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| 1 | CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO |
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| 2 | DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS |
| 3 | DIRECTOR'S HEARING ON PROPOSED REFUSE RATES |
| 4 | 2017 REFUSE RATE APPLICATION |
| 5 |  |
| 6 |  |
| 7 | CITY HALL |
| 8 | 1 DR. CARLTON B. GOODLETT PLACE, ROOM 400 |
| 9 | SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102 |
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| 12 | Wednesday, March 15, 2017 |
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| 24 | REPORTED BY: MAXIMILLIAN A. CONTRERAS, CSR NO. 13876 |
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|  | index | 1 | Wednesday, March 15, 2017 8:25 a.m. |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ | WITNESS: Maurice QuillenCROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. DAWSON................... 135 | 2 | PROCEEDINGS |
|  |  | 3 | DIRECTOR NURU: I will call this hearing to |
|  | WITNESS: Dan Negron | 4 | order. Good morning, everyone. I am Mohammed Nuru, |
|  | DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. PEARCE................... 145 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. DAWSON.............. 166 | 5 | Director of the Department of Public Works for the City |
|  | WITNESS: Minna | 6 | and County of San Francisco. |
|  | DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. PEARCE.................... 175 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. DAWSON.............. 190 | 7 | This hearing is a continuation of the |
|  |  | 8 | Director's Hearing on Recology's Application for an |
|  |  | 9 | Increase in Residential Refuse Collection and Disposal |
| 10 | CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. DAWSON................ 208 | 10 | Rates. Today's Wednesday, March 15th. The addenda for |
|  | REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUGHES................ 211 RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. DAWSON.............. 216 | 11 | today is on the front table. As in every hearing, we |
| 11 | EXAMINATION BY MR. JONES. | 12 | will reserve the last period for public comment. |
| 13 | EXAMINATION BY MR. JONES........................ 223 | 13 | You may also convey your comments to the |
|  | PUBLIC COMMENT BY MARC CHRISTENSEN............... 231 | 14 | Ratepayer Advocate, Mr. Dwayne Jones. I appreciate your |
|  | PUBLIC COMMENT BY TOM WILLIAMS................... 235 | 15 | patience as we review the details of the application. |
| 16 PUBLIC COMMENT BY DAVID PILPEL................... 236 |  |  | Based on the progress we've made last week, the order of business this morning is as follows: |
| 17 18 | exhibits | 18 | We'll start the hearing with some followup |
| 19 | No. PAGE |  |  |
| 20 | 1A Recology 2017 Rate Application Binder......... 135 |  | questions from City staff, followed by Recology's |
| 2 | 22 RPRA Directors Hearing 1 Presentation.......... 133 |  | presentation of program changes and capital |
|  |  | 21 | improvements. City staff and the Ratepayer Advocate may |
| 22 | 23 RSF Historical and Projected Head Count....... 140 [City] | 22 | have questions on any of the items covered to date. |
| 23 | 24 Route Modeling Methodology................... 150 | 23 | We will then open the hearing to public comment. |
| 24 | 25 Today vs. Future Routes.................... 153 | 24 | Today's hearing is scheduled to end at around |
|  | [Recology] | 25 | 11 o'clock, so I'll keep things moving along to make |

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sure we cover all of the topics on the agenda. Before we start cross-examination, I believe the Ratepayer Advocate has an item to enter into the record.

MR. JONES: Good morning, Director Nuru. Again, Dwayne Jones, Ratepayer Advocate. I'd like to introduce into evidence the PowerPoint presentation that we made at the first ratepayer hearing. And let's see -- that's it.

MR. PRADHAN: That would be Exhibit 22 entered into evidence.
(Exhibit 22, "RPA Directors Hearing 1
Presentation [Ratepayers]" was admitted into evidence.)
DIRECTOR NURU: Okay. Thank you.
Okay. Also, I believe the Company wishes to offer several corrected versions for the items entered into the record last week. If you could, please identify them and give them to the clerk.

MR. PRADHAN: And excuse me.
Counsel, as we go through these, just to make the record clear, if you could specify any ways in which the exhibits are different.

MS. PEARCE: Absolutely. Thank you.
Yes, we have a couple of corrected exhibits. The first one is Exhibit 2. I believe that -- I think Page 133
the 17th or 18th page of the old exhibit included a note that was inadvertently left in there; so that has been removed. This is the Rate -- "2017 Rate Application Technical Workshop Presentation." I will hand that up.

And the next exhibit we'd like to correct is Exhibit 9, which I believe page 3 and 4 of the original -- or 2 and 3 of the original letter were inadvertently left off of that exhibit; so now I have a corrected version of Exhibit 9, which is a letter of October 30th, 2015, from San Francisco Public Works to the members of the Rate Board. And there are two attachments, the "Abandoned Materials Collection Program Report" and the "Special Reserve Fund Report." This is corrected Exhibit 9.

MR. PRADHAN: Thank you. Corrected Exhibits 2 and 9 are entered into evidence.

MS. DAWSON: One final clarification we'd like to make on the record, just to be sure that our entire -- that Recology's entire rate application submission is entered into evidence, we would like to offer as Exhibit 1A, a disc which includes the entire scanned copy of the rate application including the narrative summaries, the schedules, summary of assumptions, and all of the supporting documents that were attached as exhibits at the end of the rate

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application; so I've made several copies of the disc of
the entire rate application. I'd like to offer it as
Exhibit 1A.
    MR. PRADHAN: Admitted. Thank you.
    (Exhibit 1A, "Recology 2017 Rate Application
    Binder [Recology]," was admitted into
    evidence.)
    MS. DAWSON: I believe those are all the
corrected exhibits we have.
    DIRECTOR NURU:Okay, thank you.
    Okay. I believe Ms. Dawson has a couple of
follow-up questions for the Company. Please proceed.
    MS. DAWSON: Thank you, Mr. Nuru.
    Julia Dawson. I'd like to ask Mr. Maurice
Quillen to come back up for some follow-up questions.
    (Mr. Quillen steps up to the witness stand.)
        MAURICE QUILLEN,
    having been previously duly sworn,
    was examined and testified as follows:
        CROSS-EXAMINATION
BY MS. DAWSON:
    Q. Good morning. Okay, so I'd like to start our
morning with some follow-up questions on Recology
San Francisco projects and operations.
    So in your testimony last week, you said that
                                    Page 135
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with the installation of new equipment at Recycle
Central, Recology can now process up to 45 tons per
hour; correct?
    A. Correct.
    Q. Okay. So I'm trying to clarify some of the
back-and-forth we had last week. So I'm looking for
an estimate of the daily processing capacity of Recycle
Central. So if Recology were to operate two shifts a
day with seven hours of productive time per shift,
then daily capacity would be about }630\mathrm{ tons per day?
    A. Correct.
    Q. Okay. And if you were to operate three shifts
a day with }21\mathrm{ productive hours, so just one more shift
hypothetically speaking, the maximum throughput of
Recycle Central would be 945 tons per day?
    A. Right.
    Q. Okay. Does that seem like those assumptions
are reasonable?
    A. Yes, they are.
    (The witness stand's microphone is adjusted.)
    THE WITNESS: Okay. Yes, it seems that those
are reasonable assumptions.
    MS. PEARCE: Okay. So again, we just agreed
that -- or you said last week that Recology's currently
processing about 450 tons per day. And Recycle Central
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                                    Page 136
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now has the capacity to handle somewhere between another 200 and 500 tons depending on the number of shifts you're running at that location.
A. Correct.
Q. Which adds about $\mathbf{3 0 \%}$ to $\mathbf{5 0 \%}$ capacity to process recyclables. Are there any other constraints that we should consider that would prevent Recology from being able to achieve that kind of throughput at Recycle Central?
A. I'm fairly confident that we can operate the facility with two shifts of approximately 14 hours of time. Running the facility for three shifts could be a bit challenging.

Right now what we do from the operation standpoint is we generally focus our 3rd shift on maintenance. The equipment is fairly complex and requires quite a bit of care to keep it operating properly.

Generally, we have a lot of disc screens, vibrating screens, vacuum systems, mechanical pieces of equipment that need regular maintenance; so I'm very comfortable that we can operate this system for two hours -- excuse me, to two shifts during the week. And then we can sometimes stretch those shifts a few hours into the overtime realm.

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But to assume a three-shift-per-day operation,
I think, would be highly unlikely given the nature of
the equipment.
Q. Okay. So two shifts, we'd be at 630 tons per day; and you think you could maybe achieve a little more than that, but it would be limited to maybe an hour or two of overtime beyond that point?
A. Correct.
Q. Okay. All right. So in your earlier testimony, I think maybe you, Mr. Arsenault and Mr. Negron -- I think it was probability Mr. Arsenault more correctly, but I suspect you can speak to this. We were talking about the Amazon Effect that's contributing be to changes in the materials that are being received at Recycle Central.
But when we looked at the tonnage figures which were included in Exhibit 2 -- or are in Exhibit 2, I believe, part of the technical workshop had a tonnage chart and I reintroduced it later as, I think, Exhibit 11.
So there's really not -- there's been almost no growth in the total volume of recyclables that have been collected over the last five years. Can you clarify why we're seeing this type of discrepancy in the data on recyclable tonnage?
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(Exhibit 23, "RSF Historical and Projected
Head Count [City]," was admitted into evidence.)
BY MS. DAWSON:
Q. Okay. So this table identifies positions by functional area that were approved in the 2013

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Director's Order, and then it shows -- compiles
the total head count from Recology San Francisco's
Schedule G.1 for rate years 2014 through 2018.
    So I'd like to make sure first that I
understand how total head count has grown from 421 in
rate year 2014 to an estimated 451 in rate year 2017.
Most of that growth has occurred in the last year
between rate years '16 and '17.
    So I understand that the number of drivers
performing hauling services has increased as a result of
the longer driving distance to the new landfill
location. Can you explain the operational changes that
have been occurring at the transfer station and Recycle
Central that have led to the addition of more than }2
positions in the last year?
    A. Well it needs to be, I think, looked at from
a business unit standpoint. And obviously, you've
discussed the hauling component. As a result of the
landfill, the iMRF is slightly down. Recycle Central is
slightly up.
    You know, it's difficult to sort of do this
type of analysis without really understanding what's
going on in each of the business units. Generally
the tonnage at the facilities is what's driving the
increase in head count.
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In addition to the tonnage, we also have a workforce that ages. And as the workforce ages, we accrue additional vacation liability and we need to replace positions for vacation liability. So as more senior employees get their next bump in vacation, at the end of the day that can increase the number of employees required to operate the lines. From the administrative standpoint, we're dealing with things slightly differently. We've moved some head count around.

Also, when we look at the math issue you're looking at here, this is generally the actual head count, whereas we performed sort of an FTE distribution which really helps us show the allocation of the employees and what they do. So when you look at the general head count like this and you've got the sick and the vacation and all those factors driving this, whereas the FTE numbers are slightly different.
Q. Are you able to speak at all to the change in head count at the transfer station in particular? Or it is it just you're trading off? I did note that the iMRF numbers had gone down and $I$ just wondered whether you'd been transferring around. But it would be helpful to understand a little bit more.
A. I would have to get back to you on that. I honestly don't have that answer. I mean, if I had
to guess right now, which I really don't want to do,
I would imagine that most of that transfer station
personnel would be driven by the tonnage associated with our public reuse and recycling area.

We've seen some fairly extraordinary tonnage through that facility over the last few years, and I would suspect that that tonnage is the predominant or primary factor for driving the change in the head count of transportation.
Q. Okay. Well if you could --
A. I'll get back to you with that.
Q. Thank you. Okay. So let's move on to rate year 2018. You've requested another ten positions based on head count; five more at Recycle Central, two to handle household Hazardous Waste, and three more at the transfer station. Can you please describe for us the need for those positions?
A. Yeah. The Recycle Central operation, as part of our new sorting equipment, we will be bringing on new commodities -- textiles, film plastic, also metal and wood. While we generally get all of these materials in the mix right now, it was contemplated that we would be -- as we roll out the new collection program, advertising the acceptance of these products and therefore getting that material across the line.

1 there to operate -- a maintenance operator to work on the equipment.
Q. Okay. And can you speak to the proposal
around hazardous -- household Hazardous Waste and any other -- I know there's one particular transfer station. other -- I know there's one particular transfer station.
I don't know if you know exactly what that is or whether you want to get back to us, which is fine.
A. The household Hazardous Waste is going be a replacement for one individual. And also, we're contemplating putting another collection truck out on the route to collect the household Hazardous Waste from the general public through our on-call collection service.

