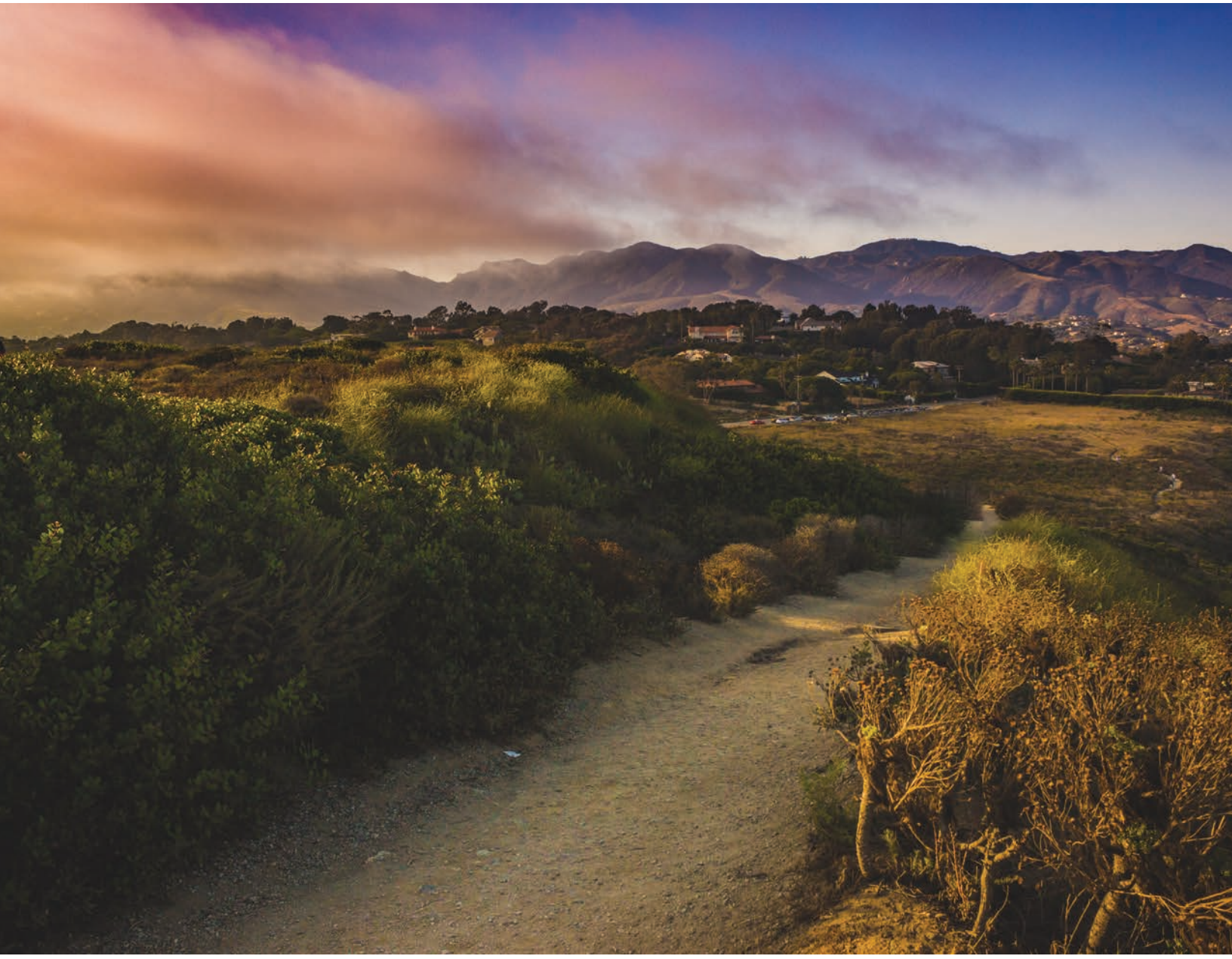
INSIDE SOLID WASTE

Summer 2023 • Volume 108 • lacountyiswmtf.org

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



TOP STORIES

Household Hazardous Waste Permanent Collection Centers

SWMC

Inside Solid Waste

Task Force Public Education and Information Subcommittee

CHAIR
Mike Mohajer

For information, call
Vanessa A. Olivas at (626) 458-2528
Monday - Thursday, 7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Visit lacountyiswmtf.org to find agendas, meeting minutes and copies of the Inside Solid Waste newsletter. If you are interested in participating on the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Public Education and Information Subcommittee or if you would like to submit an article for Inside Solid Waste, please contact Vanessa A. Olivas at (626) 458-2528 or volivas@pw.lacounty.gov. Quarterly meetings are held at Los Angeles County Public Works Headquarters to discuss and review upcoming newsletters.

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 (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 Friday and Saturday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Los Angeles/Glendale Collection Center
4600 Colorado Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90039

Los Angeles County 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 of 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 and 4th Saturday of each month 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

About Household Hazardous Waste
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 medicines except for 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.**

A Big "Thank You" from the Task Force

Betsey Landis, Margaret Clark, and Mike Mohajer

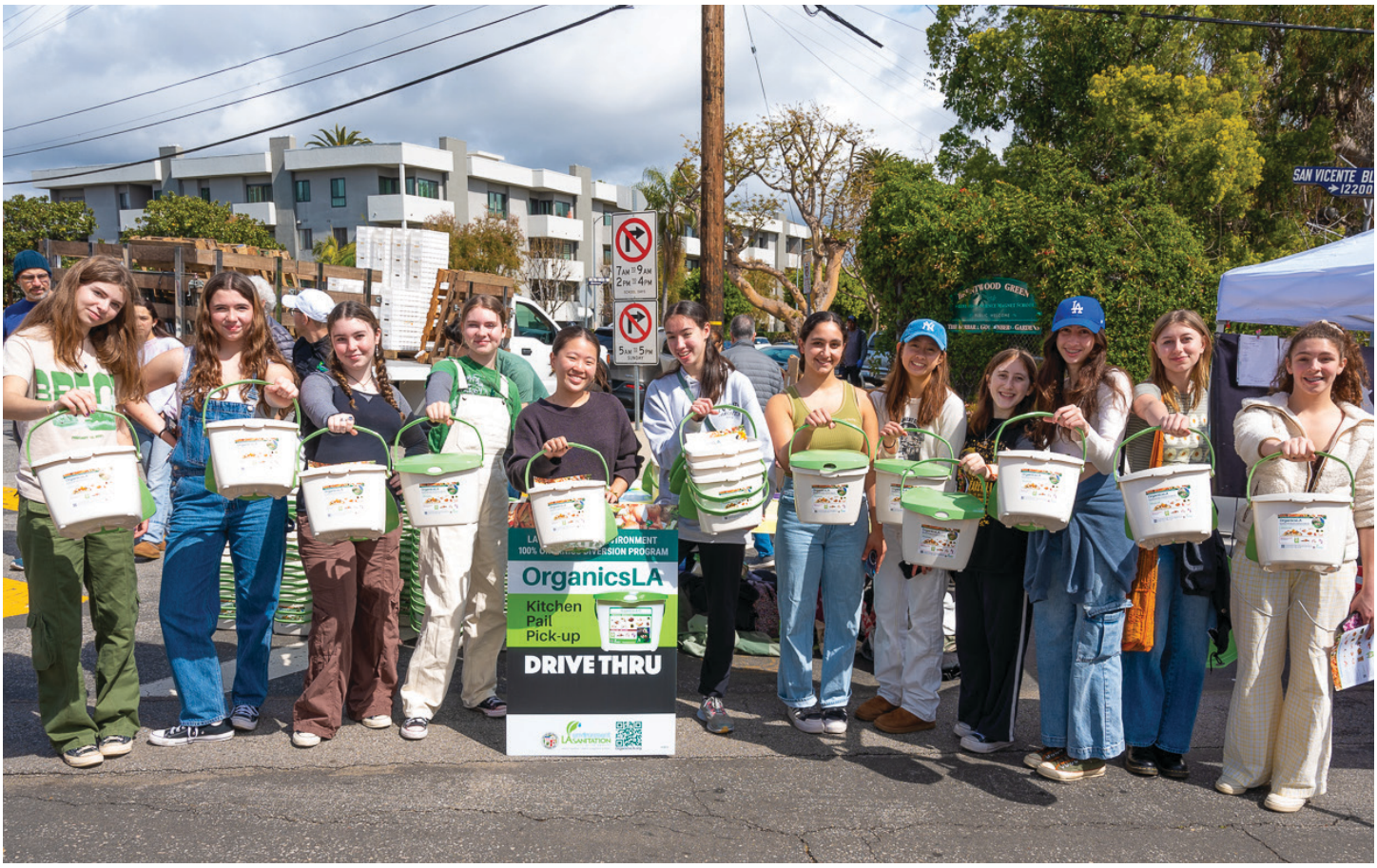
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force expresses a heartfelt "thank you" to Ms. Elisabeth B. Landis (Betsey), who stepped down from the Task Force on March 15, 2023, after serving nearly three decades as an Environmental Representative.

