



# MEMORANDUM

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

---

**To:** Mayor Esteves and City Council  
**From:** Tom Williams, City Manager  
**By:** Greg Armendariz, Public Works Director/City Engineer  
Kathleen Phalen, Utility Engineer  
**Subject:** December Odor Report  
**Date:** November 30, 2011

---

This memorandum summarizes odor complaints received through the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) rapid notification system from October 26 through November 30 and provides information about odor reduction activities. The following exhibits are attached to this report:

Exhibit 1: October 2003 – November 2011 BAAQMD Odor Complaint Summary

Exhibit 2: November BAAQMD Odor Complaint Report

Exhibit 3: Odor Complaint Locations (October 26, 2011 – November 30, 2011) Map

## 1. BAAQMD Odor Complaint Summary

From October 26, 2011 through November 30, 2011, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) received eleven odor complaints originating in Milpitas. Three identified a garbage-related odor, two identified a sewage-related odor and six did not identify a source. As of the last Council update, the City's odor reporting website has received twenty-five reported complaints. Exhibit 1 shows the monthly reports of odor dating back to October 2003. In this calendar year, BAAQMD received 155 complaints. Of these, 65 identified garbage or compost, 35 identified sewage, and 55 did not identify a source. This compares with 113 complaints in the same period in 2010, 49 complaints in 2009, 105 complaints in 2008, 96 complaints in 2007, and 135 complaints in 2006. In this calendar year, BAAQMD received 155 complaints. Of these, 65 complaints identified garbage or compost, 35 identified sewage, and 55 did not identify a source.

## 2. Pilot Program - City of Milpitas Odor Reporting Hotline / Website

Staff continues to monitor daily the City's pilot odor reporting program initiated in May 2011. As of November 30, 2011, the odor reporting hotline and website have received a total of fifty-five complaints. Fifty-two of the complaints have been received through the City's website and three have been received on the City's hotline number.

## 3. Coordination City of San Jose Plant Master Plan

In accordance with direction from the Treatment Plant Advisory Committee, staff is coordinating with San Jose staff to meet to review the sequencing constraints impacting conversion of the open-air biosolids within 3 to 7 years. The initial meeting held on August 15 included McCarthy Ranch and consultants as well as San Jose's master plan consultant. On November 16, these parties met again to further discuss the project delivery. San Jose's Environmental Service

Department has asked its Public Works Department to manage the biosolids conversion project as a distinct and separate project to a fast tracked schedule. San Jose DPW believes they can deliver the project through a design-build contract, mobilizing construction in about two year.

#### **4. Regional Odor Assessment**

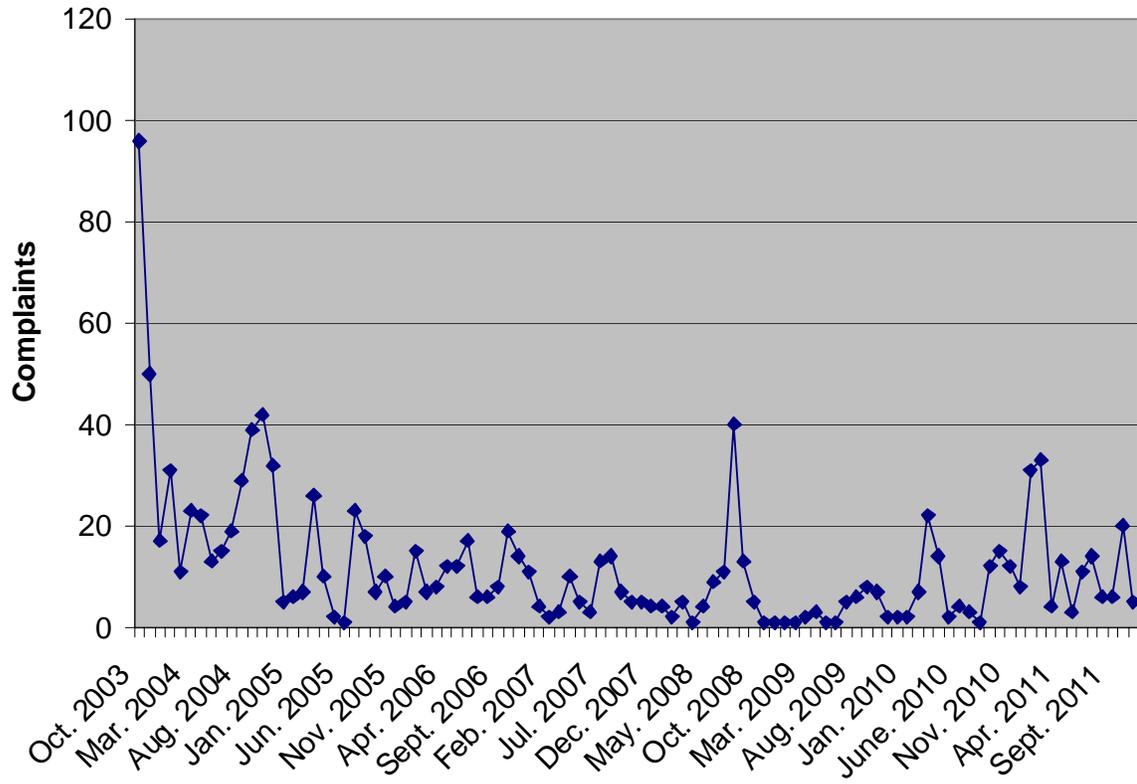
In December 2010, San Jose City Council directed its staff to conduct a regional odor study to identify and prioritize for elimination the odors impacting Milpitas and North San Jose. Last Spring, San Jose staff and consultants conducted site visits of a number of regional facilities and concluded that the primary sources are the Plant and the Newby Island facilities. San Jose developed a scope of work for the study this summer and hired CH2M Hill to conduct air sampling and dispersion modeling. CH2M Hills scope of work includes:

