
A	B	C	<p>WM-S1. Solid Waste Facility Permit. When seeking approval for the construction or expansion of a solid waste facility in Humboldt County, project applicants must obtain a Solid Waste Facility Permit from the Humboldt County Health Department with concurrence by the California Integrated Waste Management Board pursuant to the requirements of the California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 7, or successor regulations.</p> <p>Prior to submitting application for a Solid Waste Facility Permit, a project applicant must obtain the clearances, approvals, or permits listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Certification of compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to the requirements of the California Code of Regulations Division 6.3. B. Land use approval from the appropriate city or County land use authority. C. Approval from the North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District. Approval from the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board. Note: that NCRWQCB approval may require permits for stormwater discharges (NPDES) and/or waste discharge permits. D. Other approvals and clearances such as streambed alteration agreements, Williamson Act cancellation, timberland conversion approval from the Board of Forestry, a Section 404 permit from the Army Corps of Engineer—if wetlands are involved—and any others which are required as a result of site design or facility location. 	<p>QJ</p> <p>FRWK 4612.1, FRWK 4612.2</p>	
			COMMENTS:		
A	B	C	<p>WM-S2. Solid Waste Disposal Facility Conformance with Integrated Waste Management Plan (IWMP). Any proposed new or expanded solid waste facility must be in conformance with the IWMP and included in the adopted Countywide Siting Element or the Non-Disposal Facility Element prior to issuance of a Solid Waste Facility Permit.</p>	<p>QJ</p>	
			COMMENTS:		

Plan Alternative				Section 10.5 Waste Management	Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R, M, D
A	B	C		WM-S3. Solid Waste Facility Consistency with State and Federal Laws. Proposed solid waste facilities shall meet any applicable requirements of the Resources Conservation and Recovery Act's Subtitle D, the California Integrated Waste Management Board regulations (Title 14, Division 7), and requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board regulations (Title 23, Division 3), or successor regulations.	QJ	
				COMMENTS:		
			D	<p>4612.3. Any proposed new or expanded Solid Waste Facility must be in conformance with the County Solid Waste Management Plan or the County Integrated Waste Management Plan (after its formal adoption). To be in conformance with the Integrated Waste Management Plan, the facility must be described in either the Countywide Siting Element or the appropriate jurisdiction's Non-Disposal Facility Element(s).</p> <p>Project shall meet the requirements of the Resources Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Subtitle D; the California Integrated Waste Management Board regulations [California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 14, Division 7]; requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board regulations, (CCR, Title 23, Division 3); Coastal Zoning Regulations; Humboldt County General Plan; and the County Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan including the Siting Element as applicable.</p>		
				COMMENTS:		

Plan Alternative			Section 10.5 Waste Management	Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R, M, D
A	B	C	<p>WM-S4. Land Use Permits for Solid Waste Facilities. Solid waste facilities are allowed by Conditional Use Permit in most non-residential land use and zoning designations and where otherwise consistent with this Chapter. To ensure consistency with the IWMP at the time of issuance of applicable land use permits for solid waste management facilities, the applicant shall submit the following supplemental information with the land use permit application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Assessment of conformance with the adopted Countywide Solid Waste Facility Element or Non-Disposal Facility Siting Element. B. Projections of the quantity of waste to be managed in weight and volumetric measures and the area required for disposal or processing on an annual basis for the life of the facility. C. Operational plans in compliance Solid Waste Facility Permit requirements. D. Analysis of a minimum of three alternative sites with a summary description of the operational characteristics and environmental impacts associated with each alternative. E. Relationship of the solid waste facility to existing solid waste facilities in terms of waste streams, end products, operational capacity, and compatibility. F. A site post closure plan consistent with applicable state and federal regulations and a description of any land use limitations after project completion. <p>Assessment of conformance with the policies and provisions of the IWMP.</p>	QJ	
			COMMENTS:		
		D	<p>4612.4 Additionally, specific criteria for the siting of a municipal solid waste landfill¹ are identified in the Siting Element of the Humboldt County Integrated Waste Management Plan. (See Table 4-2)</p>		
			COMMENTS:		

Plan Alternative				Section 10.5 Waste Management	Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R,M,D
			D	<p>4612.5. Prior to approval of a solid waste disposal project, the applicant shall submit a solid waste disposal initial study plan which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Estimations of the quantity of waste to be disposed of and the area and volume required for disposal, on an annual basis, including 5 and 10 year projections; b. Description of toxicity and harmful effects on people, plants, and animals; c. Site alternatives and description of impacts associated with each; d. Relationship of the disposal project to other disposal projects in the area; e. A monitoring and mitigation program to insure the prevention of damage to soil, plant and animal life, and surface and subsurface water supplies; f. A post closure plan including descriptions of recontouring, revegetation, visual buffering during and after the project, and a list of possible future uses for each of the sites considered, and a list of uses which would not be possible after project completion; and g. Assessment of conformity with County Solid Waste Management Plan or the Integrated Waste Management Plan (after its formal adoption). 		
				COMMENTS:		
			D	<p>4612.6. Any solid waste disposal project is to conform to the County Solid Waste Management Plan, or the Integrated Waste Management Plan (after its formal adoption).</p>		
				COMMENTS:		

Plan Alternative	Section 10.5 Waste Management			Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R,M,D
		D	<p>4612.7. Projects should take place at approved disposal sites, as designated in the County Solid or Integrated Waste Management Plans. New wood waste, sludge, and non-toxic drilling muds projects may, however, be allowed by conditional use permit in any land use designation, except Residential, if the least environmentally damaging alternative is selected. Such projects (those not designated in the County Solid or Integrated Waste Management Plan) in agricultural and timberland designations shall be limited to non-toxic materials that would be compatible with agriculture or timberland use.</p>		
			<p>COMMENTS:</p>		
		D	<p>4612.8. Per PRC Section 41721.5, New or expanded municipal solid waste disposal project proponents must submit a site identification and description (proposal for Siting Element amendment) to the County Board of Supervisors. If the description is deemed complete, the County will then submit the description to the incorporated cities of Humboldt County within 20 days. Each jurisdiction must then act to approve or disapprove the proposed amendment to the Siting Element within 90 days provided there is sufficient information and documentation to meet the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act, and does not violate any other state or local requirement.</p> <p>Approval is needed by the county and a majority of the cities which contain a majority of the population of the incorporated area to amend the Element. A jurisdiction may only move to disapprove the Element if there is substantial evidence in the record that the amendment to the element would cause one or more significant adverse impacts.</p>		
			<p>COMMENTS:</p>		
		D	<p>4612.9. Projects shall demonstrate consistency with this General Plan.</p>		

Plan Alternative				Section 10.5 Waste Management	Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R,M,D
				COMMENTS:		
10.5.6 Implementation Measures						
A	B	C		WM-IM1. Local Enforcement Agency. The County Division of Environmental Health shall continue to function as the designated local enforcement agency.	 , Prog	
				COMMENTS:		
A	B	C		WM-IM2. Solid Waste Management Authority. The County shall continue to participate in the Humboldt Waste Management Authority.	 , Prog	
A	B			WM-IM3. Code Compliance. The County shall maintain a code compliance program to respond to complaints of illegal waste disposal.	 , Prog	
A	B			WM-IM4. Support for Waste Diversion and Recycling Operations. The County shall provide technical and permitting assistance to waste diversion activities, particularly those that reduce illegal disposal activities; for example, junk yards and car recycling operations.	 , Prog	
				COMMENTS:		

