RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THAT CITY COUNCIL APPROVE THE SOLID WASTE RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN (2019-2023) AND IMPLEMENT ITS RECOMMENDATIONS

Whereas, The planning horizon for the City's last Solid Waste Resources Plan Update was through 2017;

Whereas, Goals for the Solid Waste Program Area are contained in the City's Sustainability Framework from regarding responsible resource use and moving towards producing zero waste;

Whereas, There is a desire in the community for expanded programs in the Solid Waste Program Area and concerns regarding the delivery of certain services, including the downtown area, while there are also concerns regarding the long-term financial condition of the City's Solid Waste Fund;

Whereas, On April 16, 2018 City Council approved a contract with Aptim Environmental and Infrastructure, Inc. (APTIM) to develop the City's Solid Waste Resources Management Plan (2019-2023) (SWRMP) to include funding and program recommendations, coordinated through the Environmental Commission and engaging the wider community to serve as a business plan to guide solid waste operations for the planning period and beyond;

Whereas, APTIM along with their sub-consultant team members and City staff members developed the SWRMP through: review and analysis of the City's current programs, including methods of service delivery and cost of services; research of solid waste resources management practices in peer communities, including high diversion communities such as San Francisco and Seattle; stakeholder engagement through multiple methods including stakeholder interviews, a downtown focus group, scientifically valid phone survey of residents, the SWRMP Advisory Committee, and the Environmental Commission to obtain input and feedback on current and future needs and interests for the solid waste program area; analysis of options to improve operations, enhance or expand current programs and services, add new programs and services; analysis of options to improve operations, enhance or expand current programs and services, and add new programs and services to the City's solid waste programs area; and development of recommendations for the City's solid waste program area with resource needs, as well as a financial model to project costs, Solid Waste Fund balance impacts and revenue needs for the proposed implementation of the SWRMP recommendations;

Whereas, the SWRMP includes twenty-four recommendations in six focus areas: Residential; Commercial; Downtown Area Services; Education and Outreach; Diversion-Related Facilities; and Funding; that balance the inputs received during the development of the plan, fiscal conditions and sustainability goals of the City;

Whereas, On August 22, 2019 the SWRMP recommendations were presented to the Environmental Commission;

RESOLVED, That the Environmental Commission recommends that the City Council approve the SWRMP and implement the recommendations contained in the plan.