1. Developing a sampling plan defining sampling locations representative of all potential odor generating processes at the Plant; defining locations for ambient odor sampling in the community around the Plant; and defining methods for sampling odors.
2. Conducting three sampling events (two in summer; one in winter), at Plant odor generating processes and control samples for analysis by a specialized laboratory. Samples will be analyzed for sulfide compounds and qualitatively evaluated by an odor panel of trained panelists who characterize the intensity and characteristics of the samples. Ambient air sampling was conducted around the perimeter of the Plant, including in Milpitas and Alviso.
3. Air dispersion computer modeling to predict how Plant odors travel off-site based on local topographical and climate conditions. This modeling will be used to identify Plant odor reduction necessary, if any, to meet the Plant's odor goals and to prioritize projects. The American Meteorological Society Environmental Protection Agency Regulatory Model (AERMOD) will be used, which is a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency-approved model for this use.

The first Plant summer air sampling coincided with the annual hauling of biosolids from the Plant to Newby Island Landfill at the end of September 2011 and included 30 sampling locations. Ambient neighborhood odor sampling was conducted in early October at 15 locations in the surrounding community, including Alviso and Milpitas. These air quality data will be evaluated to define future sampling events to provide sufficient data for the dispersion modeling.

In September San Jose staff met with representatives from Republic Services, who operate Newby Island landfill, and provided a description of the odor study as well as preliminary cost estimates to include landfill and compost operation sampling and modeling. Republic Services agreed to participate and contribute financially to expand the Plant's odor study into a regional odor assessment study. San Jose and Newby Island staff will finalize the logistics and funding plan and engage additional stakeholders in the area, including the City of Milpitas.

**Exhibit 1**  
**October 2003 - November 30, 2011 BAAQMD Odor Complaint Summary**



## Exhibit 2

# Milpitas Complaints

Received by BAAQMD From 10/01/20 to 10/31/2011

<u>Complaint#</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Occurred</u>	<u>Alleged Source</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>General Location</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Attributed Site#</u>	<u>Referral</u>	<u>Comments</u>
210249	10/13/11 17:3	10/13/11 0:00	NONE	mildew & sewage	400 ALEGRA TERRACE	Unconfirmed			
210274	10/13/11 17:5	10/13/11 17:50	BFI - The Recycling	rotten food	100 SUDBURY COURT	Unconfirmed			
210280	10/14/11 14:1	10/14/11 14:00	BFI - The Recycling	garbge	100 BEAUMERE WAY	Unconfirmed			
210287	10/14/11 18:4	10/14/11 18:48	BFI - The Recycling	bad	800 N ABBOTT AVE	Unconfirmed			
210300	10/17/11 20:2	10/17/11 20:20	International Disposal Corporation of Calif	poop	100 BEAUMERE WAY	Unconfirmed			
210311	10/18/11 11:3	10/18/11 11:30	Dixon Landing Landfill	strong	800 CALAVERAS RIDGE DR	Unconfirmed			
210329	10/21/11 17:4	10/21/11 17:00	BFI - The Recycling	foul	1300 CALIFORNIA CIR	Unconfirmed			
210332	10/22/11 11:3	10/22/11 11:35	BFI - The Recycling		2100 CONWAY ST	Unconfirmed			
210333	10/22/11 15:4	10/22/11 14:00	BFI - The Recycling		700 BERKSHIRE PL	Unconfirmed			
210339	10/23/11 6:18	10/23/11 6:00	BFI - The Recycling	sulfur	1400 LOS BULLIS	Unconfirmed			
210381	10/26/11 9:31	10/26/11 9:25	San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control	sewage	1500 PLATT AVE	Unconfirmed			
210389	10/26/11 17:1	10/26/11 17:11	BFI - The Recycling	compost	100 BEAUMERE WAY	Unconfirmed			has been ongoing the past few mornings
210399	10/27/11 11:2	10/27/11 9:30	BFI - The Recycling		400 WALNUT DRIVE	Unconfirmed			
210401	10/27/11 11:5	10/27/11 11:45	NONE	sour	800 CALAVERAS RIDGE DR	Unconfirmed			
210412	10/27/11 14:4	10/27/11 14:30	NONE	strong	100 BEAUMERE WAY	Unconfirmed			
210423	10/28/11 16:2	10/28/11 16:10	BFI - The Recycling	swamp gas	1300 PRADA CT	Unconfirmed			

