

**Subject: Request for Cities Association Appointment to the Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission (RWRC)**

**From: Patrick Burt, Vice-Mayor, City of Palo Alto**

Andi,

Please provide to the Selection Committee my request for consideration of appointment to the RWRC. In addition to the important regional role the RWRC provides reducing solid waste generation and disposal, the importance of waste reduction in addressing climate change has become critical.

As we move forward in working to prevent the most severe impacts of climate change, exciting, new technologies provide important opportunities to reduce or recycle waste in ways that reduce carbon impacts and can even capture carbon. At the same time, restriction on exports of recyclable materials have necessitated greater in-state waste reduction and recycling. Regional collaboration is the most effective scale for these efforts. In addition, our region's actions to pilot and scale-up new technologies can have leveraged impacts well beyond our region.

For over 30 years, I have served in multiple public and private sector capacities to reduce hazardous and non-hazardous waste including:

- Santa Clara County Pollution Prevention Committee
- California Comparative Risk Project
- California Environmental Technology Partnership
- CalEPA Pollution Prevention Task Force
- Co-author, Cal EPA Waste Reduction Manual for Metal Finishing
- Vice-Chair, Sustainable San Mateo County
- Councilmember, City of Palo Alto 2008-2016, Mayor 2010 and 2016
- Chair, Joint Water Recycling Committee
- Palo Alto Sustainability and Climate Action Plan

I hope to provide the value of my background and problem-solving skills to fulfill the challenges facing the RWRC.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Patrick Burt

Vice-Mayor, City of Palo Alto