Betsey was appointed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board) to serve as a member of the Task Force in 1995. Due to her extensive concern with solid waste in landfills, Betsey was subsequently asked by the Assistant Deputy Director representing Los Angeles County Public Works on the Task Force, to serve as Chair of the Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee (FPRS). The FPRS is one of three Subcommittees under the purview of the Task Force that plays a pertinent role in advising the Task Force on the coordination and development of cities' and County's Source Reduction and Recycling Elements, Household Hazardous Waste Elements, Non-Disposal Facility Elements, Los Angeles County Countywide Summary Plan, and most recently in finalizing the Revised Los Angeles County Countywide Siting Element (CSE) for the 88 cities in the Los Angeles County and the County unincorporated communities. Betsey worked diligently on finalization of the Revised CSE which was approved by the (Board) on May 23, 2023 and was sent to California's Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery for review and approval as required by the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Assembly Bill 939). Betsey was one of the driving forces on the FPRS.

Betsey graduated from Beloit College in Wisconsin with a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics. She then attended Stanford University in California where she earned a Master of Science degree in Electrical Engineering. During that era, Stanford's Engineering School was male dominated, and she was one of three females in the entire engineering program and found success in earning her degree. To add to Betsey's accomplishments, she was also made a Fellow with the California Native Plant Society approximately five years ago, which is the highest level of honor given. Kudos to Betsey! With such tenacity, she was a perfect fit for the Task Force and its challenges faced regarding new state laws and regulations regarding solid waste. She was a definite contributor to the Task Force and will be missed.

Thank you, Betsey, for your dedication and many years of service!

City of Los Angeles' Residential Organics Composting Program



The City of Los Angeles has taken a giant leap forward with its Residential Organics Composting Program, which began as a pilot program back in May 2019. This innovative program is aimed to implement a citywide initiative to divert organic waste from landfills, reduce methane emissions, and turn organic waste into valuable compost. It started with 18,000 households that allowed residents to place their food scraps, food-soiled paper, and yard waste in their green bin for composting. In the summer of 2022, the program extended to 40,000 households, providing free kitchen pails to residents as part of the outreach and education campaign. Beginning January 16, 2023, the program expanded citywide following the award and execution of the necessary organic waste contracts to implement the program in all 750,000 households. The program's future is further complemented by the contracting of the necessary infrastructure with sufficient capacity for transferring and processing residential organics.

To encourage participation, Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment (LASAN) has utilized several means to raise awareness and educate the public about this new initiative. This includes press releases, media interviews, social media posts, postcard mailers, community meetings, LASAN website updates, and free kitchen pails with brochures. Six LASAN yards were set up as pail distribution sites during the launch in January. Recently, LASAN has expanded its effort to make pail distribution even more accessible. Through partnership with the Los Angeles Public Library in March 2023, 15 libraries have been added as pail distribution centers, offering even more options and convenience to residents leading to increased participation in the program. Through concerted efforts and community engagement, LASAN has distributed 58,250 pails, making it easier for residents to collect their food scraps for composting.

For more information about the program, please contact Ms. Bernadette D. Halverson at bernadette.halverson@lacity.org.

Generation Earth Program 2023 Environmental Youth Summit

Los Angeles County Public Works continues to educate students from 6th to 12th grade on the Four R's (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Rethink), household hazardous waste and electronic waste, stormwater pollution prevention, organic waste management, and water conservation through the Generation Earth Program. This program offers teacher workshops and assists teachers and students in implementing environmental service-learning projects.

Generation Earth hosted its latest inaugural Environmental Youth Summit on March 31, 2023, at the Natural History Museum in downtown Los Angeles. The event was a resounding success, over 200 students from nine middle and high schools throughout Los Angeles County came together to discuss and learn about pressing environmental issues facing our planet.

The event featured a wide range of inspiring and informative green career panelists, interactive workshops, and environmental resource booths. Students were also able to let their creativity bloom by painting their own terracotta pots.

The career panel included speakers from the National Park Service, Los Angeles County Public Works, environmental influencers, and non-profits organizations such as the Sierra Club and LA Compost. This was a great opportunity for students to hear about the various environmental career paths available. The students participated in activities on topics that included backyard biodiversity, community organizing, school greening, environmental health, and the benefits of trees and native plants.

Students were able to explore resource booths to learn about environmental programs, such as proper disposal methods for household hazardous waste and electronic waste, organic waste management, battery recycling, and smart gardening. The Water for Los Angeles program educated students by using a watershed model to demonstrate the journey water takes from the mountains through our waterways and infrastructure. Simply picking up litter, avoiding harmful

pesticides, and keeping vehicle fluids off the streets can have a big impact on our ocean water and wildlife quality.

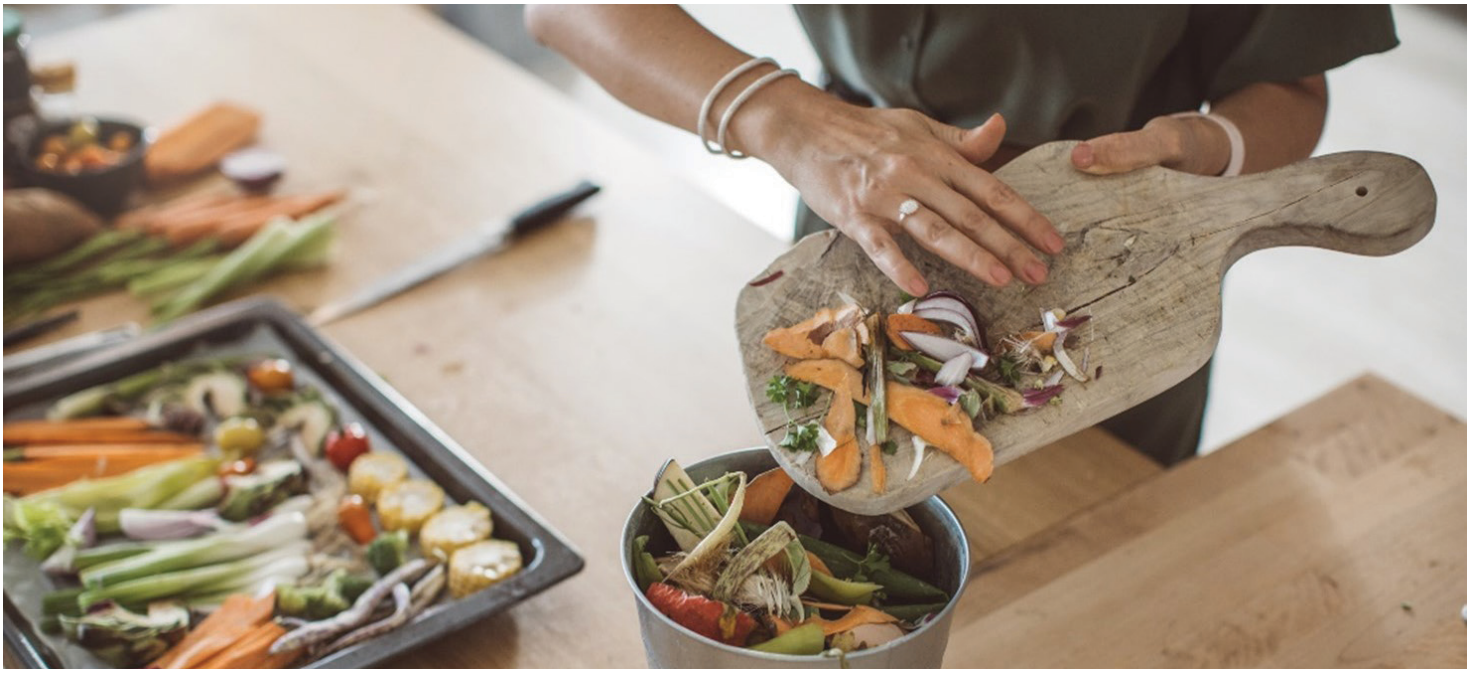
The Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) Outreach Program showcased a permeable brick demonstration, which taught students about drainage and how to collect stormwater. Information was also provided to students about the STEAM Outreach Program and instructions were shared with educators and parents about how the team can visit schools to educate students on the variety of careers in STEAM.