The Transfer Station, I do not have. But that's a complicated business unit because the employees work across multiple functions. I don't know what that position would specifically be.
Q. Okay. Well, if you could --
A. I'll get back to you.
Q. Yeah, do a little more research on Transfer Station, and then I'll have you come back and answer

We now have a 14-person pre-sort, whereas in the past we had an 8-person pre-sort; so we need more people to staff the pre-sort, to deal with the textiles and the film plastic. We also have an additional person

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those questions at a later hearing.
    MS. DAWSON: Those are all the questions I
have for now.
    (Mr. Quillen steps down from the
    witness stand.)
    DIRECTOR NURU: Okay. Let's have the Company
proceed with your presentation of program changes and
capital improvements. I believe when we left off, we
left with Mr. Negron of Sunset Recology.
    Mr. Negron, come back up to the stand.
    (Mr. Negron steps up to the witness stand.)
        DAN NEGRON,
    having been previously duly sworn,
    was examined and testified as follows:
            DIRECT EXAMINATION
BY MS. PEARCE:
    Q. Good morning, Mr. Negron.
    A. Good morning.
    Q. Last week we were leaving off -- when we left
off, we were discussing the changeover in truck
configurations, the changeover proposed to use the
single-chamber trucks to collect blue bin material and
split-chamber trucks to collect the black and the green
material. And I was starting to ask you about what sort
of research did you do to explore how this configuration
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## would actually work out in the field.

A. Yes. So in 2015 we ran about 11 existing black/blue routes and converted them to black/green, specifically in the Sunset District. And we also tested six single-chamber -- converted six single-chamber organic trucks and made them blue recycling routes.

And we ran them for a couple of reasons.
We needed to understand how many stops the drivers can make in this new configuration.

We needed to understand the capacity as far as putting the black and the compost in the split-bodies and then putting the recyclables -- the bulky items that Maurice talked about earlier as far as the composite-type of materials that we're getting today in the single-chamber collection vehicles.

We needed to understand the compost as far as the setouts. You know, we're seeing that for every three customers, two of them are setting out; so we understand that dynamic as it mixes -- as it's co-collected with the trash in the split-bodies.

And we also wanted to test out a dual-tipper system. So the single-chamber recycling -- the organics routes were originally picking up -- had just one tipper assembly dumping one toter. I wanted the operational guys to experience a dual-tipper system for the single

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blue bins to see if we gain some operational
efficiencies there.
    Q. So by a "dual-tipper," you mean it can tip two
bins at one time?
    A. That's correct.
    Q. And what were the key takeaways from this
pilot program in the Sunset District in 2015?
    A. We learned quickly that the driver times were
a big factor. We learned that when we put the original
six single-stream blue recycling routes, although our
computer system RouteSmart has suggested that we go with
seven, I wanted to see if the operations can handle six.
    It moved those guys to significant hours of
10 to 12 hours days. And in some cases we couldn't
finish the routes, so we had to send auxiliary help to
get those customers picked up for the day's service.
    We also learned -- also kind of learned that I
trusted RouteSmart. So I'm an operational guy. I've
been doing it all my life and with a no. 2 pencil and
crayons. And then when I introduced this technology,
we wanted to trust, but verify.
    And so in this case we trusted the system
and it hat produced seven routes, which was what the
original plan was, although I told the guys to do six.
So I learned that we need to build these routes very
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precisely and very tight.
    We also learned routing efficiencies.
We learned that when we put the trash with the compost,
we learned that the guys -- the split-body guys were
running around 41 hours per week. They dropped to
between }32\mathrm{ and }34\mathrm{ hours. And so there is some
efficiencies there as far as them picking up two out of
every three on the green, and allows me to really upload
their tonnage capacity -- load capacities for the trucks
so they can pick up as much as they can on the trash
side.
    And we also learned that it's really nice for
the split-bodies to go to one location. They don't need
to go }12\mathrm{ miles to Pier 96 or Recycle Central and turn
around and drive to the transfer station. The drivers
are real happy to just go one-stop-shop and dump in both
chambers.
    Q. So let me just make sure I understand that
last point. When the split-body collection trucks are
collecting blue and black bin material together, they
have to make two stops in order to dump those materials?
    A. Yes, yes. They have to -- once they're done,
they have to travel down Cargo Street to Recycle
Central, dump their recyclables, and then double back to
the Tunnel and Beatty facility to dispose of the trash.
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A. Yes.

MS. DAWSON: Counsel, that's hard to see that.
Do you also have --
MS. PEARCE: I do, yes. And I'll introduce this as an exhibit, Exhibit 24.

MR. PRADHAN: 24 is right.
MS. PEARCE: All right. I move to admit
Exhibit 24.
MR. PRADHAN: Admitted.
(Exhibit 24, "Route Modeling Methodology
[Recology]," was admitted into evidence.)

## BY MS. PEARCE:

Q. All right. If you could explain a little bit about what this slide shows.
A. So the left side shows the information that we gathered prior to inputting it in RouteSmart, and then we run it through the RouteSmart system or the advanced optimization software, and then we end up with the output. Specifically, there are five main components to the input side. We identify the customer types; so "R" represents residential accounts, " A " is apartments, and " C " is commercial. And each one of those have unique collection and time and distance and time motion requirements based on inside service all the way to 100 feet or greater with apartments and/or commercial.

We have "Service Time" components where specifically for service time, it's the time that the person -- the driver gets out of the vehicle, services the customer, and returns to the vehicle and proceeds to the next stop.

We have "Travel Time," the distance that it takes from leaving the main yard to the first stop, the distance that it travels when the route's complete and it goes to dump, and then the distance back to the facility.

The "Facility Time," which is basically when they're at the facility, either at Pier -- excuse me, Recycle Central or Tunnel and Beatty, the process of dumping the vehicle, and then getting it back to the park-and-stall.

And then the "Idle Time." Those requirements, two 15-minute breaks, 30-minute lunch, along with the required DOT -- Department of Transportation safety pre-trip inspection and post-trip inspections. So those are specific to times.

Then we considered the weights. And we considered -- we took a rolling average of what we're doing today as far as collection tonnage, and we divide that by the number of customers, and then we look at their service type -- 32 gallon, 64, 96 gallon -- and we Page 151
come with an average weight so that the system can really calculate for us on the back end what they think the load's going to be at the end of the optimization process.

Then we looked at the legal capacity. We need to make sure that our vehicles are in compliance with gross vehicle weight.

And then we look at the collection vehicle
type. And we have two main types of vehicles. We have those vehicles, basically 9 tons, 28-yard big collection trucks that are out in the avenues; and then we have the little bit smaller vehicles that are for the tight streets in Chinatown and the Mission and those areas.

We take all those variables, we run it through RouteSmart. In the back end, the system will tell me, "Okay Dan, this is what you need: You need $X$ amount of blue single-chamber vehicles based on those variables," the number of black and green split-bodies, and it gives me the estimated service times, travel times, all those components. It tells me the number of vehicles and tells me the number of drivers.
Q. Do you have the capability in RouteSmart to, for example, try to see if you can complete the routes that you need to complete with only 20 new routes as opposed to 23 new routes, for example?

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you are proposing 106 split-chamber black/green routes.
you are proposing 106 split-chamber black/green routes.
    Why are you able to lower the number of
split-chamber routes?
    A. Well, going back to the pilot, we learned --
so we reduced the split-body chambers by }13\mathrm{ collection
vehicles. And that's just optimizing as far as two main
components. Like I said earlier, when you put the
compost together with the trash, you gain efficiencies
as far as reaching the capacity of vehicle. And so
you're really optimizing that maximum -- let's just say
9 tons per load with the more dense material. Also,
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the drivers are working more efficiently because there's less setouts as far as the green -- the under ton that I described earlier, 32 hours.

So I was able to reduce it to 13 and really repurpose those vehicles for single-stream in support of the future single-chamber recycling.
Q. Right. And I'm -- under the bottom half, it looks like you've got 48, currently, single-chamber organics routes. In the future, you're proposing 83 single-chamber recycling routes. So you still need to increase the number of recycling routes above the current single-chamber routes; is that right?
A. Yes. We still need to increase -- to my point earlier, that the recycling stops are going to grow significantly where basically everyone puts their materials out. But we're also -- because I modeled it as far as the dual-tipper, we're able to service two blues at the same time. I still believe the system is showing me that we need significantly less single-chambers than we do split-bodies for servicing the same accounts.
Q. Right. You've got 106 split-chamber routes planned and only 83 for --
A. And only 83. Because there are some efficiencies that we are going build into the

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single-chamber collection system.
    Q. Let's talk about the tonnage changes that are
featured on this slide as well. Specifically on the
"Future Tonnage Projections," I see that for the trash
and composting tonnage, together you're projecting that
you'll have an average of 4.47 tons of trash collected.
        Is that per route?
    A. That's correct.
    Q. And 3.67 of compost per route as well.
What's the capacity of those vehicles and how does
that tonnage compare to the capacity?
    A. So in general, those -- that truck would
probably bring in about 9 tons -- at legal capacity,
9-9.5. In this case, our model's saying they're going
to come in around 8 tons; so we do have built-in
capacity of a ton or slightly greater.
    But honestly, we're going to be -- when the
16 gallon, the focus is on trash. So when we roll the
16 gallon out, we estimate that the trash tonnage will
be reduced and give us even greater capacity as far as
the gross vehicle weight for the vehicle to be able to
collect the same materials on the other side of the
chamber.
    Q. And then let's look at the tonnage that you're
estimating for the recycling. "Single-chamber vehicles,
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4.07 tons per route."
    What would be the capacity for those
single-chamber vehicles to collect recycling?
    A. So it's same vehicle, technically; so they
would technically be able to bring in 9 tons. But what
we learned in the pilot is when you're dealing with the
recyclable materials that we're picking up today, the
best that we were going to get was, in the test, was
6 tons. And that's really a cube that's coming out the
back side of the truck. So we had built capacity into
the system. We averaged the system saying 4 tons; so we
have about 2-ton capacity in the system to support any
migration or any growth.
Q. All right. I'd like to talk about how and when the changes that you're proposing on the default bins and truck's configuration, how will that be rolled out and when?
A. We have been planning for a July 1 rollout. Again, we partnered with San Francisco Environment and Public Works. It's a two-year rollout plan. We have identified the neighborhoods that we think we can roll out the first quarter. We will have folks on the ground not only working with our drivers, but really reaching out to the customers to make this as transparent as possible.
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Exhibit 26.
    MR. PRADHAN: Exhibit 26 will be admitted.
    (Exhibit 26, "Weight Migration Slide
    [Recology]," was admitted into evidence.)
    (Exhibit 26 is displayed.)
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BY MS. PEARCE:
Q. All right. Mr. Negron, if you could describe
this slide for us and what it depicts.
A. So on the left side is what we're averaging as
far as per-day collections, again, rolling over the
previous 12 months. And then the future with the new
system that we're proposing, we're looking at a $10 \%$
reduction in trash, which is really our main focus is to
really drive trash downward. And then as a result of
the trash reduction, we're estimating a $7 \%$ increase in
recycling and another $9 \%$ in compost for the future.
Q. And what's the effect of that -- these
changes, as far as trips to the landfill?
A. Well, accommodation -- focusing on the
improvements that were made at Recycle Central in
addition to improving our collection model so we can get
as much source separated at the curb as possible, we
believe that we can save up to four long haul trips to
the landfill daily.
Q. All right. I'd like to shift gears a little
Page 159
bit and talk about two other programs -- two other
collection programs.
Let's talk first about the Abandoned Materials
Collection Program. Can you describe Sunset Scavenger's
role in the Abandoned Materials Collection Program?
A. We are -- both Sunset and Golden Gate, we both
are chartered to support the City's 311 system for
abandoned materials. That comes through the hub and
straight to Recology. We use rear loaders for the bulky
items as well as what we call "box trucks" for
mattresses, appliance and electronics.
We also provide any support that's required
from the City for special events or special occasions,
as far as surges in the city.
Q. When did Recology take responsibility for the
Abandoned Materials Collection Program?
A. After the 2013 rate application.
Q. Describe for us if you could, in the years
since 2013, how has this collection program worked?
A. Well, the program has been very, very
successful. Their response times have been well in
compliance with the City's service level agreement.
(Exhibit 27 is displayed.)
MS. PEARCE: I'm going to show -- this is
actually taken directly from the rate application.

