

**CHAIRMAN** 

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460
P.O. BOX 1460, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460
www.lacountyiswmtf.org

June 11, 2007

The Honorable Mike Feuer State Capitol, Room 4005 Sacramento, CA 94249-0042

Dear Assembly Member Feuer:

## ASSEMBLY BILL 904 (AMENDED APRIL 17, 2007) COMPOSTABLE AND RECYCLABLE FOOD CONTAINERS

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Assembly Bill 904 (AB 904), which among other things, would prohibit a take-out food establishment from distributing single use food service packaging unless the packaging is either compostable or recyclable.

Pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939, as amended), the Task Force is responsible for coordinating the development of all major solid waste planning documents prepared for the County of Los Angeles and its 88 cities in Los Angeles County with a combined population in excess of 10 million. Consistent with these responsibilities, and to ensure a coordinated and cost-effective and environmentally-sound solid waste management system in Los Angeles County, the Task Force also addresses issues impacting the system on a Countywide basis. The Task Force membership includes representatives of the League of California Cities-Los Angeles County Division, the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, the City of Los Angeles, the waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies.

The Honorable Mike Feuer June 11, 2007 Page 2

Each year, billions of single use food service plastic packaging items such as plates, cups, and containers, are distributed to customers and disposed after its use. When disposed, these materials either take up much needed landfill capacity, or worse yet, end up littering our roadways and harming our fragile marine environment. AB 904, if enacted, would ensure that these single use items are recyclable or compostable while placing some responsibility on establishments to recover and properly manage these materials. This simple step would keep more materials out of landfills and reduce the likelihood that these single use items would be littered or otherwise harm the natural environment.

Therefore, the Task Force **supports** AB 904. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,

Margaret Clark, Vice-Chair

Margaret Clark

Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/ Integrated Waste Management Task Force and Council Member, City of Rosemead

VJ/CS:cw

cc: Assembly Speaker Fabian Núñez

Each Member of the Assembly Appropriations Committee

Each Member of the Los Angeles County Legislative Delegation

California Integrated Waste Management Board

California Water Resources Board

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region

Each Member of the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors

Each City Mayor in the County of Los Angeles

California State Association of Counties

California State Association of Count

League of California Cities

League of California Cities, Los Angeles County Division

Southern California Association of Governments

Solid Waste Association of North America

San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Each City Recycling Coordinator in Los Angeles County

Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force