One of the most inspiring aspects of the Summit was the students' enthusiasm and dedication to the environment. Students were already involved in environmental activism in their school and communities and were eager to share their experiences and learn from other students on how they can continue to make a difference. One of the main takeaways from the Summit was the importance of collective action in addressing environmental issues.

The Summit was a powerful and inspiring event that showcased the passion and dedication of our youth. From informative workshops to an engaging career panelist, students took away a wealth of knowledge and a renewed sense of purpose. It is heartening to see that the next generation is already taking action and working towards a more sustainable future.

For more information on the Generation Earth program, please visit generationearth.com or call (626) 979-5492.

Governor Newsom's Budget Proposal to Protect $345 million for SB 1383 Implementation Grants and the Organic Waste Infrastructure Program



In January 2023, Governor Gavin Newsom in his 2023-2024 state budget proposed $345 million to support the implementation of Senate Bill (SB) 1383 (Lara, 2016) which requires California to reduce the amount of organic waste sent to landfills by 75 percent and to recover at least 20 percent of edible food for consumption by 2025. The funding will be used to provide grants to local jurisdictions and other organizations to increase composting and anaerobic digestion and help them reduce organic waste disposal. In addition to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, these programs will also create new jobs and stimulate economic growth. By investing in the development of new infrastructure and technology, California can become a leader in the growing green economy and create new opportunities for its residents.

The grant funding proposed by Governor Newsom will be used to support a variety of programs and initiatives, including:

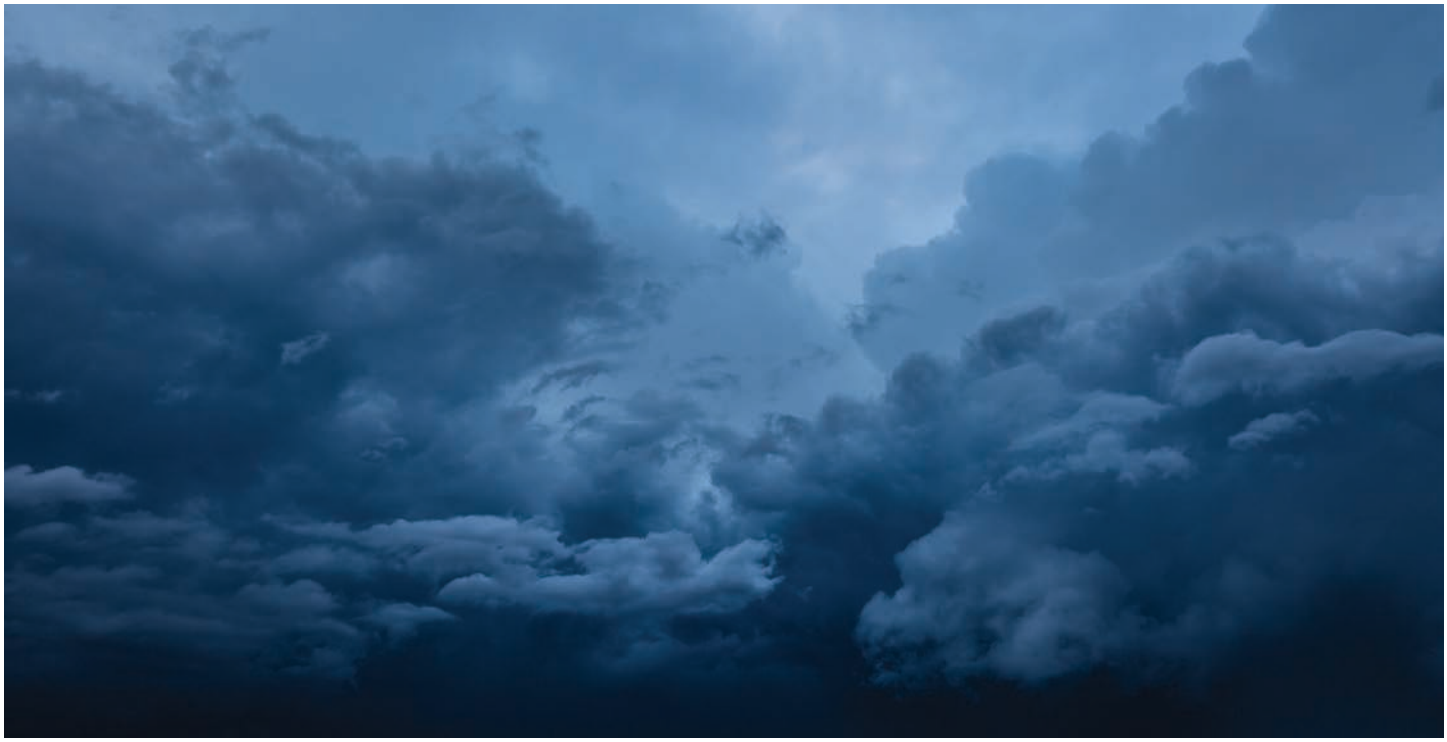
- To help develop and implement organic waste reduction programs for local jurisdictions.
- To help schools implement composting programs.
- To help businesses to reduce organic waste disposal.
- To help research organizations develop new technologies for reducing organic waste.
- Waste diversion such as composting facilities and anaerobic digesters.

The proposal has been praised by environmental groups, who say it is a critical step towards meeting California's climate goals. Along with a broad group of waste management and recycling partners, the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force signed a coalition letter calling on the Legislature and Governor Newsom to honor the $345 million allocated for organic waste recycling grants funding for SB 1383 Implementation Grants and the Organic Waste Infrastructure Program.

The California Legislature will need to approve the funding proposal before it can be implemented. If approved, the funding will help California make significant progress towards reducing organic waste disposal which is an important part of the state's efforts to meet its climate goals and improve air quality, water quality, and soil health.

If you have any questions regarding the subject matter, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at MikeMohajer@gmail.com or at (909) 592-1147.

Update on Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Impacts to the Landfill due to Rainstorms Events and Recent Spike in Odor Complaints



The Sunshine Canyon Landfill is a Class III landfill located in both the City of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles County unincorporated area of Sylmar. The landfill is owned and operated by Republic Services Inc.

