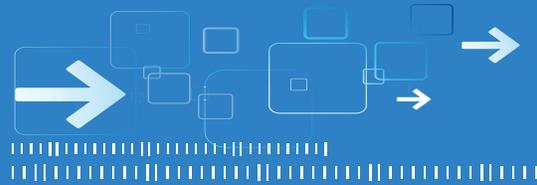




INSIDE SOLID WASTE



Inside Solid Waste produced quarterly by The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force



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County of Los Angeles to Consider Adopting Ordinance for Drug and Sharps Take-Back

On May 3, 2016, the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors (Board) is scheduled to consider the adoption of an ordinance which would require manufacturers of pharmaceuticals and sharps to develop, fund, and implement take-back programs for the collection of unwanted drugs and sharps from County residents.

According to the draft Los Angeles County Pharmaceutical and Sharps Collection and Disposal Stewardship Ordinance (Ordinance), the purpose of the Ordinance is to establish a Pharmaceutical and Sharps Stewardship Program that "(1) allows for the safe, convenient and sustainable collection and disposal of unwanted

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November 2015 Southern California Waste Management Forum



Representatives from local, state, and federal government agencies, private industry, public utilities, academia, and concerned citizens attended the Southern California Waste Management Forum (SCWMF) Annual Conference and Exhibit at the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel in Pomona, California on last November.

The Conference, entitled "Past, Present & Future: The Continuous Challenge of Change," provided an opportunity for attendees to learn about and discuss

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Household Hazardous Waste Permanent Collection Centers

City of Los Angeles S.A.F.E Permanent Collection Centers

Open Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

Services suspended during rainy weather.

For information, call 1 (800) 98-TOXIC (988-6942).

Gaffey Street Collection Center

1400 N. Gaffey Street San Pedro, CA 90731

Hyperion Treatment Plant

7660 W. Imperial Highway, Gate B Playa Del Rey, CA 90293

Washington Boulevard Collection Center

2649 E. Washington Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90021

Randall Street S.A.F.E. Center

11025 Randall Street Sun Valley, CA 91352

UCLA Location (E-waste accepted on Saturdays only)

550 Charles E. Young Drive West Los Angeles, CA 90095

Open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Los Angeles/Glendale Collection Center

4600 Colorado Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90039

County of Los Angeles Permanent Collection Centers

Antelope Valley Environmental Collection Center

Antelope Valley Public Landfill, 1200 West City Ranch Road, Palmdale, CA 93551

Open 1st and 3rd Saturday each month 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

EDCO Environmental Collection Center

EDCO Recycling and Transfer Center, 2755 California Avenue, Signal Hill, CA 90755

Open 2nd Saturday each month 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

About Household Hazardous Waste

Common items accepted: paint and solvents; used motor oil and filters, anti-freeze, and other automotive fluids; cleaning products; pool and garden chemicals; aerosol cans; all medicine except controlled substances; auto batteries; household batteries, computers, monitors, printers, network equipment, cables, telephones, televisions, microwaves, video games, cell phones, radios, stereos, VCRs, and electronic toys. **Not accepted: business waste, ammunition, explosives, radioactive material, trash, tires and bulky items such as furniture, refrigerators, washing machines/dryers, and stoves.**



SWMC

Inside Solid Waste

Task Force Public Education & Information Subcommittee

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Visit www.lacountyiswmtf.org to find agendas, meeting minutes, and copies of the Inside Solid Waste newsletter. JOIN THE TEAM: If you are interested in participating on the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Public Education & Information Subcommittee or if you would like to submit an article for Inside Solid Waste, please contact Mike Kaspar at (626) 458-4088, mkaspar@dpw.lacounty.gov, or Kathy Salama at (626) 458-2521, ksalama@dpw.lacounty.gov. Quarterly meetings are held at the County Public Works Headquarters to discuss and review upcoming newsletters. If you want to be involved or contribute, please join the Subcommittee!



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County of Los Angeles to Consider Adopting Ordinance for Drug and Sharps Take-Back

drugs and sharps by County residents, and (2) protects, maintains, restores and/or enhances the environment and its natural resources.”

On June 2, 2015, the Board approved a motion introduced by Supervisor Antonovich which directed the Departments of Public Works, Public Health, Health Services, Mental Health, Internal Services, County Counsel, Sheriff, as well as the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Working Group) to, among other things, investigate the feasibility of adopting an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) ordinance for pharmaceuticals similar to ones adopted in the Counties of Alameda, San Mateo, San Francisco, and Santa Clara. In response, the EPR Working Group developed and submitted a report to each Board Member in July of 2015 which recommended the adoption of an EPR ordinance for pharmaceuticals as well as sharps waste. Following the receipt of this report, on August 11, 2015 the Board adopted a motion introduced by Supervisors Solis and Antonovich which directed the Chief Executive Office, in collaboration with the County’s Sustainability Council and the Working Group to draft an ordinance and present it to the Board for consideration in six months. The Board also requested that a stakeholder process occur prior to drafting the Ordinance.

Soon after the August motion, the Working Group formed a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) which included representatives from the pharmaceutical industry, sharps manufacturers, retail pharmacies, pharmaceutical distributors, waste haulers, environmental groups, consumer advocates, and others affected by the Ordinance and could provide expertise for the development of an effective Ordinance. The Working Group hosted four meetings with the TAG, as well as two public stakeholder meetings which were made available via webinar for those people unable to attend in person. The public meetings were attended by individual residents as well as various advocacy groups and trade associations. A website was developed by the Department of Public Health which provided access to many documents including the motions by the Board, ordinance drafts which were made available for public comment, and the reports submitted to the Board.

The initial draft Ordinance was released on November 5, 2015 with comments accepted through November 30, 2015. The Working Group received comments at the November 13th TAG and public stakeholder

meetings as well via written correspondence. Based on constructive feedback received, a second draft of the Ordinance was made publicly available on January 5, 2016 with comments accepted through January 15, 2016.

The Ordinance’s service area would include all of the unincorporated County areas, but is drafted in a manner to allow cities in which the Department of Public Health serves as their Health Officer to adopt the Ordinance through actions of their City Councils, such as a resolution. This includes all cities within the County excluding the cities of Pasadena, Long Beach and Vernon, who have their own Health Department and would therefore need to adopt an Ordinance of their own.

EPR take-back programs for unwanted pharmaceutical and sharps waste are not new, as many of the same companies which were represented in the TAG have established or participated in successful take-back programs around the world including in Canada, Mexico, Brazil, and throughout Europe. More recently, a number of EPR pharmaceutical ordinances have been adopted throughout California as well as King County, Washington. The Task Force expects these take-back programs to be similarly successful once they are up and running.

