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**City of San José and GreenWaste Recovery Announce Plastic Recycling
Breakthrough Pilot with BioCellection**

*Public-Private Partnership Supports Green Tech Startup Developing Solutions for Hard-To-Recycle
Plastics*

San José, CA – GreenWaste Recovery, Inc. has partnered with the City of San José to support young pioneers striving for a solution for hard-to-recycle plastics.

BioCellection, a startup developing advanced technologies to transform difficult-to-recycle plastics, is led by Miranda Wang and Jeanny Yao. Their technology turns plastics into renewable chemicals that can be used to make paints and coatings, automotive parts, apparel, electronics, solvents and even fragrances. BioCellection targets plastics that are often landfilled because they are contaminated with organic material, recycling markets are limited or don't exist, or when mechanical sorting of certain post-consumer plastics isn't efficient or economical. CNN [covered](#) BioCellection's groundbreaking technology in March.

“We're thrilled to be partners with GreenWaste to support BioCellection's new technology to divert materials from the landfill to meet our zero-waste goals and protect the planet for future generations,” said Kerrie Romanow, director of San José Environmental Services. “At a time when recycling materials are restricted by other countries and stricter recycling mandates, we must find new, innovative ways to manage trash. This pilot is one possible solution to transform soiled plastics into usable products.”

A number of post-consumer plastics belong to fluctuating downstream markets, and most are exported to unpredictable markets overseas. In California, over 60 percent of recyclables are typically exported to China. In early 2017, China announced its “National Sword” policy, which limits the country's import of contaminated recyclable commodities and increases inspections of recyclable commodity imports, with specific restrictions on low-grade plastics. Because of this policy, it is now even more important to find alternative recovery options for these difficult-to-recycle plastics.

GreenWaste Recovery has provided hauling and processing services to the City of San José since its inception in 1991 and frequently partners with the City to explore more efficient and effective ways to integrate new technology.

“With our corporate strategy grounded in sustainability and our headquarters in Silicon Valley, it only seems appropriate that we would partner with the City of San José and help spearhead the development of this technology” said Frank Weigel, co-CEO of GreenWaste Recovery.

GreenWaste owns and operates a state-of-the-art Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in San José that processes recyclable materials, yard trimmings and garbage; the MRF is always on the forefront of innovation. The GreenWaste MRF processes recyclable materials from more than forty different jurisdictions, sorting film plastics and other container plastics by polymer type. When BioCollection presented this prospective technology, GreenWaste knew this was an opportunity it couldn’t pass up.

“While our company has been able to market plastics recovered from the waste stream, this type of innovation has become more important than ever in the wake of China’s ‘National Sword’ policy that has effectively closed China’s import of plastics, leaving many communities in the United States landfilling previously recycled materials that are sorted from the waste stream,” added Tracy Adams, co-CEO of GreenWaste Recovery.

GreenWaste and the City of San José are partnering on a three-phase pilot for BioCollection to focus on polyethylene (PE) that include plastics No. 2 and No. 4 and most film plastics, which make up a substantial amount of the municipal residual waste stream. Through this pilot, GreenWaste also provides waste materials for BioCollection’s research and scale-up. The goal is to develop the technology in a way that it can be easily integrated onsite into existing solid waste-management systems to maximize participation and uptake. The partners in the pilot are enthusiastic about the results shown thus far and look forward to implementing the transformative and groundbreaking process at the end of the pilot in 2019.

“Our partners have created the optimal environment to accelerate our innovation, and we’re working hard to bring this to full scale first in San José and then expand to additional areas across the nation” said Miranda Wang, co-founder and CEO of BioCollection Inc.

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About GreenWaste Recovery, Inc.

GreenWaste is a privately owned and locally operated recycling and diversion company that specializes in the collection and processing of residential and commercial trash, yard trimmings, curbside recyclables and food waste in addition to construction and demolition debris. GreenWaste has been a pioneer in the recycling industry since its inception in 1991 and has demonstrated leadership in efficient, effective and environmentally-sound collection and processing operations. For more information, visit <http://www.greenwaste.com>.

About the San José Environmental Services Department (ESD)

San José, Capital of Silicon Valley, is the largest city in Northern California and the 10th largest city in the nation. The San José Environmental Services Department manages garbage and recycling services; watershed protection and pollution prevention; municipal drinking water and recycled water; sustainability initiatives and the operation and infrastructure improvements of the San José-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility. With a mission to

deliver world-class utility services and programs to improve our health, environment and economy, the department is committed to being a leader in combating climate change at the local government level.

About BioCellection Inc.

BioCellection is a chemical recycling innovation startup focusing on turning currently non-marketable plastic waste into valuable chemicals. In addition to working with key stakeholders to invent solutions for challenging waste plastics, BioCellection also scales up these solutions into industrial systems compatible with the existing recycling infrastructure. Through partnerships with materials manufacturers, BioCellection introduces renewable chemical intermediates back into supply chains in efforts to move toward a circular economy. For more information, visit <http://www.biocellection.com>.



Film plastics comprise a substantial portion of the municipal residential waste stream. Photo courtesy of BioCellection Inc.



Hard-to-recycle plastics (left) are used to create chemical compounds (center) suitable for making automotive parts, apparel, electronics, paints and coatings, solvents and even fragrances (right).
Photo courtesy of BioCollection Inc.



A chemical invention developed by BioCollection Inc. is undergoing a three-phase research and scale-up pilot with GreenWaste Recovery, Inc. and the City of San José. Photo courtesy of BioCollection Inc.

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