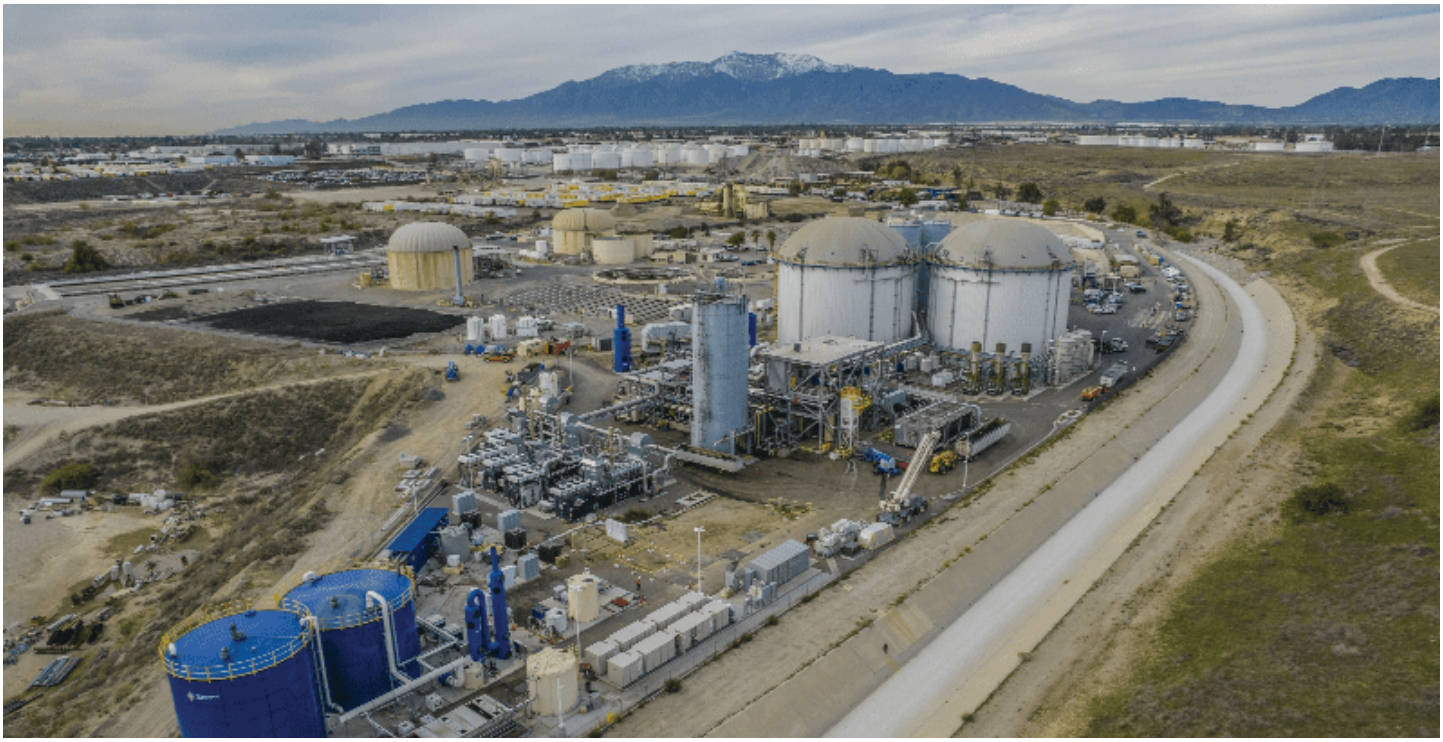
As a result of the major storm events that took place during the first quarter of 2023, the landfill experienced several problems with the drainage system due to the high-volume flow of stormwater and the construction activity at the landfill. Many of the landfill's drainage ditches along the haul road became overwhelmed with sediment and rock. This redirected runoff onto the haul road caused trash, water, and mud to be discharged out the front gate of the landfill. Also, one of the three vertical riser drain structures in the terminal sediment basin of the landfill collapsed causing trash to pass through the down pipe and flow offsite onto Bull Creek.

These significant impacts to the landfill due to the storm events led to five Notices of Violation (NOV) being issued and one Area of Concern being noted by the Sunshine Canyon Landfill-Local Enforcement Agency for drainage and erosion control, litter control, grading, and surface ponding during the period of January 2023 through April 2023.

As a result of the significant negative impacts, on May 17, 2023, the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board issued an NOV for the Waste Discharge Requirements and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Stormwater Permit. This NOV requires the landfill to demonstrate within 90 days that its drainage system is in compliance with the Waste Discharge Requirements and the Industrial General Permit. To ensure the landfill addresses the impacts sustained from the heavy rainstorm events, Los Angeles County Public Works has required the landfill to implement corrective measures. On April 20, 2023, Public Works requested a detailed report providing the status and milestones to address the drainage and erosion issues, an updated litter control and recovery program, and a copy of the wet weather preparedness report and winter operations plan from the landfill.

If you have any questions regarding the subject matter, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at MikeMohajer@gmail.com or (909) 592-1147.

Anaergia's Rialto Bioenergy Facility Files for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy



On May 18, 2023, Anaergia's Rialto Bioenergy Facility located in Rialto, California initiated voluntary Chapter 11 restructuring proceedings in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of California. The facility which utilizes anaerobic digestion technology has been unable to produce sufficient revenue to cover its costs and debt service. Chapter 11 bankruptcy would provide the anaerobic digestion (AD) facility extra time to pay its debts and bring in additional organic waste feedstock.

The Rialto Bioenergy Facility opened in 2020 and has a capacity of 700 tons of food waste and 300 tons of biosolids per day. It can create biogas which can be used to produce renewable natural gas, renewable electricity, and Class A organic fertilizer. The facility will continue operating during the restructuring process.

The Waste Management firm is using Anaergia's organics extrusion press (OREX) to pre-process food waste and other organic waste at its materials recovery facility in Sun Valley, California. The OREX removes contaminants and separates the organic fraction of the waste stream. The organic fraction is clean and highly digestible wet material ideal for conversion to biogas.

To manage costs, Anaergia has indicated it will find equity partners for new future projects. Under this new strategy, Anaergia will shift from owning and deriving revenue from assets directly and will instead derive revenue through development fees, capital sales, and operating and management contracts.

The company is also in the middle of management changes. The Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Paula Myson, resigned on April 18, 2023. Executives also revealed they were searching for a new chief auditor. Anaergia's former CFO and current chief development officer, Hani Kaissi, is serving in the role on an interim basis.

For more information, please view the articles published in:

WasteDive article published on May 25, 2023
WasteDive article published on May 17, 2023

If you have any questions regarding the subject matter, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at MikeMohajer@gmail.com or at (909) 592-1147.

Little Hoover Commission Provides Recommendations on Senate Bill 1383 Organic Waste Disposal Regulations

California's Little Hoover Commission, an independent state oversight agency, released a report on the Senate Bill (SB) 1383 organic waste disposal reduction regulations on June 8, 2023. The report is titled, "Reducing California's Landfill Methane Emissions: SB 1383 Implementation." SB 1383 was enacted in 2016 and includes Statewide goals to reduce organic waste disposal by 50 percent from the 2014 level by the year 2020 and 75 percent from the 2014 level by the year 2025, as well as to recover 20 percent of edible food for human consumption that would otherwise be disposed by the year 2025. The SB 1383's implementing regulations were approved in November 2020 and took effect on January 1, 2022. Implementation of the SB 1383 requirements has been impacted due to the multiyear rulemaking period and pandemic-related delays. Local jurisdictions are concerned about the cost and practicality of implementing the complex regulatory requirements or being subjected to hefty fines. Local jurisdictions must adopt enforcement ordinances, establish food recovery programs, develop organic waste collection systems, build infrastructure to divert organic waste and procure recovered organic waste products.

The Little Hoover Commission was created in 1962 to investigate state government operations and policy, and through reports and legislative proposals, make recommendations to the Governor and Legislature to promote economy, efficiency, and improved service in state operations.

The report provides an update on the implementation of SB 1383 implementation and provides recommendations on how to potentially address barriers. The report includes 12 recommendations:

- The Legislature should enact a temporary pause to SB 1383 implementation.
- The State should fund an educational campaign on the importance of SB 1383.
- California Environmental Protection Agency, California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), and the California Air Resources Board should coordinate to prevent conflicting directives on waste processing and produce consistent and clear guidelines on how to meet statutory and regulatory requirements. Additionally, they should work together and with other state agencies to streamline permitting requirements to construct necessary infrastructure.
- The Legislature and Governor should require a

multidisciplinary team to develop recommendations on how to expand market opportunities for recycled organic waste, and then work to implement those recommendations.
- The State should allow flexibility in procurement by allowing additional products as well as products created from California-derived materials that are processed at out-of-State facilities.
- The State should support near-zero emission vehicles until commercially viable zero-emission vehicles are available in the waste sector.
- The State should exempt counties that produce less than 200,000 tons per year of waste from SB 1383 requirements.
- The State should encourage and provide incentives to use community composting in addition to or in lieu of curbside collection.
- CalRecycle should learn from industry and from other countries and should field test the regulations.
- The State should remove edible food recovery from the SB 1383 requirements.
- The State should monitor and mitigate super-emitter facilities.
- The State should conduct a holistic cost-benefit analysis, should provide resources to State agencies to implement changes, and should not rely on competitive grants to meet basic requirements.

On May 23, 2023, the Little Hoover Commission hosted a business meeting to hear public comments on a draft version of the report. At the meeting, the Director of CalRecycle, Ms. Rachel Machi Wagoner, and multiple waste industry representatives spoke out against the recommendation to temporarily pause the SB 1383 requirements. They stated that the pause would send a dire market signal to the industry and be detrimental to previous and future investments in organic waste management programs and infrastructure. Director Wagoner added that an estimated $500 million had been spent on these efforts thus far.

