



INSIDE SOLID WASTE

Winter 2025



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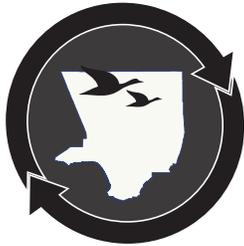
Inside Solid Waste is produced quarterly by Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force



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Household Hazardous Waste Permanent Collection Centers



SWMC

Inside Solid Waste

Task Force Public Education and Information Subcommittee

CHAIR
VACANT

For information, call
Carol Saucillo at (626) 300-4594
Monday - Thursday, 7 a.m. - 5 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 Monique Brackett at (626) 300-2697 or mbrackett@dpw.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 Thursday - Saturday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Los Angeles/Glendale Collection Center (Temporarily closed)

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.**

Los Angeles County FixIt Clinics



Los Angeles County Public Works (Public Works) sponsors FixIt Clinics to encourage the reuse of household items by helping community members repair rather than dispose of them in landfills. This program aligns with the Los Angeles County Zero Waste Plan, which seeks to establish a sustainable waste management system by shifting to a circular economy.

Residents are encouraged to pre-register online before each event to secure their spot. At these events, residents may not only have their items repaired at no cost but also learn from the volunteers who repair their broken items, empowering them to make repairs at home. Commonly repaired items include bicycles, jewelry, kitchen mixers, tea kettles, vacuums, sewing machines, and electronic devices.

Partnering community groups help attract diverse audiences and provide outreach and education on

various topics like reducing single-use plastics, which adds value to repair clinic events. Through knowledge sharing, participants build relationships with their neighbors and learn more about sustainable waste management and the circular economy.

In 2024, organizers successfully held FixIt Clinics in libraries, community centers, and restaurants in various cities throughout Los Angeles County, including Long Beach, Glendale, and Burbank. Public Works is planning more repair clinic events throughout the county in 2025. Attendees and volunteers expressed that they are looking forward to attending future events.

For more information on FixIt Clinics and participation in the program, visit fixitclinic.blogspot.com.

California's Senate Bill 54 Faces Environmental and Logistical Hurdles



California Senate Bill (SB) 54, passed in 2022, introduces an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Program to manage single-use packaging and plastic food service ware. This law shifts the responsibility of waste management from local agencies to the producers of these materials. By January 1, 2032, producers must reduce plastic material by 25 percent and ensure that 100 percent of their products are recyclable or compostable.

The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) is the State agency responsible for the law's implementation. It works to protect the environment and climate by promoting reduction, reuse, and recycling, and focuses on environmental education, disaster recovery, and moving towards a circular economy. CalRecycle estimates that up to

13,615 manufacturers will be required to participate in the EPR Program, with an annual cost of \$500 million starting in 2027.

As CalRecycle refines its draft rules for SB 54, tensions have emerged over how the costs and responsibilities will be shared between local governments, manufacturers, and retailers. Local governments are expressing concerns that they could bear an unfair share of the financial burden. They worry that if plastic packaging is not recycled properly in their jurisdictions, they could face hefty fines. Ms. Melissa Sparks-Kranz, a representative from the League of California Cities, voiced concerns that local governments might be unfairly penalized for issues beyond their control, especially if they lack the necessary infrastructure to meet the new recycling demands. Local officials argue



that the law should shift the cost of recycling from taxpayers to manufacturers, as intended.

In addition to these concerns, CalRecycle released a new environmental impact report that highlights the potential drawbacks of implementing SB 54. While the law promises environmental benefits by reducing plastic pollution and the creation of virgin plastic, it also presents significant logistical challenges. To meet recycling goals, California may need to build hundreds of new recycling centers. The State could require up to 1,181 product depots and more than 150 materials recovery facilities to manage the increased volume of recyclable materials, which could cause more air and water pollution.