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This is -- I have copies as well.
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This is -- I have copies as well.
MR. PRADHAN: Is there a page you can
MR. PRADHAN: Is there a page you can
reference?
reference?
MS. PEARCE: Yes. It's page 5 of -- I'm
MS. PEARCE: Yes. It's page 5 of -- I'm
sorry, page -- it can be found on page 7 of the Recology
sorry, page -- it can be found on page 7 of the Recology
Sunset Scavenger/Golden Gate Summary of Assumptions.
Sunset Scavenger/Golden Gate Summary of Assumptions.
Looks a little different because when I put it into this
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PowerPoint, it changed the format. But it's actually
PowerPoint, it changed the format. But it's actually
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the same exact information.
I think it would probably be easiest if we
I think it would probably be easiest if we
actually just enter this as an exhibit. So I move to
actually just enter this as an exhibit. So I move to
admit this as Exhibit 27.
admit this as Exhibit 27.
MR. PRADHAN: Thank you.
MR. PRADHAN: Thank you.
It's admitted as Exhibit 27.
It's admitted as Exhibit 27.
(Exhibit 27, "Abandoned Materials Collection
(Exhibit 27, "Abandoned Materials Collection
[Recology]," was admitted into evidence.)
[Recology]," was admitted into evidence.)
BY MS. PEARCE:
BY MS. PEARCE:
Q. All right. I believe this chart shows or
Q. All right. I believe this chart shows or
summarizes some of the information about the Abandoned
summarizes some of the information about the Abandoned
Materials Collection Program from rate year 2014 to
Materials Collection Program from rate year 2014 to
rate year 2017. Could you just highlight for us what
rate year 2017. Could you just highlight for us what
you were talking about the response times and how that
you were talking about the response times and how that
has gone over the years.
has gone over the years.
A. So we're required on Monday through Friday
A. So we're required on Monday through Friday
business hours to be collecting materials once it hits
business hours to be collecting materials once it hits
Page 161
our data system within four hours. And then on weekends, we're required to pick it up within eight hours and we have crews working seven days per week.
Q. And how has compliance been since 2013 in complying with that requirement?
A. Our compliance has been $90 \%$ or better, which is what's required based on the Director's Order. The response times on the exhibit, you may see response time averages. It starts in rate year 2014 of 4.54 , then 4.20. That data is extrapolated from SF311's data, but those are based on a 24-hour clock. I just want to be clear on that. So really, the clock doesn't start for us until the businesses day at 8:00.
If you were to look at it from a business perspective, the compliance is above $90 \%$, which is basically two hours or better.
Q. What are some of the challenges that Recology has faced in running the Abandoned Materials Collection Program?
A. It's been a very popular program with our residents and folks in San Francisco; so it's a very transparent program as far as utilizing the 311 phone app, which is an excellent tool. And so customers -excuse me, folks can easily use the system and communicate directly with our drivers within minutes,

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which we respond. So we're very responsive to the
requests. It's just a challenge, because it's really
competing against another program of ours, a very
successful program. It's called the "Bulky Item
Recycling," where folks will make appointments for the
same request. same request.
Q. Before we talk about the Bulky Item Recycling Program, I wanted to have you summarize, if you could, what changes Recology's proposing for the Abandoned Materials Collection Program in this rate application.
A. In order to continue meeting the City's needs as far as the service level agreements for the response time, in order to continue partnering with Public Works on supporting them with litter patrol, field support -in order to continue supporting their Radio Room requests, which is all the information that their supervisors and superintendents are receiving from the field, we're going to need an additional truck and driver -- excuse me, two trucks and two drivers. And understand it's a crew, so it's one electronics/mattress/appliance vehicle and one bulky item rear loader to support the needs for today and the potential growth it's experiencing.
Q. You mentioned in response to my last question the Bulky Items Recycling Program. Could you tell me a

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\section*{little bit about that program?}
A. The bulky item recycling, it's available to all residential and apartment customers throughout San Francisco. They can call us, schedule an appointment for any bulky items 10 items or less, and they're allowed up to two appointments per year.
It's an extremely popular program, especially for folks who don't have pickup trucks or cars that can bring materials to the transfer station; so for us traveling to the curb is a big, big plus.

And now that we've really pushed a phone app as well as just more communication via the Internet, the program has grown exponentially.

MS. PEARCE: I have a similar chart also from the Sunset Scavenger/Golden Gate Summary of Assumptions, page 5. It summarizes some of the data on the Bulky Item Recycling Program. I'll hand this up and move to admit as Exhibit 28.

MR. PRADHAN: Admitted.
(Exhibit 28, "Bulky Item Recycling
[Recology]," was admitted into evidence.)
(Exhibit 28 is displayed.)
BY MS. PEARCE:
Q. Alright, Mr. Negron. You mentioned that this has been a very popular program. Can you highlight for

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us on this chart the increase in appointments that you've seen since rate year 2013.
A. So you can see rate year 2013, we had approximately 36,000 bulky item request appointments. That's nearly doubled going into this rate year right now. Up to 67,000 is the projections. Overall, it's probably about a 17\% increase -- gradual increase, but it's almost doubled since 2013. The tonnages have almost doubled as well. And with the overtime that's involved in taking care of these appointments, our full-time equivalent has gone up considerably, almost doubled as well.
Q. So what changes is Recology proposing for the Bulky Item Recycling Program in this rate application?
A. Again, to support this very popular program, we're proposing one additional crew, which would one box truck and one bulky item rear loader; two trucks and two employees.

MS. PEARCE: Thank you, Mr. Negron.
I don't have anything else for you.
THE WITNESS: Thank you.
DIRECTOR NURU: Do you want to cross-examine? MS. DAWSON: I do have a few questions. DIRECTOR NURU: Please proceed.
MS. DAWSON: I guess you're not too surprised.
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Okay. So I have a couple of questions about some of the collection items that you've talked about. And before we get there, I'm going to go ahead and request to submit into evidence an additional exhibit that relates -- kind of summarizes head count both by program and kind of by labor category.

MR. PRADHAN: So this will be admitted as Exhibit 29. It's a two-page document.
(Exhibit 29, "RSS/RGG Historical and
Projected Head Count [City]," was admitted
into evidence.)
CROSS-EXAMINATION
BY MS. DAWSON:
Q. Okay. So in the exhibit, you'll notice it's actually a double-sided exhibit. The first side shows the "Historic and Projected Head Count" by operating unit, and then if you turn it over, it shows Historic and Projected Head Count kind of by labor category.

Okay. So since rate year '14 and moving forward, I'm going to go ahead and just look at the programmatic view. Hopefully that might be a little bit easier to speak to.

So we see an increase of 39 positions, and I'm wondering -- I think you've probably described some of them, but if you want to just look at this and let me

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know whether you have any other comments about
programmatic changes where you've shifted head count
between one program and another.
It looks like there's kind of a little bit of
growth in a lot of places, but there's been decreases in
some including -- it looks like Abandoned Materials
actually may have gone down a little bit and is now
going back up. There's reductions in the "Dedicated
Fan. 3." I don't know if you think you can maybe speak
a little bit to the programmatic changes that we're
seeing that can talk about why we've seen an increase in
the head count over the last four years.
A. Let me see if I can go by category. If I
can't answer, I can definitely do a quick analysis and
get back to you at the next hearing.
Q. Mm-hmm.
A. So the Abandoned Materials Collection, I'm
seeing 2017. Let's go -- oh, this is a full-time
equivalent. Okay.
So Abandoned Materials, they're running at
12.09. There's only ten crew -- ten drivers out there;
so that's just the overtime that's involved.
Q. Okay.
A. Them staying out later than 4:30, we'll calls
at 4:29 and then we have to get it serviced in four

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hours; so it's almost a standard that they're going to be out there doing the overtime.

The Bulky Item Recycling is running slightly above their head count of ten, and that's the overtime based on the increase that I talked about earlier.

The Public Refuse Receptacles, we are running ten. That is -- that is actuals. We did put one in this year.

There's been a big push with the Fix-It program, and we're noticing that they want microcosm service, attention to city cans in certain commercial corridors. I believe Sandra Zuniga's been piloting or leading that effort. But we ended up adding one route because it got to the point where we made all the adjustments and we couldn't service all of it; so we ended up adding it in the Mission and the Castro District. That's the plus one.

Commercial Composting is static.
Commercial Recycling -- I'd have to go back and look at an analysis on the Commercial Recycling.

The Fantastic 3 -- obviously, the big bump to 2018 is the black/green split.

Dedicated Collection -- I'm not sure what you're classifying as a "Fan. 3 Dedicated Collection." I'd have to look at the analysis, see what that business

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unit is. I'm not sure what the 44 represents.
Front-end Load Collection is static.
Rear Load Collection for 2017 has gone down.
I'd have to get back to you on that classification.
The Waste Zero Specialists \& Sales, I'd have
to get back to you on that. That's gone from 4 to 1.
The Roll-Offs went up slightly, but that's
based on the volume of C\&D material coming in. That's
still holding static.
General Admin went plus two.
So if you don't mind, I can run a resolution
on this easily for the next hearing.
Q. That's fine, thank you.
A. Okay.
Q. Okay. So you did talk a little bit already in
some of your exhibits. I've tried to kind of summarize
a little bit of what your tables have shown.
So in terms of your exhibits, you were
showing, you know, the 10% reduction and then 7%
increase and 9% increase. And you spoke a little bit
in your testimony about your excess capacity. So I'm
interested in just understanding your weight migration,
does this assume that the changes that you're making to
the bins is going drive a certain amount of change in
behavior? And what does that look like versus the

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capacity that you're projecting you'll have above what
you might have today?
    A. Right. Good question.
    We're -- the trash reduction is going to drive
the change. So I said a little bit earlier, but on the
split-body vehicles that can hold 9 tons, we feel very
comfortable that each route will have at least a ton
to two tons of capacity in case we experience a \(15 \%\)
reduction or something greater.
    And frankly, if this thing goes off the charts
and people just want to focus on the black carts, we can
actually remove another split-chamber vehicle and
repurpose that to support the increase in single-chamber
commodities.
    So we have existing vehicles that we can --
and we do that often. We're doing that often. If it's
not new material and we're picking it up already, all
we're doing is moving the materials to another vehicle.
We'll repurpose that vehicle and have them pick up the
migration. That make sense?
Q. Mm-hmm.
A. Okay.
Q. So you were hinting around a little bit to my next question, which is if the tonnage shift is higher or lower than your assumptions, how that would affect
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the number of new routes that you would have.
A. So it's like the magic -- it's the crystal
ball. And so we do have capacity if this really takes
off. And like I said, I can repurpose vehicles and
continue managing the materials that we're already
picking up.
Q. So I have a little bit of a follow-up question
on the Abandoned Materials and the Bulky Item program.
Have you considered whether those two programs
could be combined or integrated in some way to achieve
greater efficiencies? And if so, what would that
combination of these two services look like?
A. That's been talked about. They're very
identical as far as the vehicle types and what they're
really picking up. I think if we were to go back and do
an analysis, I can give you a better idea.
The question will be, "Do you still want
to" -- I'm a little concerned about the Abandoned
Material Collection and the four-hour response. That's
really the driver. So if there was a consideration
where we can pick up the abandoned material the next
day, then that would allow me to really meet the needs
of abandoned material and the BIR customers.
I guess we'd have to kind of talk through this
and understand what you're asking for as far as the

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future, but we would have to talk about that four-hour response. Because the four-hour response for the abandoned materials is really the driver. That is the limiting factor in combining the two programs.
Q. Okay. Perhaps in the next hearing you could bring some additional information about what the programs -- how they're operating today, what it might look like or what some alternatives would be.
A. Okay. For combining the two programs?
Q. Yeah. So that we can just understand more about what you're -- what you think the tradeoffs are and what your thinking.
A. Okay, I can do that.
Q. Great. So one question we've heard from the public at many of our outreach and workshops that we've held including information that we've received from the Ratepayer Advocate, is the issue of pilfering from the blue bins.