The following data was shared by CalRecycle after the report was written about the 614 local jurisdictions that are required to comply with SB 1383:

- 445 local jurisdictions have some type of residential food waste collection program.
- Most local jurisdictions have new or expanding food recovery programs and expanding commercial food waste collection and recycling programs.
- 138 local jurisdictions have approved rural exemptions or waivers for low population and high elevation, related to requirements such as collection services.
- 126 local jurisdictions have applied for more time to comply as allowed under a 2021 state law, Assembly Bill 619.

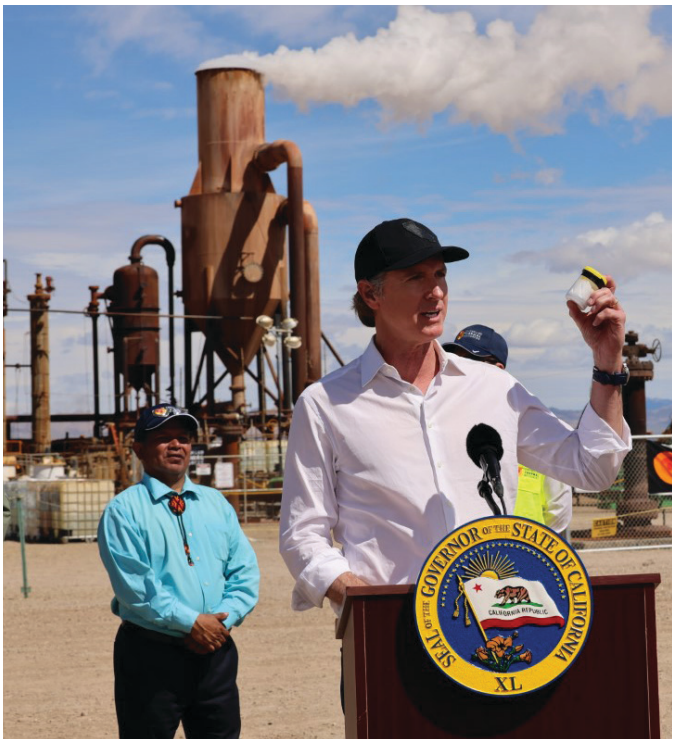
Representatives from rural areas, such as Madera County, stated that they support the pause because they need some form of relief.

The commissioners expressed support for the goals of SB 1383 and acknowledged the importance of reducing methane emissions. They stated that they were aware of investments made in reducing organic waste disposal but felt that achieving the goals by the established timeframe would be challenging. In his letter dated June 8, 2023, to Governor Gavin Newsom, Toni Atkins, President Pro Temp of the Senate and Anthony Rendon, the speaker of the Assembly, Mr. Pedro Nava, the Little Hoover Commission Chair, stated that "the Commission concluded that significant changes are needed if the state is to meet its target of reducing the amount of organic material going into landfills. We believe the state should reaffirm its goal, while reconsidering its method. Changes in law are needed. Additional funding is required. Local jurisdictions must be given a realistic amount of time to develop infrastructure. The unique requirements of rural California must be considered. Perhaps most important of all, everyday Californians must be educated about the critical need for change. No program of this magnitude succeeds without the public's buy-in and belief."

To read the full report, click here.

If you have any questions regarding the subject matter, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at MikeMohajer@gmail.com or at (909) 592-1147.

Governor Newsom Visits Lithium Valley to Highlight Momentum on Becoming Global Source for Battery Production



The Lithium Valley, located in Imperial County, California, is expected to become one of the world's largest sources of lithium, a core component of lithium-ion batteries used in electric vehicles (EVs). This area is believed to have the highest concentration of lithium contained in geothermal brine in the world. According to the sourced article, experts believe Lithium Valley could provide enough lithium to transition the United States and one-third of the world to zero-emission vehicles.

Assembly Bill (AB) 1657 (2020) took effect on January 1, 2021, and required the California Energy Commission to convene and establish a Blue-Ribbon Commission on Lithium Extraction in California, commonly called the Lithium Valley Commission. AB 1657 authorized the commission to review, investigate, and analyze various topics for the known geothermal resource area located at the southern end of the Salton Sea, including actions to support further development of geothermal power and lithium recovery as well as the technical, economic, and environmental benefits, challenges, and impacts. The Blue-Ribbon Commission submitted its findings and recommendations to the State Legislature in December 2022.

Last October, the Governor signed AB 208 (2022), which allocates $5 million to Imperial County for environmental review and community engagement related to geothermal energy development and lithium extraction. AB 208 also created the Lithium Extraction Tax Law, which applies to producers based on how much lithium they extract. The revenues are used for Salton Sea restoration projects, community engagement and benefits projects or are disbursed to counties impacted by lithium extraction.

On March 20, 2023, Governor Gavin Newsom visited the Lithium Valley and observed a safe lithium mining and battery production demonstration. The Governor met with local elected officials, community groups, and other stakeholders to discuss community priorities during the significant economic transformation in the region.

During the visit, Governor Newsom stated, "We're building a hub for global innovation while ensuring this transformation benefits communities right here in Imperial Valley. California is poised to become the world's largest source of batteries, and it couldn't come at a more crucial moment in our efforts to move away from fossil fuels. The future happens here first – and Lithium Valley is fast-tracking the world's clean energy future."

For more information and to read the perspectives of other stakeholders, please visit https://www.gov.ca.gov/2023/03/20/governor-newsom-visits-lithium-valley-to-highlight-momentum-on-becoming-global-source-for-battery-production/.

If you have any questions regarding the subject matter, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at MikeMohajer@gmail.com or (909) 592-1147.

Construction and Demolition Debris Recycling and Reuse Ordinance Update

Los Angeles County Public Works recognizes the importance of protecting our environment and conserving natural resources, especially when it comes to landfills. To achieve this, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors passed the Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris Recycling and Reuse Ordinance Update on January 31, 2023, which updates the original Ordinance from 2005.

This update aims to maximize diversion of C&D debris from landfills by setting recycling requirements for all construction and demolition projects within the County unincorporated area, including residential and commercial projects.

Before a permit can be granted, Public Works' Building and Safety provides a list of the clearances required on the Agency Referral document. One of these listed clearances is Construction and Demolition, hence compliance with the C&D recycling requirements is necessary for a project to receive a permit.

C&D debris refers to any material that is generated by a project from activity that includes construction, demolition, renovations, remodel, tenant improvement, and excavation. These materials include lumber, drywall, metals, masonry, concrete, carpet, plastics, pipe, rock, and dirt related to construction activity. They can be recycled at C&D facilities equipped with mechanical sorters. The C&D guidelines also provide more detailed language on the types of materials that qualify for recycling and the methods of recycling.

Notable changes in the update include:

- Increasing the recycling and reuse rate for C&D debris from 50 percent to 70 percent.
- Increasing the recycling and reuse rate for soil debris from 50 percent to 100 percent.
- Allowing soil to be disposed in an inert debris engineered fill operation (IDEFO).
- Requiring third party certification of facility-average-recycling rates for all approved facilities.
- Introducing a system where applicants will be required to pay an upfront deposit in the amount determined through a tiered system based on project size as outlined in the C&D Guidelines. Upon completion of the project and final C&D review process, the deposit will be refunded minus any penalties for noncompliance.