The Task Force has been a long-time and consistent supporter of EPR policies to manage difficult to manage items such as pharmaceuticals and sharps. The Task Force adopted a resolution of support for EPR in 2008. While it would be preferable to have a Federal or Statewide EPR approach, in the absence of state or Federal action the Task Force supports the County’s efforts to address this issue at the local level.

At the January 21, 2016 Task Force meeting, a motion was approved to send a letter of support for the Ordinance to the Board, as well as send letters to each city within the County in order to make sure they were aware of the effort and encourage their support for the Ordinance. Copies of these letters, which also include a template support letter, are available on the Task Force’s website. To date, 22 cities have sent letters of support for the Ordinance. Also at the January 21, 2016 meeting, CalRecycle was asked if they would submit a letter of support to the Board in support of the Ordinance. Subsequently, a letter of support was sent by CalRecycle to the Board on February 5, 2016.

For more information on the Ordinance, visit the Department of Public Health’s website at: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/pharma.htm>; or contact Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at MikeMohajer@yahoo.com or (909) 592-1147.

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November 2015 Southern California Waste Management Forum

the future of solid waste management in Southern California in concert with newly enacted legislation.

Director of CalRecycle, Scott Smithline, delivered the keynote address explaining how the management of waste resources is evolving to meet the goals of California's Assembly Bill 341 and its call for a 75 percent waste diversion rate by 2020. Methods to reach that goal will be influenced by the climate strategy and greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets for 2025, 2030 and 2050.

While California's waste management agencies have been able to reach 50 percent diversion, the rate has flat-lined. Director Smithline stated that in order to achieve the AB 341 mandated 75 percent diversion, there is a need for the state to; support the development of in-state manufacturing for recycled products, work with local governments on where to locate facilities for maximum diversion efficiency, communicate with local governments on the best ways to site facilities, and most importantly, develop diverse and sustainable funding sources. In order to secure effective investments from industry, the state must support marketplace development of facilities.

John Halligan, acting Deputy Director of CalRecycle's Division of Recycling, delivered a presentation on fraud and abuse of the Beverage Container Recycling Program. Halligan talked about a rise in the fraudulent behavior that include claims for California Redemption Value (CRV) on imported empty beverage containers, previously redeemed containers and rejected containers, and the submission of false claims for reimbursement. In order to address this issue, the Division of Recycling developed a Fraud Management Strategy for deterring fraudulent activity, mitigate, analyze, and investigate any losses to the program, deploy policies to reduce the incidence of fraud, and prosecute offenders. CalRecycle partnered with the Department of Justice, the

California Attorney General, the California Department of Food and Agriculture, the California Highway Patrol, local law enforcement agencies, Cal EPA Departments, and program participants to successfully implement the Fraud Management Strategy.

The workshop also included several other presentations from various industry and government agency representatives on the topics ranging from renewable energy technologies, organics, pharmaceuticals, and public outreach.

The conference concluded with a roundtable panel discussion on "Roads to Zero Waste," moderated by Mike Mohajer, one of the Directors of the Southern California Waste Management Forum (SCWMF). The panelists were Nick Lapis of Californians Against Waste, Betsey Landis of the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee, Tracie Onstad Bills of SCS Engineers, Coby Skye of Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, Mike Balliet of ReGreen International Solutions, Inc., and Michael Theroux of JDMT, Inc. They agreed that there is not a universally accepted definition of "Zero Waste" and that each entity has its own interpretation. The panelists also discussed the challenges and benefits of reaching a so called "zero waste" in California. Although recent and future legislation, cap-and-trade funding, organics processing facilities, extended producer responsibility, and recycling and diversion programs will help to significantly reduce waste disposal, achieving "zero waste" in California will also require investment in conversion technology. These technologies are needed to manage residuals remaining after all diversion activities have been completed.

The Task Force looks forward to participating in additional waste conferences and workshops. For more information regarding the 2015 SCWMF, contact Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at MikeMohajer@yahoo.com or (909) 592-1146.





2014 Statewide Waste Characterization Study

The California Department of Resources, Recycling, and Recovery (CalRecycle) recently published the findings of its 2014 Statewide Waste Characterization Study.

The purpose of the study is to provide up-to-date information on the types and amounts of materials being disposed in California's waste stream. This information will be used to determine the state's progress towards reaching the state's 75 percent waste reduction goals as well as to plan for future solid waste management initiatives.

CalRecycle contracted with Cascadia Consulting Group to collect and analyze the data. For purposes of data collection, the state was divided into 5 geographical regions: Bay Area, Coastal, Mountain, Southern, and Central Valley. Regions were selected based on similarities in demographic, climatic, geographic, and economic characteristics. The data was broken down into specific strata to create an overall picture of waste generated and diverted by waste sectors and smaller subgroups. Waste trends were then analyzed to determine generation, efficacy of source separation, as well as potential divertability.

A stratified sampling methodology was utilized to ensure that samples were taken and analyzed in proportion to a sector's relative contribution to the overall waste stream. The findings of the study were then broken into two separate reports:

- 2014 Disposal-Facility-Based Characterization of Solid Waste in California; and
- 2014 Generator-Based Characterization of Commercial Sector Disposal and Diversion in California.

Disposal-Facility-Based Characterization of Solid Waste in California

Disclaimer Regarding Sector Percentages

CalRecycle reported an "unexpected anomaly," stating that the 2014 Disposal-Facility-Based study data indicated a steep increase in the amount of waste attributable to the residential sector, along with a dramatic decrease in waste generation for both the commercial and self-haul sectors. A regional analysis pointed towards changes in generation trends in the Southern Region, which accounts for 60% of the state's overall disposed waste.

These drastic changes have resulted in substantial changes in the State sector contribution percentages from 2008 to 2014. CalRecycle is continuing to collect data for the Southern Region to determine if the initial sector percentages are reliable or if they are a result of other confounding factors.

The findings presented in the Disposal-Facility-Based study reflect a cross comparison of both initial findings for the 2014 study, as well as a second data set which applies the sector percentages obtained in the 2008 study to the 2014 waste composition data.

Key Findings

When looking at the estimated contribution of each sector to California's overall disposed waste stream, both the commercial sector and the self-haul sector show notable decreases, while the residential sector shows a dramatic increase in waste generation since the 2008 study.

The 2014 sector percentages indicate that the franchised residential sector (single family and multi-family) generate 47 percent of the overall waste stream (up from 30 percent in 2008), the franchised commercial sector generates 39 percent (down from 50 percent in 2008), and the self-hauled sector generates 14 percent (down from 20 percent in 2008).

In terms of the most prevalent material types in California's disposed waste stream, food is the largest disposed material making up 18 percent of the waste stream, with lumber being the second most disposed material at 12 percent. The combined organic materials ("other organics") make up 37 percent of the disposed stream and include food waste, yard waste, carpet, and textiles. Other organics is the most disposed material for the overall waste stream (37 percent), commercial sector (35 percent), residential sector (45 percent), and the second largest group for the self-hauled sector at 19 percent. The amount of other organics being disposed has remained fairly constant, rising from 34 percent in 2008 to 37 percent in 2014.