Has Recology ever studied the cost benefit of some sort of antitheft device such as locks on the bins? Are there other strategies that we have implemented or could implement to discourage or deter pilfering? I know that when we're talking about the rate increase, that issue comes up over and over again.
A. That's very challenging for our crews and our

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supervisors. I can tell you what we've done to date.
We encourage locks, although the pilferers
have a tendency to figure out which key code we're using
for the current Master lock. And it costs significant
money to change they key code on the lock, and they end
up getting the key again.
We tested different mechanical components that we can put on the lid so that when it automatically dumps, it will unlock and go. But I can tell you the pilferers are very good at destroying our lids. It's not rocket science as far as plastic and rivets. And so as much as we try to engineer the bins to be anti-pilfering, it becomes sometimes economics, a math problem, "How much do you want to put on this to make these bins?"
And it impacts our productivity. The more we lock our materials -- which we encourage -- it slows our crews down significantly. So when I run these RouteSmart optimization programs, I'm running at a clip where these guys can just dump and go, dump and go. And so if they have to stop at every container and start dealing with locking devices, that would really change the whole collection model.
So it's a challenge. And we hear it in our public meetings all the time at community events. It is

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a challenge. I mean, I can look at it again if you're asking me and then maybe come up with another proposal in the hearings, but I just want to give what's happening today.
Q. I think what would be helpful if maybe some combination of you and Mr. Porter could put together a little summary of information on kind of the revenue that's received from commodities, the potential impact of time and cost on locking down or too many locks on the bins, maybe a little bit of an explanation of the kind of things you've tried, the limits of the technology today. I think it's really just a question of making it far more clear to public what the tradeoffs are in trying to address the problem.
A. Absolutely. We can do that.

MS. PEARCE: Okay. Those are all my questions for now.

MR. HALEY: Good morning.
The Department of Environment will have some questions. We'd like to invite you back next week for those.

THE WITNESS: Sounds good.
I look forward to it.
DIRECTOR NURU: Want to bring --
MS. PEARCE: Yes, thank you.
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Recology will next call Minna Tao. DIRECTOR NURU: Please swear her in. (Ms. Tao steps up to the witness stand.) MINNA TAO, having first been duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:
DIRECTOR NURU: Proceed.
DIRECT EXAMINATION
BY MS. PEARCE:
Q. Good morning, Ms. Tao.
A. Good morning.
Q. Could you please spell your name for the record.
A. It's M-I-N-N-A, Tao, T as in "Tom"-A-O. Minna Tao.
Q. And Ms. Tao, what is your position at Recology?
A. I'm the General Manager for Recology Golden
Gate.
Q. How long have you been with the Recology companies?
A. I've been there for six years now.
Q. How long have you been the General Manager?
A. Two years.
Q. Tell us a little bit more, just briefly, about Page 175

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Golden Gate and the customers it services.
A. Okay. Well, we operate a 24 -by-7 operation at Recology Golden Gate; so our territory's primarily through the Presidio, North Beach, Chinatown, Financial District, Tenderloin; so we have a diverse customer base.
Q. As a part of the 2017 rate application, Recology is proposing to add a route management system to its collection vehicles. Could you tell us what a "route management system" is and what are the key purposes of such a system?
A. Okay. So a route management system that we're look at is really a platform of a combination of hardware, software applications that allows realtime two-way communications between the drivers out there driving, servicing our customers, as well as the back office. When a customer calls, you know, the route maintenance specialist checks in and a customer service representative.
Q. What is the purpose of this technology on a general level?
A. To improve driver efficiency. To cut down paperwork that we do. Eliminate some of the data entry -- duplicative data entry. And customer service, again.
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\begin{abstract}
Q. Is there a particular management system that Recology is proposing to use?
A. Yes. We are proposing to use Routeware, which is a proven technology in the waste industry. And back in 2010, Recology selected Routeware to be implemented down in the San Mateo/San Bruno area. And since then, we have expanded it into Yuba-Sutter, CleanScape, Seattle, and Weston, Oregon; so we have about 500 units deployed already currently.

And most importantly, it is a platform that can grow with us and is pretty sophisticated to address our business requirement. And it's already been integrated between our AS400 and Routeware. So that communications from data flowing back and forth is already there.
Q. All right. I'd like you to talk a little bit first about when a driver goes out in the field currently, how does he or she go about completing his route correctly?
A. Okay. So currently, this is a route book that we give to every driver as they are being dispatched to do a job. So they have here the duties, the route information, contact information that they may want to have access to, and some route information, maps, and locations of their customer base.
\end{abstract}

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So this is a route book that they get. And more importantly, they actually get a route sheet that we print out for every single route -- 350 routes that they get. And these are the lists of customers that they're supposed to pick up and service every day. Along with this, we have special instructions in terms of where to pick up, what are the key codes, and so on and so forth that is in here. So that is, you know, the driver will follow this and service the customer.
Q. What does the driver do as he's out on his route? What does he do with the route book?
A. So what they do is they take the route sheet and then they mark which one they service and any special instructions. So for example, here, they have like "not out," so they cross it out. And some of the other ones, they said, okay, "not out." And they even mention to say, "Stopped by multiple times," the timing of the customer and still not out, and some specific -like broken locks, dirty carts that they need to be replaced. So any special instructions that they'd like to communicate back to the back office, they put in on these route sheets.
Q. So by "not out," you mean the customer didn't put their carts out and so they couldn't be serviced?
A. Right. Or blocked, or yeah, not accessible.

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\section*{Q. And then at the end of the day when they're finished with their routes, what do they do with that information? \\ A. They bring it back to the office and they review all the comments with the dispatch -- I mean, with the check-in route maintenance specialist. And then they will verify the information and then they will -- the route maintenance specialist will key this information into the AS4000. \\ Q. So the back office isn't receiving that information, necessarily, until after the route is already complete? \\ A. Yes, true. Correct. \\ Q. Is there any other paperwork that the driver completes out on his route? \\ A. Yes, there is. You know, some of things that we actually ask them to do in terms off ensuring that the customers are putting in the material correctly into the bin, we ask the drivers to tag the customers to let them know. \\ So what they'll do is they write down to say if you have glass in a compost, they'll say, "Glass in compost" and put it in the back. We will key in information to let the Waste Zero specialist know that we may have to provide an outreach for these customers,} Page 179
especially if the customer is consistently tagged with contaminations.
Q. Do you have an example of what the drivers might bring back --
A. Yes.
Q. -- into the office?
A. So they bring back a stack of cards like this, and we take that and put it into the system.
Q. I understand you brought with you an actual Routeware tablet that would -- you're proposing to install on the Recology vehicles.
A. Yeah.
Q. Could you show us that tablet?
A. Yes, I'd be happy to. I actually brought with me a few, and these are live data; so don't put any transactions in.

You'll see what the driver typically will see.
So at a high level, this is what the driver will be seeing and operating and interacting with. So you will see here that it has the route address -Can you hear me?
-- the route address here. And then on this side, there's a green button and a red button. So if they service the customer, they'll hit the green button, say "Done," and that information actually gets back into

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the AS400 within 5 minutes.
And then if you skip a customer, for example,
it will show you -- you can have an option of another
pull down menu why it is this customer is being skipped.
You know, is it not accessible, not out? And they can
go back. There's a couple of very good information too.
Also on this side, on the red, is like a Post-It. These
are special instructions and comments for the drivers
for that particular account.
And then when they want to know -- if they are
not familiar with the route, they can hit the navigation
button here and then a map will show up to show them
where go and how to get to that point A to point B.
So go back to the customer, you can see that
there are red customers. These are customers that we
shouldn't service.
Currently there are times that we go through,
the drivers are very efficient. They want to make sure
that we service all the customers, and this is a good
opportunity for to us respond back to say, "Hey, the
customer did put out the cans," and allow customer
service to call them to say there, "Your cans are put
out. Do you want to turn your service back on?",
for example.
Q. So the red will show if the customer -- if

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    Page 181
that address is not currently a customer of Recology; is
that correct?
    A. Exactly, exactly.
    Q. Where will that tablet actually be placed in
the truck?
    A. Good question. So this is actually going to
be installed in the cradle. That is movable and it's
clipped in and locked. And the driver can easily --
so they would be driving here. Usually the cradle is
here so it's not interfering with their vision --
where they're going.
    Q. Is this the only piece of equipment from
Routeware that will be installed on the vehicle or are
there other pieces of equipment?
    A. Well, there are other pieces of equipment.
So there's cameras that we integrated with the
Routeware, and then there's also an external monitor for
trucks that typically service the customer like a
rear-loader or side-loader. We really don't want to the
drivers to be running back and forth from the cab to
where they're servicing; so it makes it easier for them
to have a pound, a button key and a screen. But this is
still the brain, though.
    Q. The screen -- the screen you're describing
will be on the outside of the truck?
A. Right.
Q. And there will also be a button that they
could also push as soon as they've completed the
service?
A. Exactly.
MS. PEARCE: I know that we will not be able
to enter the actual tablets into evidence; so I would
propose that we -- actually, I've had exhibits made of
the paperwork and also of the tablet themselves, and I
would move their admission as Exhibit 30 and 31 .
THE WITNESS: Julia, I hope you're not
entering any data there.
We'll be in trouble -- I'll be.
MS. PEARCE: Let's have the paperwork be 30
and the picture of the tablet be 31 .
MR. PRADHAN: So just to clarify, Exhibit 30
is one photograph of some paperwork and maps, it looks
like. I'm just summarizing.
MS. PEARCE: The route book and the route
sheets and the tags for the customers when there's an
issue for their collection.
MR. PRADHAN: Correct, yeah, what the witness
has testified about. And then Exhibit 31 consists of
two photographs of a tablet, again, similar to what the
witness has just testified about.

And those two exhibits will be admitted.
MS. PEARCE: I think that Exhibit 31 is just one photograph.

MR. PRADHAN: I apologize. 31 is one page, a photograph.

MS. PEARCE: Thank you.
(Exhibit 30, "Route Paperwork [Recology]," was admitted into evidence.)
(Exhibit 31, "Routeware Tablet [Recology]," was admitted into evidence.)
BY MS. PEARCE:
Q. Ms. Tao, how will you ensure that the drivers take advantage and make use of this technology?
A. You know, change is hard. So of course we want to make it as easy as possible for the drivers. But I am surprised that many of the drivers are kind of excited about this technology. You know, maybe because they're using iPhones now and they feel satisfied that they're able to report their progress. And when they say "not out," they can take a photo to prove it.
Q. You mentioned some of the efficiencies that you hope to gain from implementing this technology. What are some of those actual efficiencies? I would like you to talk a little bit more detail about some of the efficiencies you're hoping to achieve using this

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\section*{technology.}
A. So you know, when we're actually out, for example, there is a feature in Routeware that's called "dynamic routing." So if a truck is down, we're able to select the customer that has still yet to be serviced and kind of redistribute the work out to the outlying trucks and electronically send those addresses with the special instructions to the routes so that the customer can be serviced the same day.
Q. What about any paperwork efficiencies that you're hoping to achieve from that?
A. Absolutely. You know, you saw all those paperwork that we have to key in. So nowadays, you know, the drivers put it in and then we're actually able to verify the information and then submit it as the data and we can respond to it quickly. You know, if we are able to -- if there's a "not out" customer, if we're able to service it, that saves the customer calls in the back end and the customer is more happy about our service.
Q. You mentioned customer service efficiencies as well. How much of a challenge is that for Recology currently to address all the customer service requests that come through your back office?
A. We get a lot of service requests. We have

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about 140,000 customers that we service, and think about: \(1 \%\) is 1,400 service requests that we get a day. And that is a lot of paperwork, customer requests that we to verify. We have to note some of them are service tags, stop service, reminder service, change bin size, missing charts, deliver locks, operation verifications.
So it's -- there's a lot of transactions that go through.
Q. It sounds like Routeware is going to offer you a lot of new information and opportunities to communicate that you didn't have before. How are you planning to manage that information?
A. It's a great question. You know, we get a lot of information. Some gets lost because of the paper shuffling and, you know, we're not perfect. And more importantly, information, when the drivers are back in the yard when they finish their route, a lot of the information becomes irrelevant. So really, it's not entered and captured anywhere.

With Routeware, allows them to put comments when they're actually on their route doing their work. It actually creates a lot of data -- a lot more data than we've ever had before, and we have to respond to it, You know, and we're able to respond to it, which the good thing. And in addition, if you think about all

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this technology that we have, we also need somebody to
help verify the data, make sure the routes is loaded
correctly, make sure the sequencing is up to date and
correct. So it creates a lot more activities because of
the data that we're receiving.
Q. Are you proposing any additional head count in
order to address some of these issues?
A. Yes. We're proposing adding three route
specialists, maintenance specialists to help make
sure that the route is up to date, make sure that
the equipment is being used properly, and then also
be able to be proactive when we get the information
and if there's anything that's customer service-related,
we can act on it timely.
Q. Does Routeware have any capabilities that
maybe you're not implementing right now or you're not
thinking about implementing right now, but you may want
to implement down the road?
A. Yes. One of the -- high on our priority list
is adding a second camera to capture contaminations so
that we could take photos of it as the material is being
dumped inside the hopper, so we can manage that.
Other -- the other things that we would like
to do is right now is very, very informational, back and
forth. But what we would like to move forward with is

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once we have the information and we can set criteria and have a transaction, for example, if a customer is "not out," instead of having to call, why don't we send them an e-mail or a text to let them know the material is not out.