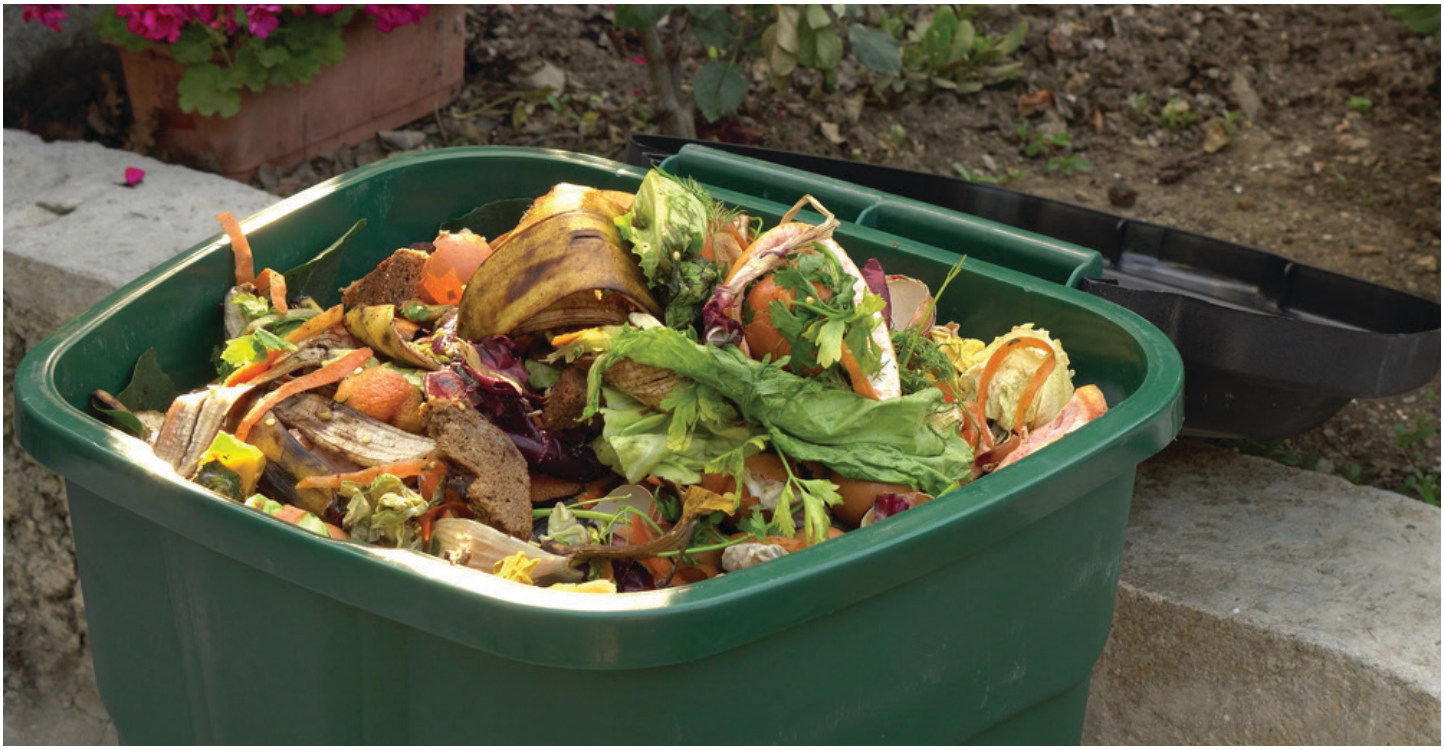
The updated C&D Ordinance also provides a significant step forward in the County's efforts to achieve a sustainable waste management future. It will not only help reduce the amount of C&D debris waste in our landfills but also conserve natural resources, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduce illegal dumping, and create jobs by supporting our local recycling industry.

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors understands that implementing these requirements may present some challenges for contractors and homeowners. That is why Los Angeles County is committed to providing support and guidance throughout the process. Public Works has updated our website (lacountycnd.com) to provide more information on the updated ordinance, including the specific requirements and guidelines.

As a community, everyone must do their part to protect our environment and preserve our resources for future generations. By complying with the updated C&D Recycling and Reuse Ordinance, meaningful steps can be taken towards achieving this goal.

For questions and further clarification, please contact the C&D Unit at Los Angeles County Public Works at CND@pw.lacounty.gov or (626) 458-3517, Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

H Cycle Technology Evaluation by CalRecycle



Developers of organic waste processing technologies must comply with Article 2: "Determination of Technologies that Constitute a Reduction in Landfill Disposal requirements" of the Senate Bill (SB) 1383 (Lara, 2016) implementing regulations for their technology to be determined as recovering organic waste that would otherwise be subject to landfill disposal (14 CCR § 18983.1(b)). For a technology to constitute a reduction in landfill disposal of organic waste, the permanent lifecycle greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions must be equal to or greater than the emission reductions from composting organic waste (0.30 MTCO2e/ short ton organic waste). In consultation with California Air Resources Board (CARB), the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) evaluates developers' applications to estimate the GHG emissions and permanent lifecycle GHG emissions reduction of the proposed recovery process or technology. Upon review of the application, CalRecycle will notify the applicant within 180 days whether the proposed technology or process results in a permanent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions equal to or greater than 0.30 MTCO2e per short ton of organic waste, and therefore constitutes a reduction in landfill disposal under the SB 1383 regulations. If CalRecycle determines that a proposed process or technology results in a reduction in landfill disposal, CalRecycle will post the results of the determination, including a description of the technology or process, on its website.

On May 1, 2022, H Cycle, a California based technology developer, applied to CalRecycle to have their technology considered for approval as reducing landfill disposal of organic waste. H Cycle uses a non-incineration gasification technology capable of processing various organic feedstocks to produce renewable hydrogen, biofuels, and syngas.

CalRecycle staff prepared a report which indicated that H Cycle's application met the requirements of Article 2. CalRecycle, in collaboration with CARB, analyzed the emissions of the developer's technology based on feedstock scenarios, key assumptions, and emissions reduction factors. CalRecycle's and CARB's analysis of the information supplied by H Cycle found that the GHG emissions reductions from their technology would be equal to or greater than the GHG emissions reduction from composting organic waste.

On January 13, 2023, a coalition of statewide environmental justice organizations (coalition) sent a

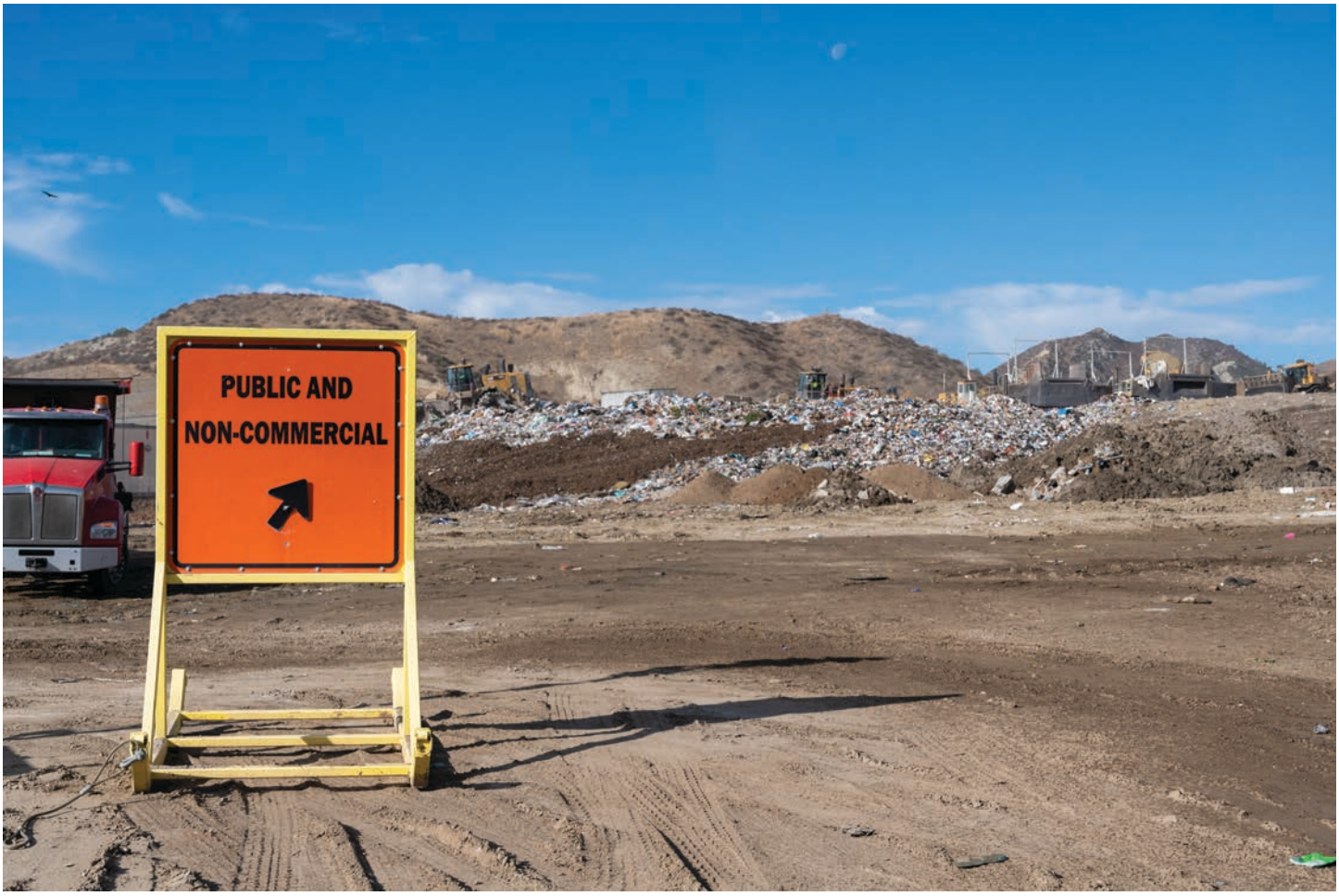
letter to CalRecycle. In the letter they expressed their opposition to CalRecycle's staff report. In the letter, the coalition expressed the need for CalRecycle to consider a full environmental impact review for the H Cycle application, as well as the need for input from communities that are disproportionally affected by such projects. The coalition conflated H Cycle's non-incineration gasification technology with incineration projects.

