

County of Santa Clara

Department of Planning and Development
 County Government Center, East Wing, 7th Floor
 70 West Hedding Street
 San Jose, California 95110



Administration	Development Services	Fire Marshal	Planning
Phone: (408) 299-6740	(408) 299-5700	(408) 299-5760	(408) 299-5770
Fax: (408) 299-6757	(408) 279-8537	(408) 287-9308	(408) 288-9198

Notice of Determination

To: County Clerk
 County of Santa Clara

Office of Planning and Research
 1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title		File #
Z-Best Composting Facility Modifications		PLN17-6498
Person or Agency Carrying Out Project	Address	Phone #
County of Santa Clara	70 W. Hedding Street, 7 th floor, San Jose, CA. 95110	408-299-5790
Applicant	Address	Phone #
John Doyle, Zanker Recycling / Z-Best	980 HWY 25, Gilroy, CA. 95020	408-846-1575
State Clearinghouse Number	County Contact Person	Phone #
2018102041	Valerie Negrete	408-299-5791
Project Location		APN(s)
980 HWY 25, Gilroy, CA. 95020		841-37-028, 841-37-029
Project Description		
<p>A major modification of a Use Permit and an Architectural Site Approval for its existing composting facility at 980 State Route 25. The proposed modification would allow an upgrade of the facility's existing municipal solid waste (MSW) composting process from the current windrow method to an aerated static pile process and associated modifications to existing operations and site conditions to accommodate the new processing technology. The purpose of the proposed project is to enable faster and more efficient composting of MSW.</p> <p>The proposed technology and operations modifications would enable Z-Best to increase its current permitted composting capacity from a total of 1,500 tons per day (tpd) with up to 15 days per year at 2,500 tpd, to 2,750 tpd with up to 20 days per year at 3,500 tpd. The additional capacity is consistent with state mandates and the State of California's Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) goals to increase waste diversion from landfills. The proposed increase in intake volume would come from increased MSW. No modification of existing green waste processes or increase in green waste intake volume is proposed as part of the proposed project.</p> <p>The new MSW composting technology would be installed within the existing MSW composting area of the site - no expansion of facility boundaries is proposed. Additional site modifications include raising the MSW composting pad above the base flood elevation, modifying existing Detention Basin #1 to increase capacity and increase berm height, relocating the existing driveway to become the fourth leg of the SR-25/Bolsa Road intersection, and associated improvements within the SR-25 right-of-way. The use permit modification would also include approval of previously constructed but un-permitted site features.</p>		

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This is to advise that the County of Santa Clara Planning Commission has approved the above described project on June 27, 2024, which approval became final on November 4, 2024, and has made the following determinations regarding the project. The Environmental Impact Report and record of project approval may be examined at the County of Santa Clara Planning Office.

1. The project will not have a significant effect on the environment.
2. A Monitoring Program was adopted.
3. A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
4. A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
 - a) Mitigation Measures have been made a condition of approval of the project.
5. An Environmental Impact Report has been prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
 - a) Mitigation Measures have been made a condition of approval of the project.
 - b) A *Statement of Overriding Considerations* was adopted for this project.
 - c) Findings were made pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15091.

Valerie Negrete, Senior Planner _____  _____ 11/12/2024 _____
Signature Date