CalRecycle suggests that nearly 40 percent of the waste currently being disposed can be diverted through organics recovery strategies, such as composting, mulching, and anaerobic digestion.

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Inerts and Other—which includes lumber, concrete, gypsum board, and rock soil and fines—make up the next largest material group as 20 percent of all disposed waste, 18 percent of the commercial sector, 10 percent of the residential sector, and 55 percent of the self-hauled sector. Disposal of inerts and other materials has decreased since 2008, going from 29 percent of the disposed stream to 20 percent in 2014.

Overall per capita disposal has decreased from 1.06 to 0.81 tons per person per year. However, residential per capita disposal has increased from 0.32 to 0.38 tons per resident per year.

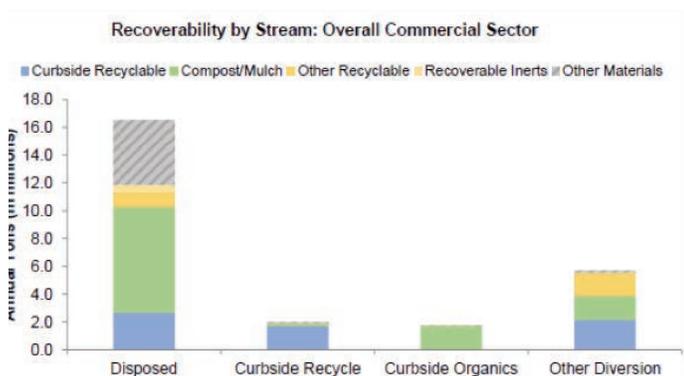
Generator-Based Characterization of Commercial Sector Disposal and Diversion in California

This study looked specifically at materials generated, disposed, and diverted by the commercial sector overall, as well as by individual industry groups. The purpose was to determine which materials are generated by which particular business, as well as to identify whether these materials are properly diverted or disposed.

Data was derived from measurements of material accumulation in dumpsters, interviews with staff, examination of disposal and diversion records, and inspection of recycling and diversion systems during on-site visits.

Key Findings

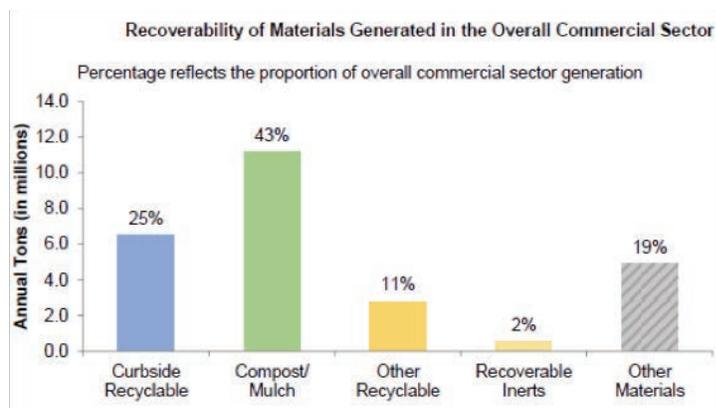
When looking at the overall generated waste stream of the commercial sector, nearly two-thirds of the waste (64 percent) is disposed. The remaining third of the waste is diverted through other streams—8 percent to curbside recycling, 7 percent to curbside organics collection, and 22 percent to other diversion (which includes options such as businesses selling their own cardboard or scrap metal directly to recyclers)



The study further divided CalRecycle’s 82 material types into 5 main “recoverability groups”: curbside recyclable, compost/mulch, other recyclable, recoverable inerts, and other materials. According to the study findings, of the over 16 million tons of waste disposed by the overall commercial sector, approximately 7 million tons of the disposed waste stream was recoverable compost/mulch.

The figure below summarizes each recoverability group’s proportion of total generation, based on the types of materials, regardless of which stream they were found in. Each bar includes materials both diverted and disposed.

Approximately 43 percent of total generation in the overall commercial sector was material in the Compost/Mulch recoverability group, and approximately 25 percent was Curbside Recyclable. When combined, divertible materials accounted for roughly 81 percent of the overall commercial sector generation.



