



736 F Street
Arcata CA 95521

<i>City Manager</i> 707-822-5953	<i>Environmental Services</i> 707-822-8184	<i>Police</i> 707-822-2428	<i>Recreation</i> 707-822-7091
<i>Community Development</i> 707-822-5955	<i>Finance</i> 707-822-5951	<i>Engineering</i> 707-825-2128	<i>Transportation</i> 707-822-3775

November 16, 2022

Humboldt Waste Management Authority
1059 W. Hawthorne Street
Eureka, CA 95501

Subject: Letter of Commitment from the City of Arcata Dedicating Flow Control of Source Separated Organics

Dear Humboldt Waste Management Authority,

The City of Arcata is committed to flow control of source separated organic waste to Humboldt Waste Management Authority (HWMA). This commitment is intended to facilitate regional planning and infrastructure for the collection and processing of organic waste. A regional approach to implementing SB1383 requirements, including organics recycling, has been a collective goal of all members of the Solid Waste Local Taskforce (SWLTF) including the City of Arcata.

HWMA has diligently served our community since its formation in 1999. Since then, HWMA has operated a transfer station, recycling center, hazardous waste facility, e-waste facility, and other special diversion programs that have made waste reduction and diversion possible for Arcata. As waste programs and technology evolve, we are finding that organics recycling is not only a legal requirement by the state, but necessary to combat climate change and reduce methane emissions from the landfill.

Historically, Arcata and Humboldt County have lacked universal collection and drop-off of organics recycling, except for green waste. The 2021-2022 Waste Characterization by Cascadia reports that 27% of Arcata's trash contains potentially compostable materials that is estimated to be 2,600 tons or 5,200,000 pounds of organic material per year. The City of Arcata recognizes that neighboring jurisdictions are also sending this material to the landfill, and face the same state requirements and concerns of climate change.

For this reason, the City of Arcata supports HWMA acting in a regional capacity for the purpose of organics processing and supports an amendment to the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) to secure control of source separated organic materials. Additionally, the City of Arcata strongly encourages non-members to consider joining or entering into an agreement with HWMA.

Our region is stronger and more effective together by teaming up to address this vital community need. HWMA has been a leader in waste management in our community and represents six out of eight jurisdictions in Humboldt County. We believe HWMA is best situated to develop the regional organics infrastructure needed to serve our cities and county.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stacy Salazar", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stacy Atkins-Salazar
Mayor, City of Arcata