\section*{Q. Automatically?}
A. Automatically. So we want to automate a lot more transactions than we currently do now.
Q. If this technology is approved, how will it be rolled out across the collection companies?
A. Our plan is -- well first of all, we're very excited about this technology. We want to roll it out as soon as possible to all the trucks. But I think what we'll do is by route type. You know, hit with the commercial, the more complicated routes first.

You know, one of the things that I didn't mention is drivers do take vacations. And when they do, when we have a casual driver that backs them up to service, they're not as familiar with the route as the normal drivers are. This Routeware system allows you to really follow the details on where the bins are and be able to provide a lot more directions to the drivers.

And we will also know whether the driver's having a hard time finishing the routes so we can send help.

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Q. Did Recology consider any other technology besides Routeware before deciding on that particular?
A. We did. We looked at some cheaper
alternatives, but a lot of the cheaper alternatives doesn't have the rich platform to support San Francisco, because it's very complex. We have a lot of special services.
And more importantly, we want something that can support multiple different cameras, you know, cameras that sort of look at where there's service and to capture the contaminations. We selected Routeware also because we have a really good relationship with Routeware, that they work with us very closely to develop future applications.
For example, one of the things that they did with us is the abandoned waste. You know, I mean, that is a game changer for us to service. So it goes from somebody taking photos of abandoned waste and reporting it on 311 app, to dispatching it to the Routeware system so that actually the closest truck will pick up the abandoned waste. When they're there, they confirm that they serviced the customer. That transaction really loops back into 311 in letting the actual person that actually initiated the transaction know that that request has been completed.

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Q. So do I understand you correctly that Sunset Scavenger or Recology Golden Gate is already using Routeware?
A. Mm-hmm.
Q. And in the Abandoned Materials Collection Program?
A. That's correct.
Q. It's been successful?
A. It's been very successful and allows us to really meet the four-hour service level agreement with the City.

MS. PEARCE: Thank you, Ms. Tao.
I don't have any more questions for you.
Thank you.
DIRECTOR NURU: Okay. Cross-examine?
MS. PEARCE: I have a couple of questions.
THE WITNESS: Okay.
CROSS-EXAMINATION
BY MS. DAWSON:
Q. Quick. So you had mentioned that you'll be able to do dynamic routing. So say for instance you have some sort of truck that's down, and then you'd be able to reissue that route to another vehicle.
What happens today when that happens?
A. What happens today is we will -- the truck

\section*{will be there, and we manually print out the route sheets, and somebody will calculate that route. And then usually we only do one person. We take the whole route and we give it to another truck. \\ Q. So do you deploy a new truck or do you put it -- do you assign it and extend the route of some truck that's already in the field? \\ A. Probably both, depending on when the truck was broken down. \\ Q. And then there's clearly overtime that may well happen as a result of the extension that shift? \\ A. Yes. \\ Q. And do you imagine the dynamic routing would reduce any of those additional costs by maybe distributing them better or being able to plan for it better? \\ A. It will allows us to plan for it better. \\ But based on the current contract agreement with the Union, there will be limited savings if you're looking for overtime. \\ Q. Okay. What about some of these customer service benefits? You mention that you're going to be able to have a lot more efficiencies. Are you expecting that your shifting administrative staff right now that takes care of things that are more on paper -- and you Page 191}
had mentioned that you'd asked for three additional head count for --
A. Mm-hmm.
Q. -- people who were doing different kinds of work related to route maintenance. But what about the way in which this far more manual system is being supported today? And is there any ability to repurpose people from one function to another?
A. That will be the whole entire goal in the long
run. But as we get to know this system, we're actually dealing with a lot more data than we ever have before. A lot of the data, to be honest, the drivers, when they go home, a lot of information is not provided to us and we're not able to respond to it.

So that's really primarily one of the drivers of requesting the three route maintenance specialists. Having to deal with all this technology that we don't have, which is paper, there's a lot of data verification and confirmations that we do that we don't do today.
Q. Do you expect that you might see a reduction in complaints?
A. Yes. We sure hope that there will be a reduction in complaints.
Q. Do you have any data of the kind of -- how many people are actually -- it'd be interesting to

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understand just how many complaints in terms of deficient service you're getting versus how you think this new system will change that dynamic and whether that --

I mean, clearly those complaints are taking up customer service peoples' time.
A. We can look at the different complaints.

Initially, I would say that the overlooks will be better managed. We'll be able to respond quickly.
Q. Okay. So you had mentioned the Abandoned Waste Program, is already using this. Are they actually using tablets? Or is this tablet piece going to be new?
A. The software is still the same, but the equipment is different. I think the Abandoned Waste has three-year-old technology; so they have three pieces of devices in the cab versus one tablet.
Q. And you're planning to replace those three devices? Are you going tablets systemwide?
A. I'm seeing -- yes.

MS. DAWSON: Okay. I don't have any more questions at this time.

THE WITNESS: Okay, thank you.
DIRECTOR NURU: Okay. Would the Company like to call up another witness?

MR. HUGHES: Yes, Mr. Nuru. My name is
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Jonathan Hughes for Recology. We will recall Mr. Quillen.

DIRECTOR NURU: Okay. Mr. Quillen, take the stand.
(Ms. Tao steps down from the witness stand.)
(Mr. Quillen steps up to the witness stand.)
MAURICE QUILLEN,
having been previously duly sworn,
was examined and testified as follows:

\section*{DIRECT EXAMINATION}

BY MR. HUGHES:
Q. Mr. Quillen, you remain under oath; so I'll remind you of that.

Mr. Quillen, you've introduced yourself already to us in this room. Can you remind us of your title with Recology?
A. Maurice Quillen, General Manager with Recology San Francisco.
Q. And what are the major facilities within San Francisco that you manage?
A. I manage the transfer and processing operations, specifically Recycle Central at Pier 96 and Recology San Francisco Tunnel Beatty complex, which includes the transfer operation, the public reuse and recycling area, the household hazardous waste
department, and the transfer operation, as well as the iMRF.
Q. What I wanted to talk with you this morning in the time that we have left are the capital projects that are contemplated by the rate application.

Can you tell us the capital projects that will be impacting the facilities that you manage?
A. Yes. We're proposing three capital projects in our rate application. The West Wing, which is a project to create a new building where we can transfer -- tip and transfer organic material.

We have a trash processing pilot, which is a piece of equipment that we'll be installing over at Pier 96 to allow us to process the black bin material on a pilot basis.

We also have two contingent schedules in the rate application. One of them is the relocation of the iMRF building to the Port of San Francisco, Pier 96. And then the second contingent schedule would be the expansion of the Zero Waste Processing Project in the building that was once housing the iMRF.
Q. All right. I'd like to take each of those projects in turn and have you describe for us a little bit about what those are going to do. I'd like to start with the West Wing project and perhaps introduce an Page 195
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exhibit, pictures on the screen in a moment.
I think we may be on Exhibit 32.
MR. PRADHAN: Exhibit 32 is two photographs.
Actually --
(Exhibit 32, "West Wing Renderings
[Recology]," was admitted into evidence.)
(Exhibit 32 is displayed.)
MR. HUGHES: Exhibit 32 is two or three
renderings of the West Wing project. Thank you.
BY MR. HUGHES:
Q. Mr. Quillen, can you describe for us perhaps
in reference to the image that we're seeing on the
screen at the moment what the West Wing project would do
generally.
A. Yeah, the image on the screen is an image of
our transfer station. And in the center of the photo
and to the left of the image is this triangular
building, which is the building we are calling the
"West Wing."
Q. Let me just see if I can do this here.
When you talk about a "triangular building,"
you're talking about this here?
A. Yes, I am.
Q. And this is the proposed West Wing project?
A. This is the West Wing project; correct.

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\section*{Q. And what are the operations that are anticipated to occur at the West Wing? \\ A. So the West Wing is going to be an accessory building to the transfer station. Its primary function will be to receive and transfer organic materials from the route trucks from Recology Golden Gate and Recology Sunset Scavenger. \\ Q. And where is that activity currently being done? \\ A. I think if you refer to the picture, the lower right-hand corner is a building that we call the "Organics Annex." \\ Q. Is it down here, this lower rectangle right here? \\ A. The small building. \\ Q. This is an existing structure at \\ Tunnel Beatty? \\ A. Correct. It's the organics annex. \\ Q. And maybe walk us through just a very high \\ level what the operations are involved in the organics annex currently. \\ A. Yeah, it's approximately a 6,000 square foot building and it's situated just below the transfer station. Currently, the route trucks have to drive up a ramp into the building, tip the material on the floor.}

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We have a loader operator that takes the material and comes off the route trucks, stacks it and moves it, and prepares the tipping for the next truck.

In addition to receiving the material, we also transfer the organics to the southern portion of the building, top-load the organics into craters, then send it to our processing facilities.
Q. So there's essentially two components to the truck traffic; is that right? You've got the collection trucks coming in bringing the material, and then it gets tipped onto the floor and then ultimately loaded back onto the long-haul trucks and taken to Hay Road; is that right?
A. Yes, two very separate operations. One's a route-based operation where we receive the route trucks. The other one is a transfer operation where we take the material that comes from the route truck and bring them to market.
Q. And what are some of the challenges that Recology's facing is using the organics annex for these operations?
A. The organics annex is a 6,000 square foot building. It's not a very large structure. Currently, there's only one way in and out of the building. We get in excess of 100 truck trips a day through that

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it, it will be recovered and quickly evacuated from the
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it, it will be recovered and quickly evacuated from the
tipping floor.
tipping floor.
    It also has a much more consistent --
    It also has a much more consistent --
appealing traffic pattern. The traffic pattern is the
appealing traffic pattern. The traffic pattern is the
truck enter the building from the north, dump the
truck enter the building from the north, dump the
material, and then exit the building to the south. It's
material, and then exit the building to the south. It's
a very linear operation. The loader would have room to
a very linear operation. The loader would have room to
operate inside of the building and wouldn't have to exit
operate inside of the building and wouldn't have to exit
the building when the trucks are dumping.
the building when the trucks are dumping.
    It also has provisions for a tipping --
    It also has provisions for a tipping --
a top-loading feature loadout, which is the rectangle
a top-loading feature loadout, which is the rectangle
to the left of the building.
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to the left of the building.
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    Q. You're talking about this smaller rectangle
that's adjacent to what you described as the West Wing
project?
    A. Right.
    Q. And that's for what function?
    A. That will allow us to bring tractor trailers
into the building and top-load material into the trucks.
    Q. Let's take a look at the second picture of
Exhibit 32. Does this show us -- sort of focus our
attention a little bit more on that part of the
structure you were just mentioning.
    A. Yes, it does.
    Q. And can you describe for us, does this feature
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building, organics. Right now, the trucks have to queue

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building, organics. Right now, the trucks have to queue
in line, one behind the other, drive up a hill.
in line, one behind the other, drive up a hill.
    It's comical that the loader and the truck
    It's comical that the loader and the truck
have to do a little dance. The loader has to make room
have to do a little dance. The loader has to make room
for the material, exit the building. The truck has to
for the material, exit the building. The truck has to
enter the building. Once the truck dumps the material,
enter the building. Once the truck dumps the material,
as the truck exits the building, the loader loops back
as the truck exits the building, the loader loops back
around and then moves the material off to the side
around and then moves the material off to the side
preparing the tipping floor for the next load.
preparing the tipping floor for the next load.
    It's challenging to get up and down the hill,
    It's challenging to get up and down the hill,
especially when there's a lot of moisture on the ground.
especially when there's a lot of moisture on the ground.
And the building really wasn't designed to handle the
And the building really wasn't designed to handle the
moisture content of the material that we experience with
moisture content of the material that we experience with
in organics.
in organics.
    Q. And describe for us if you will, Mr. Quillen,
    Q. And describe for us if you will, Mr. Quillen,
how would the proposed West Wing project address some of
how would the proposed West Wing project address some of
those issues?
those issues?
    A. The first consideration is the building is
    A. The first consideration is the building is
nearly double the size. It's a little over 14,000
nearly double the size. It's a little over 14,000
square feet; so that's the biggest factor. We're going
square feet; so that's the biggest factor. We're going
to have significantly more tipping area.
to have significantly more tipping area.
    It's also going to be a purpose-built building
    It's also going to be a purpose-built building
designed to handle the organic materials. It's got a
designed to handle the organic materials. It's got a
very robust moisture retention recovery system; so any
very robust moisture retention recovery system; so any
material that leaks out of the trucks if they're dumping
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material that leaks out of the trucks if they're dumping

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of the West Wing project have improvements that are anticipated for the loading in and loading out of trucks?
A. Well, generally we load the material into the trucks. We're held to a very strict weight standard with the trucks. They can only hold so much material, and it's very important for us to maximize the amount of material we put into the trucks. So when we currently load the material into the top of the trucks in the annex, we do load the trucks on a scale so we have a general idea how heavy the truck is.