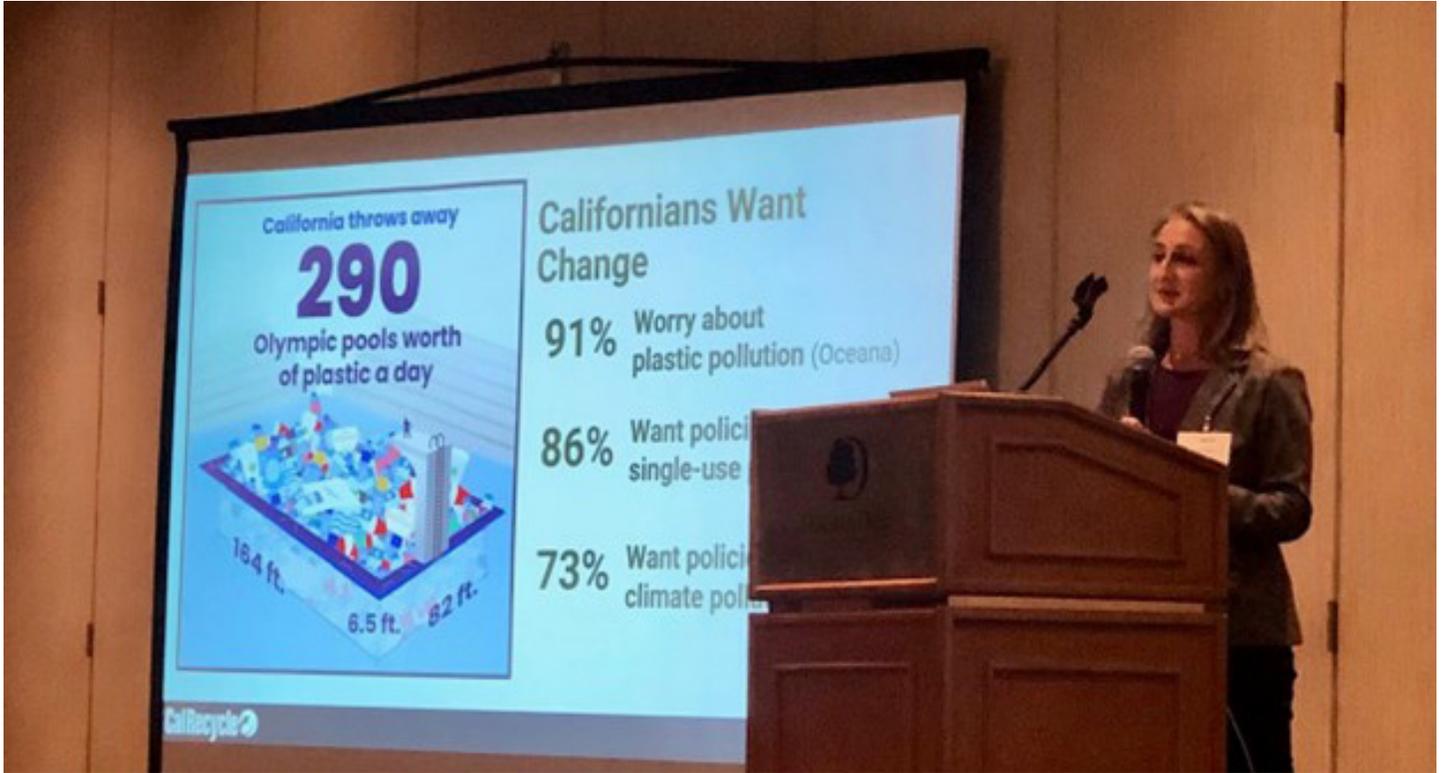
As California works to finalize the rules for SB 54, it faces pressure to create a solution that balances the

needs of businesses, local governments, and the environment. CalRecycle is currently accepting and reviewing public feedback on the Updated Proposed Regulation Text, with the final version expected around March 2025.

While SB 54 has the potential to significantly reduce plastic waste in California, its impact will depend on how well the State addresses logistical, financial, and environmental challenges. The law's success will require careful planning and cooperation among all involved parties. By working together, California can pave the way for a more sustainable future, reducing plastic waste and protecting the environment.

If you have any questions regarding SB 54, visit calrecycle.ca.gov/packaging/packaging-epr/.

Spotlight on Innovation and Policy at the Southern California Waste Management Forum



The Southern California Waste Management Forum (SCWMF) hosted a conference on November 13, 2024, in Ontario, CA. The conference brought together industry experts and local leaders to explore innovative waste management and sustainability approaches. Key discussions centered on technological advancements, legislative updates, and the ongoing implementation of State mandates, offering a forward-looking perspective on achieving California's waste reduction goals.

Mr. Sujit Sanjeev of Google highlighted the transformative potential of artificial intelligence (AI) in waste management. Google's open-source AI model for recycling, powered by global datasets, aims to streamline waste identification and improve operational efficiency in recycling facilities. Tools such as Circular Net and Recycling Near Me demonstrate AI's capability to optimize plastic waste management and resource recovery, and highlight a path for technology-driven solutions.

Mr. Timothy Burroughs of StopWaste and Mr. Rob Hilton of HF&H Consultants provided a

comprehensive overview of Senate Bill (SB) 54, which shifts the financial burden of packaging waste management from ratepayers to producers through Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR). The law mandates that by 2032, 65 percent of single-use packaging must be recyclable. Discussions highlighted innovative funding models to ensure compliance, such as pay-per-pound systems and expense-based reimbursements. This approach also integrates environmental justice and education funding to advance equity within waste management practices.

The Director of California's Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), Ms. Zoe Heller, delivered a progress report on the State's circular economy efforts, focusing on SB 1383 compliance rates and new EPR initiatives for textiles, batteries, and other materials. Ms. Heller emphasized the importance of behavior change and cross-sector collaboration to meet organics diversion and recycling targets.

A discussion on compliance complexities in CalRecycle reporting and program implementation was



led by Ms. Judi Gregory of Go2Zero. She stressed the need for detailed program documentation and robust procurement records to meet regulatory standards. Ms. Gregory also advised on strategies to address enforcement mechanisms and potential violations effectively.