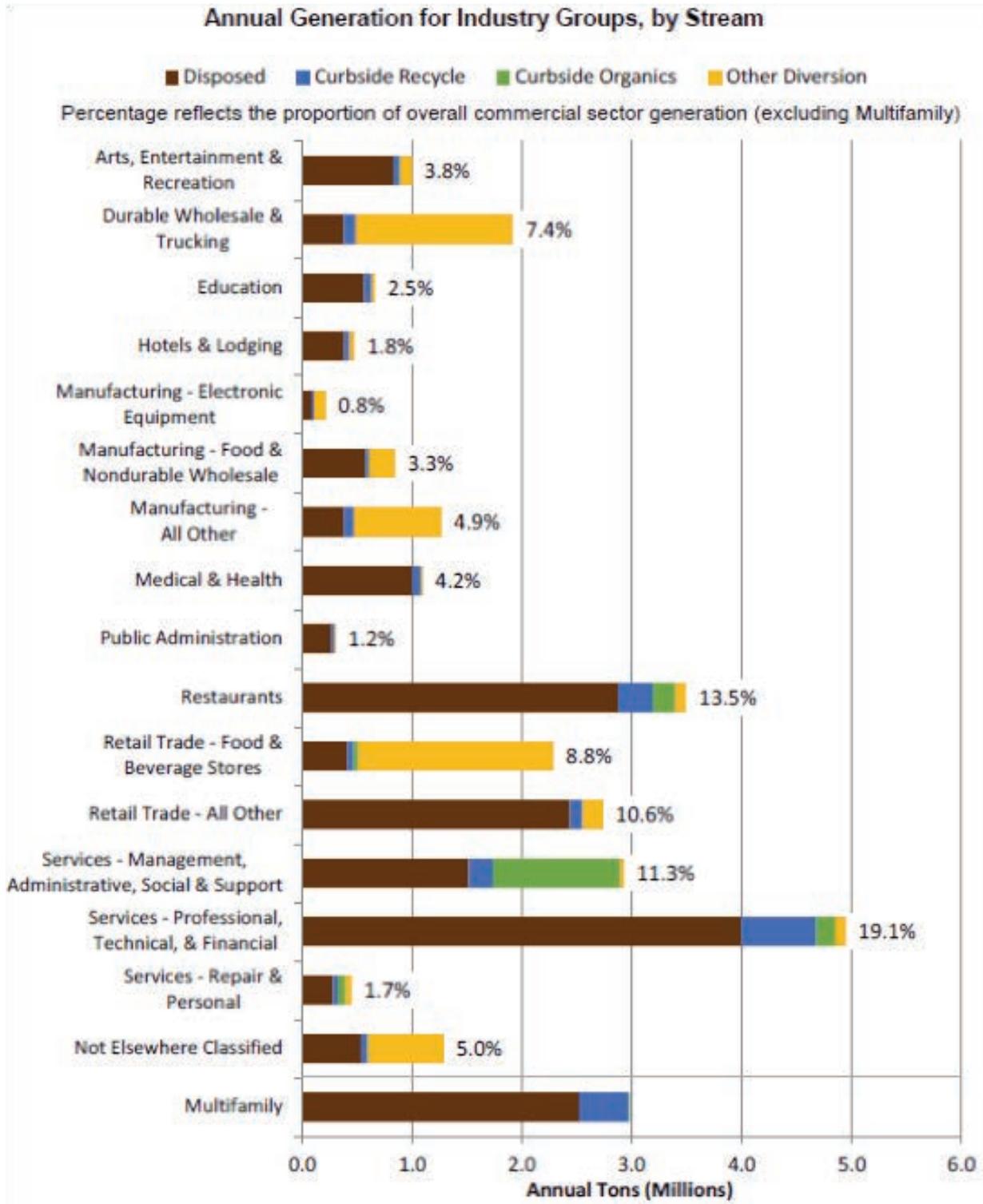
Key Industry Groups of Interest

The Services—Professional, Technical, and Financial group accounted for approximately 19 percent of overall commercial sector generation, making it the largest generator in the state. This group also employs the most people in California. Examples of business types in this group include banks, real estate agencies, architecture firms, and engineering companies. The majority of generation in this group is in the disposed stream.

At nearly 14 percent of overall generation, Restaurants is the second-largest industry group in the study. For Restaurants, the largest portion of the material generated also went to the disposed waste stream. Although more restaurants are participating in food diversion programs, food is the most prevalent divertible material type in the Restaurants’ disposed waste.



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For more information regarding the 2014 Statewide Characterization Study, including copies of the discussed reports, please visit: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/wastechar/wastestudies.htm>.



Sunshine Canyon Landfill Alternative Daily Cover Pilot Project Finally Takes Off

Located about one mile north of Granada Hills, Sunshine Canyon Landfill is a municipal solid waste landfill traversing the city of Los Angeles and unincorporated areas of LA County.

Owned and operated by Republic Services, Inc., the landfill previously operated as two landfills under city and county land use permits. In late 2008, the state of California issued a joint permit allowing city/county landfill operations to begin. Since November of 2008 to December of 2015, Sunshine Canyon Landfill has generated over 8,000 odor complaints from nearby residents and community members and received over 170 Notices of Violation of South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule 402 (Nuisance), and California Health and Safety Code Section 41700.

In a concerted effort to reduce odors emanating from the Landfill, an Interagency Working Group comprised of the SCAQMD, Sunshine Canyon Landfill Local Enforcement Agency (SCL-LEA), City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works developed a set of recommendations to supplement previous and ongoing odor reduction measures at the landfill. One of the recommendations included consideration of “a pilot project for the Landfill Operator to demonstrate the effective use of a biodegradable or thermodegradable plastic approved as Alternative Daily Cover (ADC) or combinations of ADCs which meets the statutory performance

standards that apply including, but not limited to, mitigation of the odor nuisances”. From this recommendation, the Landfill, with the approval from regulatory agency, initiated a one-year ADC pilot project at the working face of the site in October 2015.

The ADC pilot project uses the Extended Enviro™ product supplied by Environmental Products Inc. as ADC. This product is a non-removal and degradable geosynthetic cover, which will be used in lieu of the 9-inches of soil currently being used on-site for daily cover. This ADC material is being placed at the end of each operating day and on Saturdays, a 6-inch layer of soil will, in turn, be used as the daily cover. In using the ADC product, the landfill operator will be able to lower its typical daily operation cost and decrease the utilization of airspace in the landfill over time.

After the one-year pilot project period, the Program will be evaluated in accordance with the performance requirements and standards which include criteria such as its effectiveness in controlling vector, fire, litter, scavenging, and odor nuisance. To ensure the health and safety of the surrounding community, the County of Los Angeles also required the operator to submit a monthly report summarizing all monitoring

observations and maintenance issues of the pilot project which included but not limited to any tears, punctures, or unusual observations related to the application of the ADC material. As part of the fail-safe mechanism, the County also has an “anytime” termination clause if the project unable to meet the intended objective of the project or if the project encountered problem with the use of ADC material that cannot be corrected.

Since the inception of the Project in October, there were only few correctible operational issues such as minor exposures of trash due to the lack of soil to hold the cover down or pipes tearing through the cover. Some other instances involved mechanical problems during the ADC material deployment, in these cases the remaining portion of the working face was covered with 9” of soil. Preliminary field observation of the site has indicated that the ADC material held-up well during the last few rains. However, neighboring residents continue to complain of the odor.

For more information, contact Mr. Martins Aiyetiwa, staff to the Task Force, at MAIYET@dpw.lacounty.gov, or (626) 458-3553, Monday - Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.



California's Environmental Goals and Funding Waste Management Infrastructure CalRecycle Workshop Diamond Bar, CA

On December 8, 2015, the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) hosted a workshop titled, California's Environmental Goals and Funding Waste Management Infrastructure, at the South Coast Air Quality Management District Auditorium in Diamond Bar.

The purpose of the workshop was to inform stakeholders of CalRecycle's current fiscal condition and to explain the need for additional revenue, the details of a proposed policy to generate the new revenue, and the means through which the agency is seeking to secure it. CalRecycle also outlined the need for additional fee increases and a proposed solid waste generator charge (Service Charge) to meet the goals of AB 341 (Chapter 476 of 2011 State Statutes), which established a statewide solid waste diversion goal of 75 percent by 2020 through source reduction, recycling and composting.

CalRecycle staff provided a presentation outlining the agency's financial situation, which detailed the decline in revenues since 2002—the last time the Statewide fee imposed on operators of disposal facilities (tipping fees) was raised from \$1.34 per ton to the current \$1.40 per ton. As jurisdictions continue to divert more materials from landfill disposal pursuant to AB 939 (1989), the State the tipping fee revenues have decreased (a 21 percent reduction since 2002). Without the proposed fee increases and service charges CalRecycle projects annual revenue to drop to nearly half their current levels by 2020.

In addition, CalRecycle's responsibilities have increased through the years. This includes ensuring compliance with the requirements of AB 341, AB 1826, and other laws enacted since 2002. AB 1826 (Chapter 727 of 2014 State Statutes) requires a 50 percent reduction in compostable organic waste disposal by 2020 (as compared to the 2014 disposal quantities).