But given the size of the building, it's very hard to maximize the weight of the truck. In any event, the loader operator's a little overzealous and overloads the truck. We now have to pull the truck out of line, bring it around the facility, offload some product, and then get it out on the road after we scale it.

The new facility is going have an articulated grapple or "crane," as we call it, that would allow the operator to in an automated fashion take out any extra material or put in smaller amounts of material to maximize the load. In mention of the weight of the truck, we'll also be able to look at the axle weights of the vehicle to ensure that when the truck leaves the facility, it's completely legal.

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\section*{Q. And does that increase the efficiency of} getting the right amount of material into each of the truck loads?
A. Yes, it does. When you look at our operation, we're processing over 600 tons a day, 25 to 30 truck trips a day easily you'll have us going. If we make a mistake of a couple hundred pounds per truck, at the end of the week there will be several trucks to the market that we have. And if we overload a truck, we would have that truck locked up at scale and subject to having to offload the back of the truck or face fines.
Q. You mentioned that this new West Wing project would be purpose-built for the functions we're talking about. What was the organics annex built for?
A. The organics annex was built in the 1970 s and it was intended to recover steel cans from the waste stream through a very rudimentary set of magnets and conveyors.
Q. You mentioned also the issue of liquid. I mean, we're talking about organic material that's being put onto a floor. Is that what we're talking about?
A. Correct. We call it the tipping floor.
Q. And in the organics annex, what happens to the liquids that are within the organic material?

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A. Generally the material -- the liquid that is on the floor of the annex gets pushed into the trucks in most cases. Unfortunately, we have some issues. Given nature of the building, it's not sealed very well; so we have some issues of seepage around the eaves of the building and we have to constantly deal with the issues associated with the seepage.

Also, the scale that we currently utilize as part of the annex is a pit scale. And essentially all the moisture that doesn't make it into the truck or drips out of the truck during the loading process ends up accumulating underneath the scale and it presents with some significant operational challenges. We have to take that material out of from underneath the scale with some frequency.
Q. And you alluded to this already, but can you tell us what the West Wing project proposes to do in terms of the moisture issues in the floor?
A. So the key difference is the West Wing will have a graded floor that will be designed to direct the moisture to collection points. The collection points will be purpose-built to accommodate the material and then it will also travel through a series of drains into a treatment facility. We'll be able to take the moisture, the liquid if you will, understand its pH

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content, treat it, and then release it. In addition to that system, we will still continue to put as much moisture as we can in the trucks in the top-loading process. Obviously, that's beneficial the composting process.
Q. Does the West Wing project as it's proposed address odor issues?
A. Yes, it does.
Q. Tell us how it does that.
A. We've operated the transfer station for nearly four decades, and odor's always a constant issue when you're processing MSW. And now that we've extracted the organics from the MSW, we created new and different odor problems.

So as part of the West Wing, we have
contemplated a system that will treat both the transfer station and the West Wing as a single building, and we would capture all of the air from the facility and run it through a system that would ionize the air before releasing it into the atmosphere.
Q. Let me just make sure that we're focused on what you're talking about in terms of "operating assistant." Is this larger building the transfer station?
A. Yes, it is.

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Q. And then we've got the West Wing to the right here. So you're talking about operating an odor-control system that would be for both functions?
A. Yes.
Q. And how does the system that you
contemplate -- you mentioned that it involves ionizing
the air. But what does it do in terms of the treatment of the air and what is your understanding of the improvements to odor control?
A. Well, the first thing that we're going to do to the building is seal the building up. So we're contemplating high-speed doors for all of the openings. And if we are able to successfully close the building during our operating hours, we get to see ability to capture the air.
And then we're going to rely on a series of fans and ducts to take the air from the annex -- excuse me, from the West Wing and transfer station and collect it through a system of pipes and fans. And then the air would then go over through an exchange unit where the ionized air would be injected into the air as it's
evacuated from the building.
Q. Have you had any opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of the system?
A. Yes, we have. We looked at the different

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types of technologies that were available, and essentially it was either mechanical filtration which is very expense, bio-filtration which takes a massive amount of space, or this new technology, ionization.

And we were somewhat skeptical of it because no one had really been deploying this ionization technology. So the company came out and installed a desktop test unit. And this test unit functioned in the exact same fashion that the larger system worked. It basically extracted the air from the annex and transfer station and treated it.

In order to sort of quantitatively analyze whether or not it was successful doing its job, the air was placed into large bags. The bags of untreated and treated air were then sent to what is called an "odor panel," which a group of individuals with very keen noses and sense of smell who then proceeded to sample the material, the air from the two bags, and make the determination that yes, in fact, the system did do its job and deodorize the air from the transfer station and the annex.

Personally, I had not had the opportunity to smell the air of the two bags. And when we smell, we have treated air; undeniably, the air from transfer station.

\section*{Q. It's something you're familiar with? \\ A. It's something I'm very familiar with in the West Wing. And then when we smelled the air, it came out of the treated bag and it had no perceptible smell whatsoever. So as an operator, I thought that was very successful. \\ We also went to see a full-size facility installation up in Modesto, a pet food facility. And we were able to visit the facility, go inside the facility, and understand what facilities smelled like on the inside, and when we went outside it was obvious that the system was doing its job. \\ Q. All right. Let's turn our attention, I think, with that to the Trash Processing Pilot Program, which is one of the capital projects you mentioned in the rate application. And this one is not in the contingent schedule; is that right? This one's in the actual rate application itself? \\ MS. DAWSON: Counsel? \\ MR. HUGHES: Yes? \\ MS. DAWSON: Given that we've got a number of different projects to talk about and that we have -we've unfortunately lost a little bit of time. \\ I'm wondering if you'd be willing to have some cross-examination questions on this specific --- and}

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kind of break it up so that I could ask questions, have them about specific facilities.

MR. HUGHES: Of course. And he hears that.
MS. DAWSON: Okay. That way, hopefully
Mr. Quillen will have a very fresh mind. Here we go.

\section*{CROSS-EXAMINATION}

BY MS. DAWSON:
Q. Okay. So I'm going to talk about the West Wing and ask you some questions. Can you summarize for us briefly how this project differs from the West Wing project that was proposed in the 2013 rate application and then approved under a contingent schedule?
A. Well, it's a different building inasmuch as it's a larger building than what we had originally contemplated. The original West Wing that we were looking at constructing was going to be a test facility. It was really designed to test emerging processing technologies and it was going to allow us an opportunity to do that in a portion of the building that would be part of our solid waste facility-permitted area.

The difference between that building and this billing is we now have before us a production facility that its intended designed purpose is actually purpose-built to receive organics the intention of transferring it.

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Q. So when you say "new processing technology," you're specifically addressing what's in the black bin? Or it could have been any of them?
A. It could have been any number of new technologies.
Q. So according to your application, Recology recovers 650 tons per day of compostable materials. What would be the capacity of the new West Wing?
A. I would presume the capacity of the West Wing would be in excess of a thousand tons.
Q. So based on the historic and projected growth
in the organics waste stream, what is the projected useful life of the West Wing?
A. It would be -- I would project the useful life in excess of 20 years.
Q. Do you think that's consistent with kind of the changes that you've seen just as far as you can tell?
A. Yeah. I mean, it will be a fairly robust building. Given its current use, based on what I've seen of the product, it's going to be a challenging environment. It's going to require constant maintenance. This isn't just a simple structure that can just be left to take care of itself. It needs to be cleaned daily, it needs to be washed. There's a lot of Page 209
maintenance associated with this. As a result, there's a lot of moisture; so we're definitely going to have some challenges in taking care of this building.
Q. Okay. So in Recology's San Francisco schedule H. 3 in the rate application, it lists the West Wing construction cost as \(\mathbf{\$ 1 8 , 8 5 7 , 1 7 0 .}\) And according to Appendix A in the narrative summary, the construction of the West Wing will begin in July of 2017 and be completed in August of 2018.

Has Recology received all the permits and other approvals necessary to meet this timeline?
A. We received all the land use entitlements, the zoning is all in order, and we currently have a permit package in the planning department right now. And we're in final plan check stages. We expect to have the construction plans in hand probably within 30 to 60 days, definitely by inclusion of the rating process. We anticipate that we'll be prepared to initiate the construction process on or about July of this year.
Q. So how has Recology and the general contractor agreed on final design, final construction schedule, and final guaranteed maximum price for this project?
A. I think I'd like to defer that question to

Meghan Butler. She's the project manager who's been working very closely with the design team.
Q. Okay. Would you like me to also -- I have just some questions about notice to proceed and all these things, but it sounds like I should wait for Ms. Butler.
A. Yeah. She'll be presenting more of a technical analysis of the process and what led up to the existing permit.

MS. DAWSON: Okay. I'll hold the rest of my questions until testimony then. Thank you.

THE WITNESS: Thank you.
REDIRECT EXAMINATION
BY MR. HUGHES:

\section*{Q. All right. Let's talk about the Trash} Processing Pilot, if you could. What is the idea of running a pilot for trash processing?
A. Well, processing the trash, essentially sorting through what we call materials in the "pit," or the black bins, is sort of the new frontier of our industry. Recology demonstrated quite a bit of acumen of our ability to process recyclable organics, but we haven't really had much experience processing trash.

So this is an important pilot for us because it allows the opportunity to explore trash processing to make some evaluations, assessment of the equipment associated with processing trash. More importantly, Page 211
it allows to understand the markets associated with selling material that we derived from the black part.
Q. And then at a very general high level, can you tell us how you go about processing trash?
A. Yeah. Basically the route trucks come off the routes and we tip them on the floor. We run the material through a size reducer, basically an SSI Shredder. The SSI Shredder takes all of the trash and makes it uniform. We then take that material and we run it across a screen called a Lubo Screen.

A Lubo Screen essentially gives us what I'd like to call the "wet-and-dry separation"; so essentially the small four inch-minus material is moisture-heavy, falls through the stream, and then the four inch-larger material, the cans, bottles, paper, plastic, goes across the screen. And then from there, we've got two processes. One of them is the Orex Press which takes the four inch-minus and then presses the organics out of it, and we'll send that material to East Bay MUD where it's converted into energy.

The "overs," material that comes off of the Lubo Screen is really what the pilot's going to target. And basically what we're going to do is we're going to take the material, it comes off the screen, transfer it over to Pier 96, and then run it across the purpose-

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-built piece of equipment where we can initiate the
process of sorting the trash.
Q. What is Recology doing presently from a trash
processing perspective? Does it already have the
shredder and the machinery that enables the separation
and the using of the Orex Press?
A. Yes. Currently we operate the SSI Shredder,
the Lubo Screen, and Orex Press. We will be
operating -- assuming it's approved, we will be actually
installing and operating the Zero Waste Processing Pilot
equipment operation over at Pier 96.
Q. So the processing of the smaller material,
the organic smaller material is already currently being
done by the Orex and wasn't proposed in the rate
application as some means of processing the larger
material for recyclables?
A. Yes.
MR. HUGHES: All right. I'd like to introduce
a new exhibit, 33, which is a 3D rendering of some
equipment that I'd like you to describe for us, please.
But let us introduce this first or get it
circulated. Thank you.
MR. PRADHAN: The document will be Exhibit }33
(Exhibit 33 is displayed.)
///

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(Exhibit 33, "Zero Waste Trash
Processing Pilot 3D Rendering [Recology]," was admitted into evidence.)
BY MR. HUGHES:
Q. Mr. Quillen, what is Exhibit 33?
A. Exhibit 33 is an image of the proposed equipment, essentially the Zero Waste Processing Pilot equipment.
Q. This is the equipment that would process for recoverable recyclables, that is the oversized materials
from the trash?
A. Correct.
Q. And where does Recology propose this equipment would be housed during the pilot?
A. We would be installing this equipment at Pier 96.
Q. In space that's currently being used for what?
A. Currently it's space that's not being used for
anything -- little bit of bale stores and equipment
storage. It's generally an unutilized department building.
Q. And what is it that you hope to be able to accomplish by employing this equipment?
A. Well, by employing this equipment we hope to get an understanding for the material that we'll be
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processing in the future. This equipment will
essentially allow us the ability to experiment with the
waste stream and understand what type of materials --
what type of threshold the market will allow for those
materials.
Q. In terms of a scale, how large of a pilot
program is this you're contemplating?
A. The pilot is contemplating processing
approximately 100 tons a day.
Q. And that's out of how many -- how much of the
collected black bin material?
A. Nearly $10 \%$ of the material collected on the
routes.
Q. So approximately 1,000 tons a day, it'll be
100 of it?
A. Yeah. It's a fairly substantial pilot.
Q. And do you have any estimates or projections
about the amount of recyclable material that you think
you'll be able to pull of that $\mathbf{1 0 0}$ tons of black bin
material a day?
A. At this point, we're estimating about
$25 \%$ recovery from the 100 tons. We believe $10 \%$ of the
material will come from the Orex Press operation, and
then we believe that we can recover $15 \%$ of the material
from the this operation.

