

**San Bernardino County Extends Landfill Contract with Athens Services to 2031**

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(CITY OF INDUSTRY, California) - The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors has voted to extend the current management contract of the County's solid waste landfill system with Athens Services to 2031 and potentially to 2039.

Headquartered in the City of Industry, Athens is L.A. County's largest privately owned waste diversion and recycling company, with 1500 employees, a fleet of 900 trucks, and waste and recycling processing facilities stretching from South Bay beach cities to the Inland Empire and the High Desert.

Athens' Ontario office has managed San Bernardino County's five landfills and nine transfer stations since 2013. Athens also owns and manages American Organics, a large composting facility in Victorville.

"It's a win-win-win for residents, us, and the supplier," said Board Chairman Curt Hagman. He represents 400,000 residents in the county's Fourth District, which includes the cities of Chino, Chino Hills, Montclair, Ontario, and the southern portion of Upland.

When Athens was awarded the contract in 2013, the County's solid waste management program was losing money and nearly insolvent. Athens proposed to bring the system additional volume to increase revenue and stabilize the system.

"We brought a solution to the table that not only solved their financial problems, but also improved the operations of the system," said Anthony Bertrand, Athens Area VP for San Bernardino County, based in Ontario. "We were able to increase diversion rates for the cities we service. Also, we provided new compaction equipment that increased the landfill density, which will extend the life of the system."

The extension will reduce the annual tonnage from other counties 25 percent to 600,000 tons, which also will help extend the useful life of the landfills. In addition, Athens will invest in new trucks and other equipment to service the system.

"We are honored to continue our partnership and look forward to serving the County for many more years," Bertrand said. "The contract extension means that cities in the San Gabriel Valley and Los Angeles can count on a continuance of service for their disposal needs provided at stable rates."

"This will be an economic benefit to local communities, providing competitive, stable job opportunities throughout the Inland Empire for years to come," he said. When Athens assumed management of the system, it offered employment to existing employees at competitive wages and honored their seniority levels. Many of those employees still work for the system. The total number of employees in the system today stands at 146.

*Athens Services, family-owned and -operated since 1957, proudly serves more than 30 municipalities and county areas. The company focuses on reducing, reusing, recycling, and composting to divert valuable resources from landfills. Athens' mission is to provide excellent service by hiring and developing great people while fostering a safe, healthy, and sustainable environment, The Athens Way.*