Following the presentation, CalRecycle opened the workshop up for discussion which centered primarily on AB 1063 (Williams, 2015). If enacted, AB 1063 (as amended August 17, 2015), would increase tipping fees on disposal facilities to \$4.00 per ton commencing January 1, 2017. Contingent upon availability of sufficient funds for CalRecycle and State Water Resources Control Board programs currently funded by disposal tipping fees, the Bill also designates \$1.50 of the \$4.00 per ton until January 1, 2022, for the promotion of recycling, grants for development of needed infrastructure and the "highest and best use of materials." The legislation also proposes to impose a Service

Charge on all generators of solid waste in the State, beginning January 1, 2019. As proposed, the Service Charge (which may be subject to compliance with Proposition 218) must be collected by jurisdictions and subsequently forwarded to the State. There is no provision to compensate jurisdictions for their costs. The amount of Service Charge would be initially set to generate \$15 million annually during the period of January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2021. Starting January 1, 2022, the amount of the Service Charge would be adjusted every three years based on CalRecycle financial needs.

Stakeholders, including representative from cities and regional associations, voiced their concerns over the impact of the proposed tipping fee increase and the Service Charge. The component of AB 1063 that prompted the greatest concerns from local government representatives was the requirement that collection of the Service Charge on behalf of the State would fall on local jurisdictions. City of Rosemead Mayor Margaret Clark, who also serves as Vice-Chair to the Task Force, voiced serious concerns regarding this provision because it places the burden of collecting the fees for the State squarely on the shoulders of local governments. Mayor Clark, along with other local leaders, predicted local governments would find themselves at the front end of significant opposition from their residents and businesses.

Currently, AB 1063 remains in the State Senate Environmental Quality Committee awaiting further deliberation. According to CalRecycle, should the bill advance to the Governor's desk and be signed into law, it would provide much needed resources to continue to pursue the State's objectives. CalRecycle, however, will not be the only entity affected by AB 1063, as many local governments rely on CalRecycle for assistance in the form of resources, consultation and grants.

The Task Force looks forward to participating in the development of sound policies with CalRecycle to reduce reliance on landfilling. For more information, contact Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at MikeMohajer@yahoo.com or (909) 592-1146.

**CalRecycle**

Summary of CalRecycle's presentation at recent Task Force Meeting

At the January 2016 Task Force meeting, CalRecycle Deputy Director Howard Levenson, and Branch Chief Cara Morgan, gave the Task Force an update on CalRecycle's 2016 priorities which focused on organics and reformation of the landfill tipping fee and beverage container program.

In September 2015, as required by AB 341 (2011), CalRecycle submitted the 75 percent report to the Legislature and the top 5 priorities listed in the report are 1) moving organics out of the landfills, 2) expanding the recycling/manufacturing infrastructure in the state, 3) funding issues at the local and state levels, 4) promoting procurement, and 5) promoting extended producer responsibility (EPR). In connection to EPR, Mr. Levenson indicated that CalRecycle is considering to send a letter to the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors in support of the proposed Los Angeles County EPR Pharmaceutical and Sharps Ordinance.

At its December 8, and 15, 2015, workshops, CalRecycle received a lot of positive input regarding the CalRecycle funding reform. For example, tipping fee increases have not kept up with inflation or the additional mandates imposed on CalRecycle by the State Legislature. The overall issue of local and state funding is critical and the discussion will undoubtedly continue. The funding workshop was a spin-off of the AB 1063 policy discussions. CalRecycle also received very informative input on issues related to a proposed generator fee and local collection of the fee from local government representatives.

Responding to questions from Task Force members on the tipping fee going up from \$1.40 to \$4.00 and whether the fee can be raised gradually, Mr. Levenson indicated that they do not have a source of money dedicated to CalRecycle for promoting organics because most tipping fee funds are for infrastructure grants. He also stated that if there is a consensus on a multi-use tipping fee, that money could provide sustainable funding.

Mr. Levenson also talked about Governor Brown's proposed \$100 million in cap and trade money, of which \$60 million is earmarked for organics grants.

CalRecycle will be releasing notices of funding availability for these grants around April 2016. In response to a question about CalRecycle's mission statement, Mr. Levenson responded the agency's mission is the protection of public health and safety as well as a 75 percent waste diversion through source reduction, recycling, and composting.

The issue of pathogens in compost and the need to prevent their spread from quarantine areas was raised. Mr. Levenson stated that CalRecycle discussed the issue as well as enforcement with the Department of Food and Agriculture. However, the County Agricultural Commissioner is responsible for pathogen related enforcement. Because of cost considerations, the Commissioner has taken a tiered strategy that focuses on the biggest risks.

Regarding organics and the 75 percent statewide goal, Mr. Levenson explained that CalRecycle does not have a preference whether the material goes to compost, anaerobic digestion, or is used as mulch for land application. He acknowledged there are concerns with unprocessed mulch material and the potential increase of pathogen transmittals as well as the direct land application of unprocessed green waste. He also discussed conversion technologies including some of the barriers and challenges.

With regard to the ongoing discussion of the AB 45 (2015) Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) bill, Mr. Levenson said that CalRecycle was not involved in the drafting of the bill. There was discussion that HHW makes up a small percentage of the waste stream and is typically handled at HHW centers or temporary/mobile events.

Although programs are dealing with small volumes of hazardous materials, it is very costly to handle, which is the primary reason that in 2006 – 2008 the Waste Board conducted hearings on EPR as a way to address these kinds of material. A framework was developed and former Assemblymember Wesley Chesebro introduced legislation that did not make it through the legislature.

Mr. Levenson explained that CalRecycle maintains that EPR is an effective way to deal with hard to handle materials and relieves the burden of local governments. He said there is speculation about mandating CalRecycle to come up with a model ordinance that would preempt the local government,

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but that is not CalRecycle's thinking. A comment was made that solid waste goes to a very diverse list of facilities and to place the fee solely on disposal facilities and landfills does not net CalRecycle the funds it needs to manage the facilities. Mr. Levenson stated an issue with that would be that not all recycling facilities are regulated by CalRecycle.

Ms. Morgan provided an update on the implementation of AB 1826, stating that CalRecycle has conducted workshops throughout the State soliciting input. That input has led to the development of tools, such as outreach and education and approaches to identifying regulated businesses and entities. The tools are now on CalRecycle's AB 1826 web page. Most of them are customizable so local jurisdictions or haulers can make it their own.

Ms. Morgan also mentioned that the Countywide Integrated Waste Management (CIWM) Enforcement Policy Part II has been revised with specific criteria and not just a list of must haves. She explained that CalRecycle staff will need to be flexible and evaluate each jurisdiction on a case by case basis. They will also need to be aware of the different types of barriers and constraints, the type of arrangements jurisdictions may have with their haulers, the demographic makeup of their community, and the types of programs individual jurisdictions want to implement.

