



Hey, that's not trash!

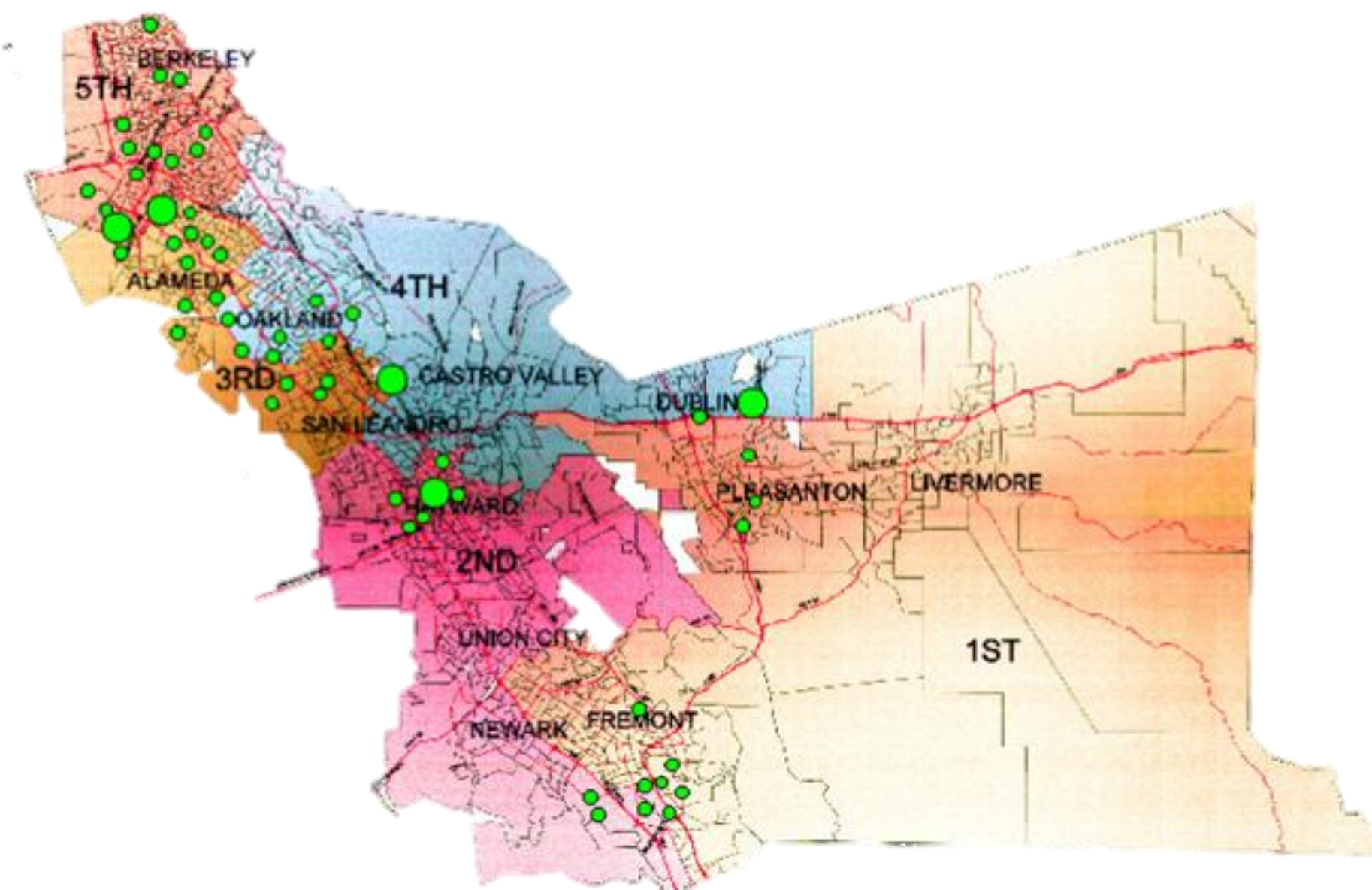
Alameda County Sustainability

Climate Corps Bay Area

Compost and Recycling Expansion

I provided recycling and garbage service to County facilities, supporting diverse local government services ranging from health care to incarceration.

As the Compost and Recycling Associate, I added mixed recycling and organics/compost service at seven County facilities, building on work done by previous CCBA fellows.



