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# MEMORANDUM

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Date: February 26, 2020

To: The Honorable Chairman and Members  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator 

Re: **Board of Supervisors March 3, 2020, Consent Calendar Item #1, Master Agreement No. MA-PO-20-120, to Provide for Biosolid Landfill Disposal Service; and Consent Calendar Item #5, Master Agreement No. MA-PO-20-121, to Provide for Biosolids Hauling Service**

## Background

In October 2019, Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (RWRD) solicited bids for agriculture land application of biosolids. As a result of that competitive process, four firms submitted bids. The highest scoring bid proposal was from Synagro, which was appealed by the third place bidder, AvraGro. On December 17, 2019, the Board of Supervisors upheld the appeal and directed staff to rebid the solicitation.

Following the appeal, AvraGro was requested to continue providing biosolids land application services under the terms of their existing contract until a rebid could occur. Due to the inability of AvraGro to perform in accordance with the contract terms and because of an increase in the AvraGro price from \$18.70 per wet ton to \$31.88 per wet ton, RWRD was required to amend an existing contract for emergency hauling and landfill disposal of biosolids.

Given the circumstances requiring emergency landfill disposal and due to emerging land application concerns associated with per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), biosolids have been disposed of in lined landfills as of December 31, 2019 and are no longer applied to agricultural land. Details regarding PFAS received and conveyed by the Pima County Sewerage System including biosolid management measures taken by RWRD and efforts to update the current *Biosolids Master Plan* are detailed in my February 5, 2020 memorandum:

[Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Received and Conveyed by the Pima County Sanitary Sewerage System](#)

The *Biosolids Master Plan* update is expected to produce a final report in October 2020.

The Honorable Chairman and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors

Re: **Board of Supervisors March 3, 2020, Consent Calendar Item #1, Master Agreement No. MA-PO-20-120, to Provide for Biosolid Landfill Disposal Service; and Consent Calendar Item #5, Master Agreement No. MA-PO-20-121, to Provide for Biosolids Hauling Service**

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Recommendation

Based on above outlined factors, it is recommended that the biosolids hauling and landfill disposal Master Agreements be approved, and that agricultural land application solicitation not be rebid.

Please let me know if you have questions.

CHH/lab

c: Jan Leshar, Chief Deputy County Administrator  
Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator for Public Works  
Yves Khawam, PhD, Assistant County Administrator for Public Works  
Jackson Jenkins, Director, Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department  
Mary Jo Furphy, Director, Procurement