Ms. Morgan explained how CalRecycle is planning to have each of its local assistant staff person meet with each of their jurisdictions within the first 6 months of the year. As part of the calls and meetings, they will be going over what jurisdictions are planning to do for their organics recycling program. She stated some jurisdictions have their plan laid out and some are still working on a plan. CalRecycle's team will be getting information on where jurisdictions are with their implementation.

CalRecycle has seen that jurisdictions have different techniques for organics management. Many are managing organic waste from the front end by promoting food waste prevention as well as food rescue. Staff believe they will continue to see a wide variety of methodologies and are promoting successful management approaches to jurisdictions for organic waste management. Jurisdictions continue to develop their programs with some going beyond the 8 cubic yard per week generators and rolling it out to more businesses on a voluntary basis. The jurisdictions that are going beyond the eight cubic yard threshold are doing that in order to collect more material and spread out the cost.

CalRecycle is also in the process of refining their Annual Reporting System that jurisdictions are to use. The first report that will include organics diversion information will be in August 2017. That data closely follows information already included in the mandatory commercial recycling reporting system which has been developed to capture the high level data required under the legislation. CalRecycle is trying to create a flexible, easy-to-use reporting program.

CalRecycle is seeing the challenges that come with identifying regulated businesses based on their tiered thresholds. They will be working with jurisdictions across the state over the next four years to capture all the regulated generators. CalRecycle has already reached out to the business community including California Chamber of Commerce, the Manufacture Association, and other appropriate associations. Mr. Levenson and Ms. Morgan have also met with the California Restaurant Association to get the message out to their members. The feedback from the various associations has been very positive.

Ms. Morgan presented an update on the implementation of AB 876 enacted in 2015. The new legislation requires counties and regional agencies to estimate the organics disposal output for a 15-year planning period. Counties and regional agencies must also identify existing and sites/locations for new facilities to manage the organic waste being generated during the said 15-year planning period. CalRecycle is currently developing guidance, instead of regulation, to assist counties and regional agencies with estimating their disposal/treatment needs. Ms. Morgan also reported that CalRecycle officials met with the California Association of School Business Officials and Superintendents Association on a communication plan to get information out to schools and school districts.

In regards to AB 876 implementation, Mr. Mohajer expressed concern with using the "guidelines" process instead of the regulatory process where the public would have a chance to provide their formal input through public hearings and ultimately receive approval by the Office of Administrative Law. He also expressed his concerns with the fact that guidelines can be revised at any time by CalRecycle, where any revisions to regulations must go through a "due" process. Ms. Morgan indicated that the "regulation" process was not used due to its required time for the development, adoption and approval process.

In response to a question regarding the mattress, carpet, and the paint storage programs, Mr. Levenson stated that all three programs are on the CalRecycle Agenda for the January 26, 2016 meeting. The programs have differing stages of implementation. Of the three, the paint storage program is being seen as relatively successful, while the mattress program seems to be running well it is simply too soon to know with certainty. The carpet program is viewed as the weakest of the three because of its unspecified target goal. There is a goal of continuous and meaningful improvement with 16 percent by 2016.

Mr. Levenson concluded his remarks by mentioning that the national magazine BioCycle will be holding a conference April 4 - 8, 2016 in San Diego. The conference's opening day will be dedicated to food waste rescue prevention. CalRecycle is hoping to be able to unveil their draft of their food waste grant prevention program in time to get participant feedback. Other conference topics will include food bank associations, various non-profits and city programs.



California's Manufacturing Challenge Workshop

On January 5, 2016, the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) hosted a Packaging Workshop: Manufacturer's Challenge 2016 (Manufacturers Challenge) regarding strategies to achieve increased landfill diversion of consumer product packaging.

The goal of the Manufacturers Challenge is for the packaging industry to specifically confront packaging waste on a collective scale and begin taking the lead in addressing the problem. Nestled within the goals of AB 341, a bill signed into law by Governor Brown in 2011 calling for 75 percent of all waste generated to be recycled, composted, or source reduced by the year 2020, is a 50 percent reduction in packaging disposal, also by 2020, as highlighted in CalRecycle's November 2014 Packaging Workshop.

CalRecycle's director, Scott Smithline, highlighted the appropriateness of the workshop's timing so closely following the 2015 Holiday Season. As Californians blitzed retail venues to find gifts for their friends and families, the end of the shopping frenzy saw their garbage bins overflow with the packaging those gifts came in; packaging material that continues to hemorrhage in high volumes at landfills or becoming unsightly litter and pollution. However, the problem is not seasonal, nor is it one the State is resigned to resolve on its own through legislation, the courts, or even by executive order. While the State acknowledges the meaningful efforts on the part of various packaging industry groups to reduce the "negative environmental impact" caused by the long-term disposal of packaging, it is doubtful to secure a meaningful commitment from industry to address the issue. According to the First Update to the Climate Change Scoping Plan (AB 32 Scoping Plan) and the CalRecycle 2014 waste characterization

study, published in 2014, packaging accounts for some 10 million tons of landfill disposal in California, or 25 percent of the State's aggregate annual waste stream. As paper and plastic represent the principal components to packaging, they serve as the principal catalysts to the problem.

The workshop provided a venue for CalRecycle, non-affiliated proponents of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), and manufacturing and packaging industry trade groups, to exchange input and feedback on the current rate of packaging disposal in the State and how best to address this component of the 75 percent diversion goal. Among these groups included the American Chemistry Council; Ameripen; Carton Council; Foodservice Packaging Institute; Glass Packaging Institute; Recycling Partnership; Plastics Industry Trade Association; Western Plastics Association; and Grocery Manufacturers Association. CalRecycle's Cynthia Dunn, one of the workshop's scheduled speakers, was candid in her acknowledgement of the present and long-standing disagreement in the respective positions currently held by the State and those of industry groups on the issue and just what role industry should play in reducing packaging disposal and pollution. The packaging and manufacturing industries continue to enunciate the case for a more voluntary approach to the problem; whereas, the State sees the need for a more mandatory requirement of producer responsibility.

The goal of achieving an effective EPR policy model on packaging disposal in a state as populated and economically vibrant as California is proving itself a complex objective. A number of prescriptions for how the issue can be addressed were raised: voluntary partnerships aimed at outreach and education; the need to set goals and baselines measuring progress; funding research and development; and energy recovery and sustainable materials management. The State contends that absent a substantive, constructive contribution from these industries in the form of EPR, reaching the 75 percent goal could prove a far more contested challenge. The County Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) also previously endorsed EPR as the most effective medium for confronting packaging disposal and pollution, detailing so in its comments on CalRecycle's proposed policies as identified in the background paper and discussed at the November 2014 Workshop.