**Total:** 16

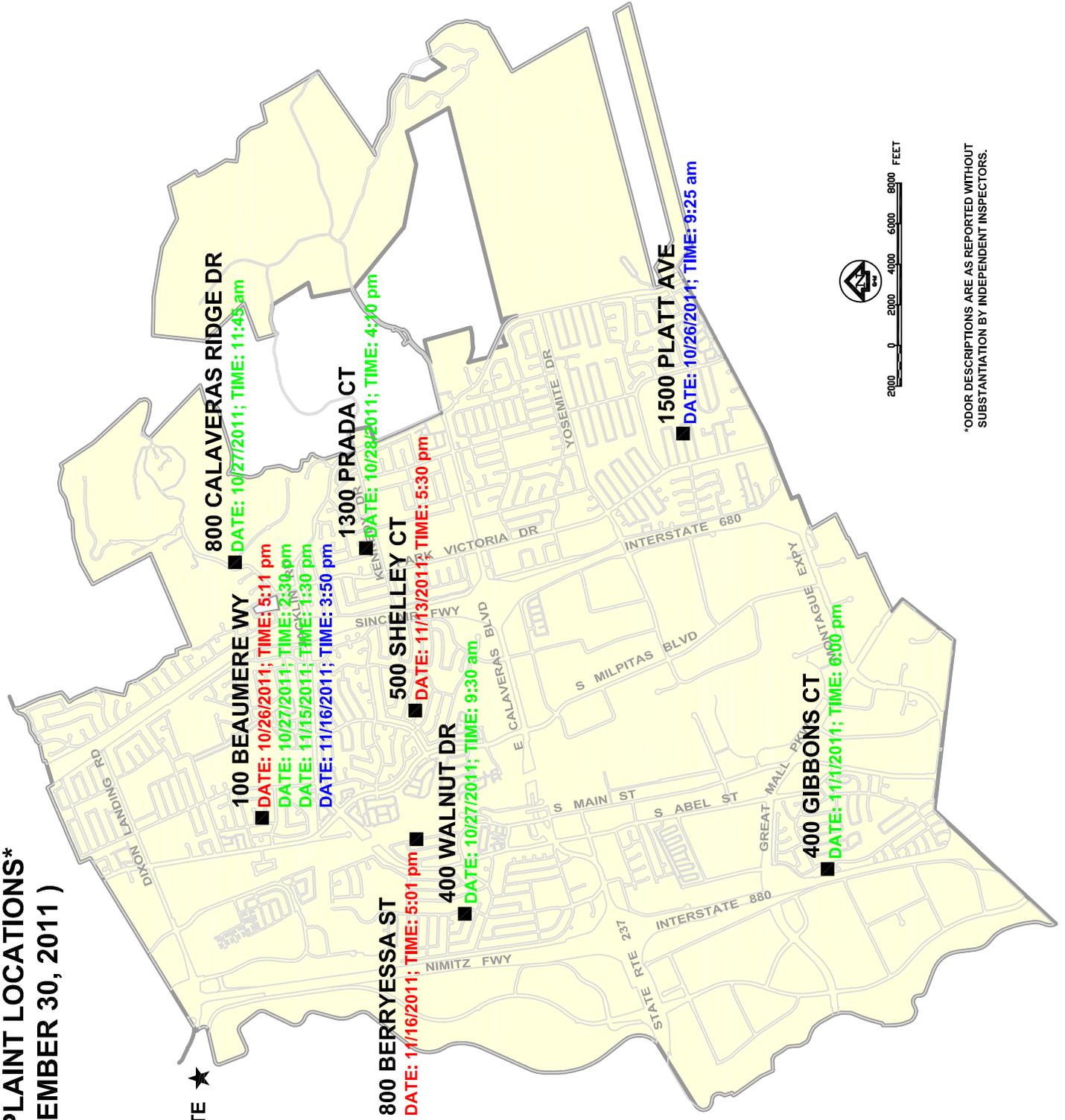
# EXHIBIT 3: ODOR COMPLAINT LOCATIONS\* ( OCTOBER 26 - NOVEMBER 30, 2011 )

ALLIED WASTE ★

★ S.J. / S.C. WATER  
POLLUTION CONTROL  
PLANT (WPCP)

**KEY**

- COMPLAINT LOCATIONS
- GARBAGE COMPLAINTS
- SEWAGE COMPLAINTS
- OTHER COMPLAINTS



\*ODOR DESCRIPTIONS ARE AS REPORTED WITHOUT  
SUBSTANTIATION BY INDEPENDENT INSPECTORS.