Due to the concerns raised by the coalition, on January 30, 2023, the Director of CalRecycle determined that the developer's technology did not meet the requirements of Article 2 and would be constituted as disposal and not a reduction of organic waste from landfills. In their final report, CalRecycle stated that, while the staff analysis determined that H Cycle's technology meets Article 2 requirements, the decision not to designate their technology as a reduction in landfill disposal of organic waste is based on the possibility that the H Cycle could, in practice, stray from the feedstock scenarios provided for evaluation and fail to reduce GHG emissions by at least 0.30 MTCO2e per short ton of organic waste.

To reduce GHG emissions and short-lived climate pollutants as well as to combat climate change, the State needs to facilitate the development of infrastructure that diverts organic waste away from landfills and produces renewable energy. This determination by CalRecycle is another setback for advanced technologies that could help California reach these goals. The development of numerous organic waste processing facilities is needed given the significant Statewide shortfall in organic waste management infrastructure. This infrastructure gap limits the ability of jurisdictions to comply with organic waste diversion requirements mandated by the SB 1383 regulations. Proposals like the one from H Cycle could help jurisdictions across the State meet the requirements of SB 1383 and make significant contributions to California's climate goals. By working collaboratively to develop attainable requirements, comprehensive regulations, and innovative solutions for organic waste management, the State, local jurisdictions, and facility developers can create a more sustainable future for us and for generations to come.

If you have any questions regarding the subject matter, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at MikeMohajer@gmail.com or (909) 592-1147.

Free Disposal Day Events at Landfills



Several landfills in Los Angeles County will host Free Disposal Day events in 2023. The events provide specific Los Angeles County communities within Supervisorial Districts (SD) 3 and 5 with opportunities to dispose of up to one ton of trash free of charge, which helps combat illegal dumping.

Approximately 1,500 residents took advantage of Free Disposal Day events in 2022, bringing in over 1,234 tons of trash for disposal. As of April 2023, approximately 480 residents took advantage of the Free Disposal Day events and brought in over 442 tons of trash for disposal. Listed below is information on upcoming events at various landfills:

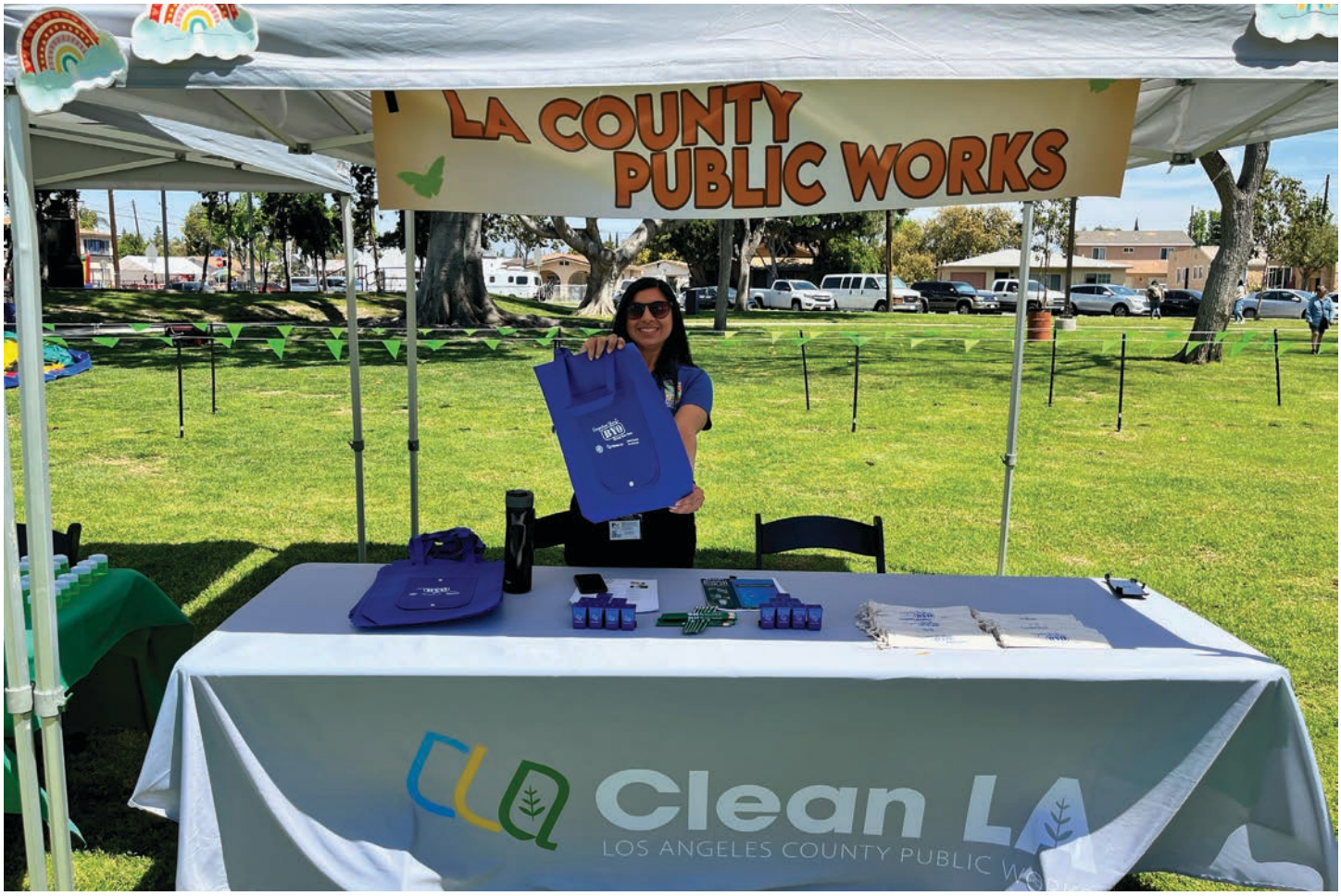
Lancaster Landfill – Semi-Annual (April and October) on the second Saturday from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. Events are only open to unincorporated area residents of the Antelope Valley (SD 5).

Chiquita Canyon Landfill – Quarterly (March, June, September, December) on the first Saturday from 6 a.m. – 2 p.m. during the summer season and 7 a.m. – 2 p.m. during the winter season. Events are only open to residents of Val Verde and Castaic communities (SD 5). In addition to dropping off bins at the landfill site, residents can use the community disposal bins provided during the events.

Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Semi-Annual (April and October) on the third Saturday from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Events are only open to residents of the unincorporated communities of Sunland, Kagel Canyon, Lopez Canyon, West Chatsworth, West Hills, Oat Mountain/Twin Lakes, and Lake Manor (SD 3 and 5).

For questions about these events, please contact Ms. Anna Gov at AGov@dpw.lacounty.gov or (626) 458–3553, Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Earth Day Outreach Events



Los Angeles County Public Works is dedicated to educating County residents about the importance of sustainable practices and how they can make practical changes to become more environmentally conscious. Small changes such as using reusable water bottles, can have a significant impact on the planet. Earth Day provides an opportunity to engage with communities and share information while participating in local events.

This year, LA County Public Works attended twelve community Earth Day events throughout the County, where they connected with approximately 1,400 residents. They shared information about FREE programs, such as the Household Hazardous and Electronic Waste Collection, Battery Recycling, Sharps disposal, tire and mattress collection, and Smart Gardening workshops. They also provided valuable tips to promote a more sustainable lifestyle, including using DIY cleaning products, switching to reusable straws, and starting a home garden.