The workshop highlighted the statistical gap between access to recycling offered by ready materials recovery facilities (MRFs) and actual recycling, the rate at which recyclable material is actually recovered and recycled correctly. This issue, among others, was also touched on by The Recycling Partnership, a recycling non-profit formed in 2003, who took great pains to strongly emphasize what will require not only a committed and sustained effort toward increasing recycling, but a broad and cultural

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California's Manufacturing Challenge Workshop

embrace to fundamentally changing societal thinking and participation in sustainable waste management. Ideas were floated for the expansion of advance disposal fees, such as those levied onto consumers at the point of sale on such goods as tires, beverages, and certain household hazardous and electronic products. Energy recovery and source reduction by way of conversion technologies, an issue on which the Los Angeles County and the Task Force stand among the State's leading supporters, was also raised. However, CalRecycle maintains the consistent position it has held for some time that the use of conversion technologies remains a separate issue removed from disposal and landfill diversion in general.

The exchange of ideas, experiences and recommendations toward best practices within the packaging component of the State's 75 percent goal provided an optimum forum for meaningful discussion on an important environmental issue. Ultimately, the State remains confident that it will meet its objectives through an effective, fair minded regulatory approach, geared toward EPR, balanced with voluntary and innovative approaches on the part of the manufacturing and packaging industries that will generate long-term, sustainable paths to diversion of this material. Hopefully, this will hold true, and there is no reason the goal should not be met.

After all, it is highly unlikely that Christmas shoppers will hold onto their pennies during future Holiday Seasons out of disillusionment over the packaging their purchases come in.

The Task Force has been participating in all workshops and looks forward to participating in the development of sound policies with CalRecycle to reduce the landfilling of packaging material. For more information regarding CalRecycle's packaging efforts, contact Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at MikeMohajer@yahoo.com or (909) 592-1146.



Preventing Food Waste: Tossing Out Food = Tossing Out Money

Most people don't realize how much food they throw away every day from uneaten leftovers to spoiled produce.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, Americans threw away 35 million tons of food scraps in 2013. Locally, approximately, 17,429 tons of food scraps is being landfilled by Santa Monica residents and businesses. We can help!

The City of Santa Monica realizes the importance of preventing food waste, especially when we know what it takes to grow, deliver, and prepare. Everything from the fertilizers used to grow food to the fuel used to get food to the grocery store has an environmental cost. There's an economic cost too. The average family of four loses \$1,350 each year to food waste—the equivalent of tossing out 1 of every 4 grocery bags! By buying less and reusing what is in the refrigerator consumers and producers save money. Also, there is less material to take to their compost cart. Here's how to stop food waste before it begins.

Before you shop, shop your fridge

Rescue vegetable odds and ends before they hit the compost. To make soup stock, chop vegetables you have on hand, cover with water, and simmer for about an hour. After making stock a few times, you'll learn which flavors work best together.

- [Love Food, Hate Waste](#)
- [Cookbook for a Sustainable Community](#)

Safe or Spoiled

- "Best before" and "use by" date relate to peak flavor or quality, not to food safety.
- "Sell by" dates help the store determine how long to display a product. The product is still good to eat for a period after this date.

Visit the [USDA](#) to learn more about food product dating

Keep it Fresh

Reduce food spoilage by storing fruits and vegetables so that they stay fresh for as long as possible. Some things keep best in the refrigerator, while other foods are better stored at room temperature.

[Fruit and Vegetable Storage Guide](#) (USEPA/City of Palo Alto)

[A-Z Food Storage Tips](#) (Eureka Recycling, Minneapolis)

Last Option: Feed the Green Cart

You've shopped your fridge and noticed something inedible. Choose to compost instead of putting material in the black landfill cart. Santa Monica organics program is rare in that it allows food and food-soiled paper in the green cart. This accessibility is to help business and residents to divert more material.

By putting organic material in the green cart, instead of the black landfill cart, the organics gets

turned into nutrient-rich compost. The collected organics goes to a commercial composting facility that breaks down the organic matter to create a nutrient-rich soil amendment called compost. Compost helps plants grow, prevents erosion, retains water, suppresses plant disease and blocks weeds. The compost is then delivered back to the City and given away for free to Santa Monica residents four times per year!

Food can be placed within the green cart including meats, bones, dairy, bread, fruits, vegetables, egg shells, baked goods, rice, beans, pasta, coffee grounds and filters, tea bags and other plate scrapings. Participants should not include liquids, oils, grease or items such as metal, plastic, glass, pet waste, treated wood or other trash.

Events for Santa Monica Residents Only

January: 16 Compost Giveaway

April 9: Compost Giveaway

May 7: Compost Workshop

July 16: Compost Giveaway

Download "My Waste", a free online app with complete recycling and organics information or the [Green Cart Guide](#), the do's and don'ts associated with your green cart. For more information about the City of Santa Monica's programs visit www.smgov.net/r3.

Green Cart Food Scraps & Yard Debris

These Items *Do* Belong In Your Green Cart:

Food Soiled Paper



Bread Scraps & Pizza Boxes



Waxed Paper Packaging



Coffee Grinds & Teabags



Yard Trimmings



Meat, Bones & Seafood Scraps



Fruit & Vegetable Scraps



Eggs & Dairy Scraps



Don't Contaminate—These Items *Do Not* Belong In Your Green Organics Cart:

- Garbage or Household Hazardous Waste**
- Palm Fronds (difficult to compost):** place in the garbage cart
- Plastic Bags:** Wrap food scraps in newspaper or use paper bag or paper carton. Bulk plastic bags and put in the recycling cart.
- Plastic Flower Pots:** Recyclable if recycling symbol is 1-,5, or 7
- Rocks, Dirt, or Concrete:** place in the garbage cart
- Garden Hoses or Patio Furniture:** place in the garbage cart
- Pet waste or Diapers:** place in the garbage cart
- Glass or Non-Compostable Plastics:** Refer to recycling guidelines

Questions:

About what can go in the green cart or for options to properly dispose of extra garbage, bulky items or to request a kitchen pail, contact the City of Santa Monica's Resource Recovery & Recycling Division at 310.458.2223.

Puente Hills Materials Recovery Facility Implements Food Waste Processing and Recycling Program



The State of California is moving towards achieving its goals of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions; diverting organics out of landfills; and managing 75 percent of its solid waste through source reduction, recycling and composting.

In particular, the State's mandatory organics recycling law, AB 1826 (Chesbro), establishes an aggressive schedule for implementation of commercial organics recycling by businesses and local governments.