Map of Alameda County,; facilities marked with green circles



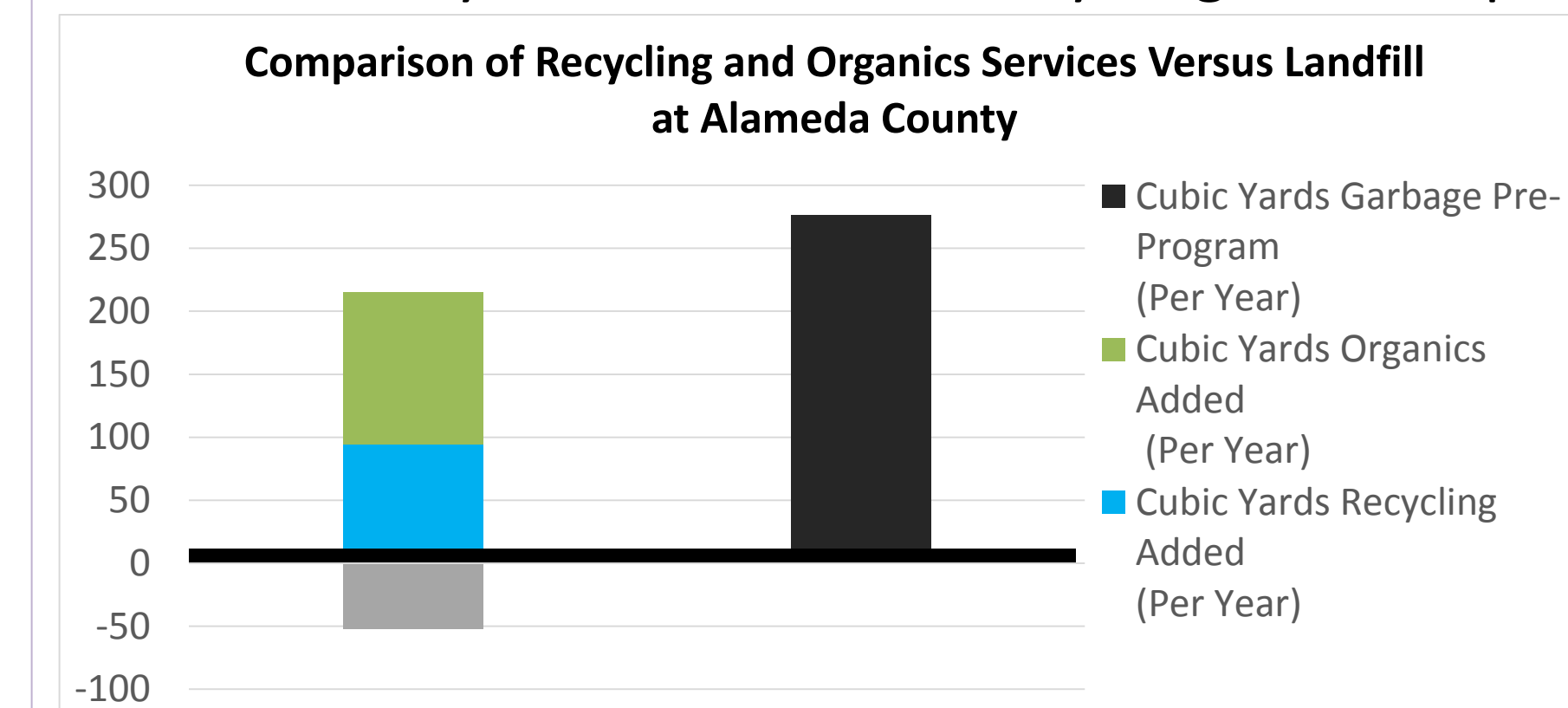
Alameda County janitor separating paper from trash

A typical day could include:

- manage waste bills for 60+ accounts
- ensure the smooth operation of waste collections, including hauler issues, bin repairs, and overflows
- design waste enclosures
- answer employee questions about waste and recycling collections
- order new services from haulers
- develop outreach materials
- audit waste streams
- identify recyclers for special materials

Approaching Zero Waste - Achievements

Added enhanced recycling and organics services at seven County facilities, resulting in 215 cubic yards of increased recycling and compost collection per year



Nina rolling out enhanced recycling services

Lessons Learned in Local Government

Successful Strategies:

1. Adding new services can take more time than expected. Be patient and persistent.
2. Leverage institutional knowledge in your planning and problem solving.
3. Keep the big picture in mind – you're making it easy for people to have end-of-life options for their materials, while avoiding the landfill.

Recommendations for Program Expansion:

1. Continue to add mixed recycling and organics collection at County-owned facilities
2. Monitor the enforcement of the Alameda County Waste Management Authority Mandatory Recycling Ordinance. It affects many County facilities.



Alameda County **SUSTAINABILITY**
Local Action, Global Impact.

Compost and Recycling Associate, looking to further career in solid waste management, especially expanding access to mixed recycling and organics collection.

Nina Salvador



Acknowledgements:

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