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Q. Do you have any expectation about the ability over time for technologies or markets to allow you to recover a greater amount from the black bin?
A. We're very optimistic that as we continue to operate the equipment, we'll learn more about the material. As we learn more about the material and start to actually collect the product, we'll have the ability to test it in the marketplace. As we bring that product into the market, we'll start to understand what the issues are associated with the selling of these products.

So you know, we do anticipate that over time through our understanding and our ability to operate the equipment, we should be able to derive higher diversion rates. Potentially, markets could open up further yielding other opportunities for to us market material.

MR. HUGHES: Okay. I think that's all I have on the Trash Processing Pilot. So if Ms. Dawson or anyone else has any questions on that, I'm happy to sit down for a moment.

\section*{RECROSS-EXAMINATION}

\section*{BY MS. DAWSON:}
Q. So can you just refresh my memory a little bit about just how much of what's currently going to be in the trash waste stream are you going to be trying to

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}

\section*{process during this pilot program? \\ A. We're going to target 100 tons per day. Approximately \(10 \%\) of what comes off the route trucks will go through this pilot. And the target materials will be the classic recycles: paper, plastic, cans, bottles, cardboard, metal, wood. \\ Q. And through the results of the pilot program, you're hoping to really gain more information about potentially increasing capacity in this area? \\ A. Through the operation of the pilot, we hope to understand more about the material that we will be processing, the marketability of the materials. \\ And once we understand the material qualities and \\ quantities, we can start to make better and more \\ educated assumptions related to the throughput of the debris. \\ Q. So have you also looked at or are currently considering other possible technologies that you might be able to use to process the black waste stream? \\ A. Not at this time. \\ Q. Okay. What equipment specifically is this that you were using for the pilot? Are you able to provide us a little more detail on exactly what you're proposing to purchases? \\ A. Yeah. Essentially this is a European approach}

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to processing trash. The system that we have on the slide here, it is a proposal that we received from Van Dyk Baler Corporation. If you'd like, I can walk you through the equipment.

\section*{Q. At a high level, please.}
A. At a high level, the little machine with the grapple is obviously the excavator. The excavator would take material from the route trucks and place it from the --
Q. We're starting on the left-hand side, just for the benefit of everybody else?
A. Yes. So on the left-hand side we're able to process material larger in the system. It will go into a feed hopper, up an incline to there, and hit a very, very small bale sorter station. We don't really at this point in time want to spend much effort manually sorting the material; so we're proposing an extensively mechanical process. So essentially we'll have a few individuals up there who will pull out large items or things that could potentially damage the material.

The next piece of equipment, the one that has that yellow hood is an optical sorter. The optical sorter is generally.

MR. HUGHES: This hood, or back here?
THE WITNESS: That first hood.
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The optical sorter is essentially use infrared light to make an almost split-second determination of what a product is and then sort that material; so it's a mechanical method of sorting. The systems generally sort product into two or three commodities. In this case, we would be splitting the material in two commodities.

We would then -- continuing straight, we've got a Ballistic Separator or screen that would then size-reduce. We could three-dimensionally sort the material. At that point, we would be targeting containers and things of that nature. And then we're also proposing a secondary optical sorter off to the right, which would further be able to sort the material.

MS. DAWSON: And do you have --
Just a request of Recology or Counsel, for the drawings that you've provided to us today, both of the West Wing and this equipment, would it be possible to label them in a way that you just walked us through so for the benefit of the record and the benefit of the public, I think it amends the equipment a lot better.

MR. HUGHES: Of course.
MS. DAWSON: And as far as the images of the West Wing go, it might also be helpful to consider introducing as evidence. And as it is of what's at Page 219

Tunnel Road and marking the current condition, I've seen such images, but they're not currently here. Maybe you've got them lying in wait for me.

But in any case you don't, I would ask that you do that because for those people, there are certainly members of the public who've never had the pleasure of being toured around the Recology facilities. I think it would be very helpful to clarify kind of what you've got today and what you're planning to do, including labeling components of the new West Wing in terms of how the flow works, where the loading and unloading happens, things like that.

MR. HUGHES: I will. Thank you.
MS. DAWSON: So in terms of this particular -what the throughput is of the proposed Van Dyk equipment, how much can be run over the line, what kind of the respective output might be. Things like that.

MR. HUGHES: We will work on that.
MR. HALEY: No questions at this time.
DIRECTOR NURU: Okay. Can I get a showing of how many people would like to speak in public hearing.

Okay. So we can go ahead.
MS. DAWSON: Does the Ratepayer Advocate want a little bit of time as well?

MS. DILGER: Yes, we would.
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\section*{Atkinson-Baker Court Reporters \\ www.depo.com} extra little bit of time in case there's additional follow-up from the information that the Ratepayer Advocate provides.

DIRECTOR NURU: Maybe at this time I think I'll just go ahead and hold off on public comment, since we have about 25 minutes. Continue.

MR. HUGHES: We can go ahead and turn the image off on the screen.

DIRECTOR NURU: Would the Ratepayer Advocate like to come up.

MR. JONES: Great. Thank you for an opportunity to do a few follow-up questions. A few of these are just clarifying questions, and many of these are basically relevant to some of the things that we've been hearing in the now over 41 committee meetings that we've had that pertains to the items that are in the daily agenda.

\section*{EXAMINATION}

BY MR. JONES:
Q. The first question, Mr. Quillen, is just confirming -- given your earlier responses, my understanding or belief that the question is probably more appropriate for Ms. Butler, but I just want to make certain that at least it is due to your assessment and

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referral that that's the appropriate respondent for this question. It has everything do with the West Wing construction and the approval timeline. You indicated July 17. It's a pretty aggressive dating. There's some interest in the ability for Recology to maintain that timeline. And what are the strategies that they'll often do that does not subsequently end up increasing the construction costs? And so either you can respond or you can defer it for Ms. Butler.
A. I think I can try to answer the question.

I think it's good to know we have a
fully-entitled project that's currently in the final plan check at the Department of Building Inspections.
We received our first round of comments and we haven't really seen anything in those comments that, in our mind, would present us with a situation where we believe that we're going to have much slippage from our existing timeline. So as the operator, I believe that we should easily be able to meet the July 2017 schedule. If you need more details, Ms. Butler can talk about that in greater detail.
Q. Great, thank you. Relative to the route changes, in order to restructure where you pick up --all-in-one blue, black and green -- you'll need to add some new routes. Again, how many routes are going to be Page 222

\section*{added?}
A. That would be a question for Dan Negron, the Sunset Scavenger General Manager.
Q. And relative to the new routes, there was some discussion around new head counts. So the question around that confirming that there will be new hires. Then subsequently, will there be local hires? And what's the notification process for those potential applicants?
A. So once again, those will be questions for Dan Negron.
Q. Great, thank you.

DIRECTOR NURU: Please, sir.
(Mr. Negron steps up to the witness stand.) DAN NEGRON,
having been previously duly sworn,
was examined and testified as follows:
EXAMINATION
BY MR. JONES:
Q. Good morning, sir.
A. The question about truck routes, it will be roughly 23 is what the plan is right now.
Q. Great. And relative to the new hires?
A. We have hiring requirements. Our HR
department will be definitely posting those positions on Page 223
our careers website on recology.com. And we do have somebody that responds. That's outlined in the postings, as far as being a commercial driver.
Q. Great. And how many new trucks will you need to purchase to make the new route changes possible?
A. Parallel with the drivers, 23.
Q. Okay, great. And I know there was some
discussion around the shifts in Ms. Dawson's line of questioning. And so just to be making sure that I got the complete question, did you consider increasing night shift pickups to take fewer vehicles to be less destructive during busy workloads?
A. That's always been a challenge for us.

Frankly, if you ask our drivers, they will always be out there at midnight and be off the street by 6:00, even with traffic congestions, but we have quality of life issues that we mitigate. We work closely with the Department of Public Health.

And so where we can, we'll start early as far as what we call "commercial corridors." But generally speaking, we don't really -- we start between 4:00 and 6:00 a.m. to reduce the noise complaints, which is the biggest challenge.
Q. With respect to the on-board problem management system, how will it affect the daily trash

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pickup?
A. Actually, it will make it better, in the sense that the route management system will guide the drivers consistently every day. Our drivers have a close relationship with our customers. And so the system will provide consistency to what Minna Tao had mentioned. When there is a backup driver, the customer, it will be transparent to them because the driver's following exactly the same pattern that the regular driver's performed.
Q. And will those centers give you a sense of how much trash is being picked up?
A. Unfortunately, no, it will not, as far as individual setups. We still track tonnages based on the entire vehicle collecting for the day.
Q. And can the data that you are collecting in the new system allow you to possibly incentivize discounted programs for good backers and folks who are really contributing to the zero waste policy?
A. That system exists today as far as diversion credits for those that are excellent recyclers. And the City is a very big component of that; so I believe that it will continue as far as the basic model for charging for basic service. There's always going to be a diversion credit of some sort.

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Q. Next question is also to types of recycling. What are the types of recycling you'll be able to accept and what's the cost to the consumer?
A. I can start from the collection side. So we talked a little bit about we're going to add bags, we're going to add textiles for folks to put in their blue bin, unpainted wood, film plastic bags -- as far as the collection side. As far as the processing side, Maurice can probably talk a little bit about it.

MR. QUILLEN: The processing equipment that we currently have installed at Pier 96 will be able to handle the different commodities -- essentially textiles, film plastic, wood and metal. As it relates to the cost, it's difficult to quantify exactly how much the collection of textile really impacts the rate application. I think it's simply a function of the head count associated with that material. And our rate model is fairly complicated. There's many things that drive how the rates are established.
BY MR. JONES:
Q. Great. And with respect to that, many of the ratepayers we've been having conversations with have consistently asked for more bulky item pickup and e-waste recycling. So the question, I guess, is why the focus on textiles and things like packing and plastic

Page 226
film as opposed to the things we seem to be hearing more of.
A. Yes. Bulky Item Recycling is a very popular
program, as we've talked about earlier. I will take
Ms. Dawson's recommendation and propose at the next hearing, possibly improving the program depending on the parameters. We are reliable on that to make the Bulky Item Recycling a more responsive program for the customer's needs.
Q. Great. And the next set of questions will be mainly requested a little bit later, but I would like submit some of the questions from the last hearing associated with costs and incentives.