In addition to attending community Earth Day events, LA County Public Works hosted free webinars for all County residents covering essential topics, such as the Four R's (Rethink, Reuse, Reduce, Recycle), proper disposal of food waste, and Smart Gardening. Staff provided residents a means to access resources without leaving their home if they were unable to attend the community events in person.

To connect with residents, the CleanLA X page https://x.com/CleanLA served as a platform to promote sustainable practices and inform residents about the events that Public Works will be attending. The CleanLA X page shares a range of sustainable tips that residents could incorporate into their daily routines.

For resources and tips, please visit CleanLA.com or call (888) CleanLA.

End of Life Management for Solar Panels

Solar panels have a lifespan of approximately 25 to 30 years and safely provide renewable power while in operation without emitting air pollutants. Robust collection and management systems must be developed so that solar panels can be appropriately recycled or disposed when they reach the end of their useful life. They contain valuable metals like silver and copper that may be recovered to create new solar panels, but they also may contain hazardous components such as lead which may harm the environment and public health.

With new solar energy projects being developed, a greater number of solar panels will need to be managed. According to the International Renewable Energy Agency, there was an estimated 275,000 tons of solar panel waste in the world in 2016. The United States Environmental Protection Agency estimates that by 2030 the United States will have one million tons of solar panel waste in total to manage. Managing solar panels is complicated because some contain hazardous materials, and some do not, even if they have the same manufacturer. Currently, the cost of recycling a solar panel may exceed the economic value of the recovered materials, which is why many solar panels are disposed in landfills. When solar panels are not recycled and are improperly disposed, toxins leak from the landfill into the environment.

Companies, researchers, and legislators are developing strategies which can recover the useful materials from solar panels while reducing the costs and environmental impacts of their recycling. To recycle solar panels, the various components should be separated. The materials can be crushed and shredded and the valuable materials such as silver, copper, and crystalline silicon can be extracted. Reusing the valuable materials contained in solar panels will help boost the circular economy.

If you have any questions regarding the subject matter, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at MikeMohajer@gmail.com or (909) 592-1147.

SUMMER 2023 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

The Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) continuously monitors and analyzes legislation that may impact solid waste management in Los Angeles County. Below are summaries of legislation the Task Force has taken a position on during the first half of the 2023/2024 Legislative Session.

California State Legislation:

Bill Number / Author	Task Force Position	Status
AB 2 Ward	Support If Amended	Amended June 28, 2023

Would require California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to establish a statewide solar photovoltaic (PV) end-of-life program by imposing a covered solar PV recycling fee, based on reasonable costs to administer covered electronic waste recycling beginning October 1, 2026. The fee system will cover the cost to recycle raw materials and other valuable components to be turned into new solar panels.

AB 324 Pacheco	Support	Amended March 27, 2023

Would require the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to open a new proceeding/phase of an existing proceeding, to consider establishing procurement goals for renewable hydrogen, and consider requiring each gas corporation and core transport agent to annually procure a proportionate share of renewable hydrogen to meet these goals. Would require the PUC to make specified findings before establishing renewable hydrogen procurement targets or goals.

AB 557 Hart	Support	Amended June 19, 2023

Would revise the authority of a legislative body to hold a teleconference meeting teleconferencing procedures when a declared state of emergency is in effect. Specifically, the bill would extend indefinitely that authority in the circumstances under which the legislative body either (1) meets for the purpose of determining whether, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, or (2) has previously made that determination.

Bill Number / Author	Task Force Position	Status
AB 1550 Bennett	Oppose Unless Amended	Amended May 22, 2023

Requires, on and after January 1, 2024, all hydrogen produced and used in California for the generation of electricity or fueling of vehicles be "green hydrogen" and makes a facility that generates electricity using green hydrogen potentially an eligible renewable energy resource. The bill would require the state board, in consultation with the Public Utilities Commission and the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, to develop interim targets to ensure the state achieves that requirement. Prohibits green hydrogen used by a generating facility from qualifying as an eligible renewable energy resource for purposes of that requirement unless it satisfies all applicable requirements established by the Energy Commission and meets specified requirements.

AB 1594 Garcia	Support If Amended	Amended July 13, 2023

Would require any state regulation that seeks to require, or otherwise compel, the procurement of medium- and heavy-duty zero-emission vehicles by a public agency utility, as defined, to ensure that those vehicles can support a public agency utility's ability to maintain reliable water and electric services, respond to disasters in an emergency capacity, and provide mutual aid assistance statewide and nationwide, among other requirements. Would additionally define a public agency utility to include a local publicly owned electric utility, a community water system, and a wastewater treatment provider.

AB 1705 McKinnor	Oppose	Amended March 21, 2023

Would prohibit a person from establishing or expanding a transformation facility or an engineered municipal solid waste (EMSW) conversion facility in the state until CalRecycle has determined that the state has achieved solid waste and organic waste policy goals for three consecutive years.

SB 244 Eggman	Support	Revised July 6, 2023

Would enact the Right to Repair Act which requires the manufacturer of specified electronic or appliance product, to make available, on fair and reasonable terms, sufficient service documentation and prescribed functional parts and tools to owners of the product including authorized service and repair providers in order to affect the diagnosis, maintenance, or repair of a product.

Bill Number / Author	Task Force Position	Status
SB 560 Laird	Support In Concept	Amended March 22, 2023

Would establish a stewardship program for gas cylinder products and would authorize producers of those products to establish one more producer stewardship organization for that purpose. Requires each producer or producer stewardship organization to submit a gas cylinder stewardship plan to CalRecycle that details, among other things, convenient and accessible opportunities for the recovery of gas cylinders used by consumers.

SB 615 Allen and Min	Support If Amended	Amended April 12, 2023

Would require vehicle traction batteries in the state to be recovered and reused, repurposed, or remanufactured and eventually recycled at the end of their useful life in a motor vehicle or any other application. Would also require a vehicle manufacturer, dealer, automobile dismantler, automotive repair dealer, and nonvehicle secondary user to be responsible for ensuring the responsible end-of-life management of a vehicle traction battery once it is removed from a vehicle or other application to which the vehicle traction battery has been used. Would make a vehicle or battery manufacturer responsible for collecting a stranded battery, as defined, and repurposing the battery, if possible, but would require the manufacturer to ensure the battery is recycled if it cannot be reused.

SB 663 Archuleta	Oppose Unless Amended	Amended May 18, 2023

Would include a facility that uses renewable hydrogen, defined as hydrogen meeting all the following conditions: a) hydrogen derived or produced from water using electricity from a Renewable Portfolio Standard-eligible electric generation facility and is derived or produced from new and incremental renewable energy resources. b) hydrogen's manufacture does not result in resource shuffling. c) hydrogen's manufacture does not use unbundled renewable energy credit., meeting certain requirements, including a requirement that sellers and purchasers of renewable hydrogen comply with a system for tracking and verifying the use of renewable hydrogen, as a renewable electrical generation facility for purposes of the California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program.

Bill Number / Author	Task Force Position	Status
SB 665 Allen	Oppose Unless Amended	Amended June 21, 2023

Would require the California Environmental Protection Agency, by January 1, 2025, to establish a working group consisting of CalRecycle the State Water Resources Control Board, the Department of Toxic Substances Control, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, and the Ocean Protection Council to establish a framework for evaluating novel material types as they are developed to inform state policy decisions. The bill would further require the working group to, among other things, develop recommendations related to novel material types, including the appropriate marketing of the material, the handling of the material at the end of its useful life, and how the material needs to be treated in relation to existing state policies, rules, and regulations.

SB 707 Newman	Oppose	Amended July 3, 2023

Would enact the Responsible Textile Recovery Act of 2023, which would require producers either independently or through the creation of one or more stewardship organizations, to establish a stewardship program for the collection and recycling of a covered product. This bill would define a "covered product" to include any postconsumer apparel or postconsumer textile article that is unwanted by a consumer.

For more information on these bills or copies of Task Force letters, please visit the Task Force website, lacountyiswmtf.org or contact Perla Gomez with Los Angeles County Public Works, at (626) 300-2616, Monday - Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. or Mike Mohajer, a Member of the Task Force at MikeMohajer@gmail.com or (909) 592-1147.