To assist local governments, the waste industry, and businesses in developing solutions to the organics management challenge, the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Districts) have begun operation of a food waste recycling program at the Puente Hills Materials Recovery Facility (PHMRF) and the Joint Water Pollution Control Plant in Carson (Carson Plant). The program is being implemented in collaboration with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LADPW), Waste Management (WM), and other waste hauling companies and technology vendors. The joint program objectives include the evaluation of:

- Various methods of collection, handling, and processing of food waste;
- Different technologies and processes for achieving the highest and most cost-effective diversion of organic waste from landfills; and
- The technical and economic feasibility of full-scale co-digestion of food waste with sewage sludge in anaerobic digesters.

As part of this program, the Districts and WM are conducting a multi-year evaluation of the feasibility of co-digesting food waste at the Carson Plant. WM collects commercial food waste separately from

other waste and processes it to remove contaminants before delivering a clean food waste slurry to the Plant. The slurry is pumped into anaerobic digesters, which contains sewage sludge from the Plant's wastewater treatment operations. The digester produces a biogas, which is mostly methane and is used to produce electricity.

The PHMRF is now receiving source-separated food waste from selected commercial sources including the unincorporated County areas. During the first half of 2016 the Districts will also be testing food/organic waste processing equipment (a mini press) to produce slurry from selected loads of mixed waste received by the PHMRF. For their part participating waste collectors are working with businesses and local governments to identify participants, instituting proper food waste handling and processing procedures, and establishing routes for collection.

Based on the results of this program, and with the possibility of securing a consistent and reliable food waste supply, the Districts could explore expanding the organic waste recycling program to include a new, stand-alone, commercial-scale anaerobic digestion facility to serve the organic waste management needs of waste haulers, businesses, and local governments, and assist them in achieving a sustainable waste management future.

For more info, please contact Nick Morell at the Districts, at (562) 908-4288 ext. 2444.



FEBRUARY 2016 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

The Task Force continuously monitors and analyzes pending legislative bills that may impact solid waste management in Los Angeles County. Below is a summary and status of legislation the Task Force has taken a position for the second year of the 2015/2016 Legislative Session.

2015-2016 State Legislative Session (Except as noted)

Bill Number/ Author	Task Force Position	Status	Summary
<p>AB 45 Mullin</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Senate Environmental Quality Committee 2-year bill</p>	<p>This bill would require CalRecycle to adopt one or more model ordinances for a comprehensive program for the collection of Household Hazardous Waste. The bill states that if a jurisdiction proposes to enact an ordinance for the collection and diversion of HHW, they may adopt one of the model ordinances. The bill would revise the definition of HHW to include pharmaceutical and sharps waste thereby requiring local jurisdictions to collect and properly dispose of these items, thus (a) imposing an unfunded State mandate on cities & counties, and (b) preventing locals from adopting any pharmaceutical EPR programs. The bill would require CalRecycle to determine whether a nonprofit organization has been created and has \$5 million available to make grants to local jurisdictions for purposes relating to HHW disposal for five years. If CalRecycle does not determine that such a nonprofit organization exists by December 31, 2018, then the bill's provisions would be repealed on January 1, 2019.</p>
<p>AB 577 Bonilla</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Senate Rules Committee 2-year bill</p>	<p>This bill would require the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to develop and implement a grant program to award grants for projects that produce biomethane, that build or develop collection and purification technology or infrastructure, or that upgrade or expand existing biomethane facilities.</p>



Bill Number/ Author	Task Force Position	Task Force Position	Summary
<p>AB 590 Dahle</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Senate Appropriations Committee 2-year bill</p>	<p>This bill would provide that moneys in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund may be made available for expenditure by the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission for the purposes of maintaining the current level of biomass power generation or geothermal energy generation in the state and revitalizing currently idle facilities in strategically located regions.</p>
<p>AB 1063 Williams</p>	<p>Oppose Unless Amended</p>	<p>Senate Environmental Quality Committee 2-year bill</p>	<p>This bill would, beginning January 1, 2017, raise a fee imposed on an operator of a disposal facility (landfill) from \$1.40 to \$4 per ton for all solid waste disposed of at each disposal site. This bill would require CalRecycle, commencing January 1, 2019, to establish and impose a charge on all solid waste generators (\$15 million in total initially) to be collected by a cities and counties and remitted to the State Board of Equalization to be allocated to CalRecycle for their activities and, subject to availability of any remaining funds, partially towards programs that promote recycling and highest and best use of materials. The bill also provides for CalRecycle to administratively increase the amount of the “solid waste generation charge” based on its needs on annual basis beginning 2022.</p>
<p>AB 1103 Dodd</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Senate Environmental Quality Committee 2-year bill</p>	<p>This bill would require a person who transports food waste to be registered by CalRecycle and to maintain a record of food waste transported. The bill would authorize CalRecycle to impose fees on registered transporters for vehicles used to transport food waste for CalRecycle’s regulatory costs for administering the bill’s provisions. The bill would require food waste transporters and facilities to report information to CalRecycle at least quarterly, including the quantity of food waste transported or received.</p>



Bill Number/ Author	Task Force Position	Task Force Position	Summary
<p>AB 1176 Perea</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Assembly Appropriations Committee 2-year bill</p>	<p>This bill would establish the Advanced Low-Carbon Diesel Fuels Access Program to provide capital assistance for projects that expand advanced low-carbon diesel fueling infrastructure in communities that are disproportionately impacted by environmental hazards and additionally where the greatest air quality impacts can be identified.</p>
<p>AB 1239 Gordon</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Senate Environmental Quality Committee 2-year bill</p>	<p>This bill would require a waste tire generator that is a retail seller of new tires to end user purchasers to pay a California tire regulatory fee to be established by CalRecycle sufficient enough to generate revenues equivalent to the reasonable regulatory costs incurred but not to exceed \$1.25 per new tire sold.</p>
<p>SB 32 Pavley</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Assembly Natural Resources Committee 2-year bill</p>	<p>This bill would require the State Air Resources Board (ARB) to approve a statewide greenhouse gas emission limit that is equivalent to 40% below the 1990 level to be achieved by 2030.</p>
<p>HR 2463 Bera</p>	<p>Support if Amended</p>	<p>U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee</p>	<p>This bill would set aside \$2.5 million per year for the next 5 years and allow eligible entities, both public and private, to apply for grants of up to \$250,000 over a 2 year grant period for expenses related to prescription drug disposal sites; implementing disposal procedures and processes; implementing community education strategies; replicating a prescription drug take back initiative throughout multiple jurisdictions; and training of law enforcement officers and other community participants. The Task Force is requesting amendments which would allow grant awardees to use funds for expenses for their programs as necessary rather each and every item as described in the bill.</p>



FEBRUARY 2016 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

For more information on these bills or copies of Task Force letters, please visit the Task Force website, www.lacountyiswmtf.org or contact Gabriel Arenas, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, at (626) 458-3547, Monday - Thursday, 7 am to 5:30 pm or Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at MikeMohajer@yahoo.com or (909) 592-1147.