We've heard from many seniors and advocates
that the increase is too high for those in the senior community, particularly, those on fixed incomes. How will you address these concerns? And will there be any discount available for those who need it?
A. We do have what they call "lifeline rates,"
if they qualify. It's a \(25 \%\) discount. I think our controller, John, would be a better person to talk about as far as the detail applied by it. But generally speaking, yes, there is a plan in place that exists today as far as the \(25 \%\) discount for that category.
Q. Great. I think one of the things that's being

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requested for consideration is like that. To qualify for that, you have to make less than \(\mathbf{\$ 2 4 , 0 0 0}\) dollars a year. The cost of being in San Francisco, as we all know, is extremely high; so it's a challenge for many. And so just drawing back to that, that later we'll be able to -- you know, the rate structure would be a significant thing to hear a little bit more about later.
A. Okay. We can do that. We'll talk about it at the next hearing.
Q. You mentioned earlier about good recyclers. And so for those who do fantastic job and have weekly pickups, what are the rate structures and incentives for them to continue making less waste recycling and composting more?
A. So the incentive as it exists today and what's being proposed is in the service level talk with the total gallons. So we talked about the 32 gallon black, blue, and green. And what we're trying to propose going forward is to focus on trash with the 16 gallon concept, and then upsize their blue for 64 gallon. They're basically gaining 16 gallons of additional capacity to gain credit for those folks that you mentioned are avid recyclers.
Q. Great. And one of the things that we've heard consistently is that there's an interest for discounted

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\section*{rates for low waste generators. Has that been factored into the possibility of entering this structure? \\ A. Well, we're proposing this 16 gallon. But if \\ it deals with rate, I probably want to defer that to our \\ controller because there's an impact across the entire \\ spectrum when you start isolating certain types of categories. \\ Q. Okay. Lastly, just kind of want to walk through service level adjustment bin size. So with the new rate structure, based on people exchanging the bins for a new bin sizes, how much is the increase if the ratepayer keeps their old bins? Is that even an possibility? \\ A. It is a possibility. We factor that we're just going to give them a new 16 gallon. That container doesn't exist today; so that's a minimum. And then we want to give them a new 64 gallon blue that doesn't exist currently with the standard setout. \\ And so the customer can, in theory, decline the change and stick with their existing service. But I think a gentleman talked a little bit about those scenarios as far as the those customers that refuse to make the change and what that cost will be to them. \\ Q. Great, thank you. And could you briefly \\ describe the difference between the default sizes?}

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A. Absolutely. So as it stands today when a customer starts service, it starts with a 32 gallon black, 32 gallon blue for recyclables, and 32 gallon green for compost service. So basically 96 gallons of volumetric service.

What we're proposing is a 16 gallon trash, which is cutting their trash in half, and then getting them to sort their materials more towards the 32 gallon compost and 64 gallon -- doubling their 32 blue to a 64 gallon blue so that gets more material out of the trash.
Q. My final question is what's the justification for the new \$20-dollar-per-unit fee?
A. The fixed charge.
Q. Great.
A. Yeah, I'll have John Porter talk about that specifically.

MR. JONES: I don't have any more questions.
Thank you.
DIRECTOR NURU: Cross-examine?
MS. PEARCE: I don't have a cross-examination, but I do just have two quick comments for Recology. You refer a lot to "setout." It might be good to try say in more plain English what we mean by that when we're talking just so people who are following
> along can understand what you're talking about. We're all kind of guilty of knowing our own business overly well.

> And then in particular I noticed the use of an acronym, "MSW," Municipal Solid Waste; is that correct? So I would respect -- I know it's very hard, but I ask that we all we try to use either the full term or common language so that at least the people reading the transcriptions or following along at some point can understand what you're all talking about.

> THE WITNESS: Absolutely.
> MS. PEARCE: Thank you.
> MR. HUGHES: Thank you.
> DIRECTOR NURU: Thank you.
> So we will go to public comment.
> PUBLIC COMMENT BY MARC CHRISTENSEN
> MR. CHRISTENSEN: Director Nuru, Panel Members, Recology members present, Ratepayer Advocate members present and ratepayers, I am Marc Christensen. I represent a neighborhood association, but I'm not speak -- I'm the president, but I'm speaking only as an individual today; so I'm not going to mention the neighborhood association -- well, respect the neighborhood association. I have two areas that I'd like to address, and hopefully I could have three or Page 231
four minutes to do that.
First has to do with how Recology can save money. As you know, several million dollars a year is lost in pilfering. And one of the things that I'd like to put down here --
(Exhibit 34 is displayed.)
MR. CHRISTENSEN: This is something that was given out a while back, and everybody on our block has one of those on our can. However, it's not enforced, obviously. And that's one of the things we need do. We need to do two things: find some locking mechanism, maybe with a fob that the driver comes up and unlocks it, and something along that line, well, we really need to look at that to prevent pilfering.

Because once a person then enters a locked container, that's breaking and entering. And we know that once a material has been put in there, it's the property of Recology. So it's several million dollars that being pilfered; so there needs to be a way that to prevent that.

Another thing that needs to be done is if Recology could tell customers within a two-hour period, hopefully, of when they would actually be picking up, people could then put that material out. At my house, on my block, the green bin is picked up sometime between

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4:00 and 7:00 in the morning. The black and blue bins
are picked up anywhere from 4:00 in the morning until
11 o'clock in the morning. It would be nice to have
more time when we could put it out and prevent
pilfering. So that's no. 1.
Second of all, I propose --
Yes?
MR. PRADHAN: Sorry, just one second.
Do you happen to have a copy of the document
that you have up, just for the record?
MR. CHRISTENSEN: I'm going to give you this
copy.
MR. PRADHAN: Perfect. Thank you.
MR. CHRISTENSEN: And I also gave Recology.
They have several of these. So anyway, thank you.
The second thing -- and I think this is very
important and will save Recology money -- and I'm
willing to do this as a pilot program in my
neighborhood; we've done it on our block. We have
people who put their bins out next to each other.
And as you know, the trucks run down the street, they go
pick up at one house, move 25 feet, stop, pick up again,
move }25\mathrm{ feet, stop, and pick up again. This is not
cost-effective.
Both for the time on the street, I think the

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    Page 233
    drivers -- if we put our bins next to each other, two
houses, possibility three, you put the bins next to each
other -- and I'm willing to meet with somebody with
Recology in my neighborhood, go out with chalk -- blue,
green, and either black or white chalk -- mark areas
with the address where you want those bins put. We get
trucks on and off the street quicker, less stops, much
quicker service, and I think that would help. So I'm
willing to work on that.

I'd also like to see Recology at least put this into their bill -- put the notice in the bill. To do this, I think this is a good way to educate neighbors on what they can do to help out.

Secondly -- and this is other thing I wanted to talk about -- and that's rated increase. I really believe that \(16 \%\) on the fist year plus another \(5 \%\) the next year is way too much. I would be willing to have discussions and negotiations on a percentage rate increase over the next three years that's more equitable. Perhaps start -- and I don't have the figures.

And Recology should certainly make a profit. Nobody's denying their costs; they should definitely make a profit. But what profit is reasonable for the ratepayers of San Francisco? So I think a percentage
rate increase in 2017, 2018, 2019, equal across the board is much more palatable than having those two first massive rate increase the first year. So that would be my suggestion. And thank you very much for your time. Thank you.
DIRECTOR NURU: Next speaker.
PUBLIC COMMENT BY TOM WILLIAMS
MR. WILLIAMS: Good morning.
There's a charge that Sunset Scavenger
assesses that I don't see addressed in any of the
literature I looked at, and that's rate for splitting
billing for one point of service. For instance, in my
building, in our entryway, we don't have room for two sets of trash cans; so my upstairs neighbor and I shared the trash cans and we each receive a bill. But Sunset Scavenger, instead of just splitting the bill in half, splits it in half and then charges \(150 \%\) of that half so that we wind up paying a \(150 \%\), a bit more of a fee.

I understand that this might be some problem for a bookkeeper somewhere, but the computer-generated bills, I have noticed that much of a burden and I don't think that this fee is justifiable. I think it's rather arbitrary. I would ask that you take a look at it.

Thank you.
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PUBLIC COMMENT BY DAVID PILPEL
MR. PILPEL: Good morning. David Pilpel.
Here are some comments that have I at this time.

I mentioned last week some issues about the DPW website. I noticed Monday a number of additional documents were put up there and I appreciate that. I'll continue to work with staff on getting more recent information there, particularly as the hearings proceed. For example, that next week's agenda will be up by this week.

I also asked last week about the public exhibits binder. I thought that was in the works, but on the table I don't see one today. There were a couple of exhibits I think that were handed out earlier that weren't -- double-sided, and I think in compliance with our Environment Code, we should have all exhibits double-sided. Robert smiled.

Also, yesterday I attended the Port Commission hearing on the island proposal at Pier 96 with Maurice and others. I think that went well. I assume we'll hear more about that both from Maurice and probably from Meghan. If they don't, I intend to introduce as an exhibit the Port Commission agenda item and presentations made last week; so I think that should be Page 236

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on the record.
A few other bits and pieces. I had a good
conversation with lots of the Environment staff
yesterday about textiles, dog waste, and the PERA and
options to improve recovery of materials from what was
known as the "PERA" which I now I understand is being
called a "PRRA," just as what used to be known as "Bulky
Item Collection" is now being called "Bulky Item
Recycling." So I'm trying to avoid using acronyms,
as Julie requested, but I think those program title
changes should be made clear.
As we heard from Dan Negron earlier, there's a
lot that goes into routing and mapping. I think one of
the primary goals that wasn't discussed a lot was really
minimizing the number of containers at each location and
the number of lifts, and I think Marc Christensen really
spoke to that a little bit.
Whatever amount of material is out there,
the arrangement that gets to the smallest number of
containers really gets to greater efficiency for
everyone, and we should look to that.
When Dan talked about having more drivers and
more routes and minimizing the amount of overtime, there
was some contention there, and I know this from MUNI
scheduling. If they reorganize -- or if the rerun the
routing to include more overtime and fewer drivers. So rather than an 8 hour operation, moving to an 8 -and-a-half or a 9 hour operation, even if that encompasses more employee overtime, it results in less head count and it probably results in less overall costs considering the framing of the costs. So they shouldn't consider others in those scenarios that might result in fewer routes -- more overtime, but fewer routes and fewer trucks.

Although there are split-container trucks, there was no discussion today about the 50/50 trucks versus the 60/40 and what's more efficient given the new black/green scheme, understanding that both black and green are driven more by weight than volume. Blue is more driven by volume, but black and green are more driven by weight. And it's not clear to me which truck kind of makes the most sense under the current scheme, and depending on the shipment of materials, what's the better truck type for the split-chamber approach.

Also, the customer behavior changes that Recology included were supposedly based on the pilot, but I'm not sure that there is a lot of evidence yet on the record to support that there's actually going to be a massive change in customer behavior because they got a larger bin and a smaller black bin.

I'm also assuming that what Dan presented applies equally to Golden Gate and what has been presented applies equally to Sunset.

Combining the Bulky Item Recycling that would be under the material programs we'll hear about in the next couple of weeks, I suppose. There's also the Gigantic 3 program that I know you're a big supporter of. There's -- in my experience, there's only limited outreach and understanding of what that program. When I served on a City task force, I got a regular mailing from your office, actually, that announced when the Gigantic 3 was happening in my district.

As a regular Recology customer, though, I don't get any customer communication indicating when that happens. So it's kind of like if you know about it, it's a great thing; if you don't know about it, you won't avail yourself. The more people that use the Gigantic 3 instead of Bulky Item Recycling, it's a more efficient approach because you just pack and there are trucks and all that.

Do you want me to wrap up?
DIRECTOR NURU: Yes, please.
MR. PILPEL: Okay. Shall I cut it there and we'll continue more next week?

DIRECTOR NURU: All right.
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MR. PILPEL: Okay. And I'm intending to put together more comprehensive comments.

The one thing I wanted to close on -- sorry.
Rachel Warden gave me this the other day. It's the new Public Works logo. I think you should actually have a smaller black bag and a larger blue bag; so if you could think about it.

DIRECTOR NURU: Thank you.
MR. PILPEL: Thank you.
DIRECTOR NURU: Any other public comments?
At this time I would like to continue the
hearing to March 22nd, 8 o'clock in the morning.
We will meet in 406 . We will post the agenda for that day as well as for the final scheduled hearing --
Tuesday, March 28 -- at the end of the week on the Public Works website and on the announcement board.

I would like to thank everyone for
participating in these proceedings, and we are adjourned. Thank you.
(Ending time: 11:03 a.m.)

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Hearing - Volume II
March 15, 2017```


[^0]:    We've started -- actually, we built the prototype 16 gallon toter and the team feels real comfortable it's going to be a good, sturdy toter or bin to support the needs of the city. We've actually talked to the truck manufacturer and we're designing specs now so that we can get these trucks on order. It's going to take about 11 months from the time go to get them delivered.

    We're doing everything that we can to really prepare and anticipate any of the issues that may be thrown at our operations team. I'm actually in the process of trying to interview and hire a project manager that can really take this rollout for the next two years.
    Q. Have you reached any estimates about what will be the practical effect of these changes? That is, the changes to the default bin and the changes to the truck configuration as far as its impact on reducing landfill trips or increasing diversion.
    A. I have.
    Q. And I understand you've prepared a slide as well that sort of summarizes these estimates; is that correct?
    A. Yes. Mm-hmm.

    MS. PEARCE: I'd like to move into evidence