Ms. Katie Beitzel of Republic Services spotlighted technological innovations in waste collection, including fleet electrification and AI-enabled contamination detection. Republic Services is piloting electric fleets and expanding polymer and PET recycling facilities, showcasing the potential for improved efficiency and environmental outcomes through technology.

Recent legislative developments impacting waste management were reviewed by Mr. Doug Kobold of California Product Stewardship. Key updates included funding mechanisms for solar panel recycling, EPR for textiles, and improved labeling standards. These legislative measures reflect California's ongoing commitment to expanding product stewardship and compliance across various sectors.

Mr. Christopher Sheppard and Ms. Kawsar Vazifdar of Los Angeles County Public Works shared insights into the County's efforts in organic waste management and procurement strategies for County facilities and operations. Their initiatives, including compost and mulch use, food donation programs, and pilot projects, support the County's Zero Waste goals and establish frameworks for future sustainability programs.

And finally, a presentation on Agromin's carbon farming initiatives and compost procurement strategies that align with SB 1383 requirements was provided by Mr. Bill Camarillo. Agromin's record keeping solutions and potential carbon credit programs offer additional support for jurisdictions aiming to meet compliance goals.

SCWMF is scheduled to host its Spring Conference on March 19, 2025, in Ontario, CA.

For more information on SCWMF events, visit <https://www.scwmf.org/events>.

The Eighth Senate Bill 1383 Chat with CalRecycle



The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) conducted its eighth “SB 1383 Chat with CalRecycle” on November 19, 2024. CalRecycle hosts these webinars to provide an opportunity to share ideas and discuss compliance with various elements related to the implementation of Senate Bill (SB) 1383. The webinars are held live, free of charge, and open to all interested stakeholders. They are also available for viewing on the CalRecycle YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSI4nyC2i-O_iq7jd0iMdlg.

The most recent SB 1383 Chat focused on Procurement of Recovered Organic Waste Products and was the final Chat of the year, with more planned in 2025. Over 250 attendees accessed this live event. The Chat began with three presenters providing a regional perspective on their current organic waste processing and recovery programs, including Mr. Robert Sedita, Reporting & Program Support

Manager with Orange County Waste and Recycling; Mr. Dave Lee, Public Works Director with Kern County; and Ms. Judith Silver from Recycle Smart, Central Contra Costa County Solid Waste Authority.

These initial presentations were followed by four purveyors of different types of Recovered Organic Waste Products, such as a Direct Service Provider Agreement or Procurement Compliance Attributes as outlined in SB 1383. The first presenter was Ms. Winnie Siau, Project Engineer with the Energy Recovery Section at the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, followed by Mr. Mitchell Martin from Valinor Energy, LLC; Mr. Josh Loven, at Vespene Energy; and Mr. Jim Phillips from Sevana Bioenergy, Owner and Operator of the Rialto Bioenergy Facility. Perhaps the best aspect of these webinars is the interaction between the audience and the presenters in an open forum that promotes questions and answers from the panel of experts and CalRecycle staff.



Based on the audience's feedback, it appears that many cities and counties are still developing their programs. They are actively working in their communities and with CalRecycle to coordinate the implementation of the record-keeping requirements of SB 1383, including the mandatory procurement of recovered organic waste products (ROWP). A key takeaway from the presentations was that a significant quantity of ROWP is still available from public and private sectors for 2024 and 2025. In addition, the capacity for the anaerobic digestion of organic waste in Southern California is already adequate to meet current and projected demand. At the same time, competition for available processed slurry is likely to increase, even as more diversion programs come online.

Based on the presentation by Orange County, they have developed a very successful regional program at three different processing sites. They currently offer free compost to jurisdictions, contractors, residents,

and landscapers in a variety of forms, including bulk, bagged, and increasingly popular wattles (for stormwater diversion). Orange County also operates an online request tool that allows it to track its product utilization program for record-keeping purposes and perform outreach to a wide range of active partners.

CalRecycle provides guidance on the implementation of programs, as well as assistance and tools for jurisdictions to monitor compliance with their individual SB 1383 requirements. Their YouTube channel also provides a comprehensive catalogue of videos from prior webinars including the one specifically referenced in this article that can be viewed at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F0LcnR_NcUM/.

Malibu's Commitment to Sustainable Solid Waste Management



Through its successful Solid Waste Program, the City of Malibu (City) is dedicated to environmental sustainability to preserve and protect its natural resources, wildlife, and local beaches. Waste management practices include plastic bans, organic waste recycling, food recovery initiatives, and construction and demolition debris recycling.

The City's pathway toward reducing plastic waste began in 2005 with the prohibition of polystyrene foam food containers, followed by a ban on plastic shopping bags in 2008. The City expanded these ban efforts in 2017 to include a wide array of disposable plastics. The City has seen significant compliance from local businesses, with 48 establishments certified under the Clean Bay Restaurant Program in 2024 for their sustainable practices. The City's outreach initiatives, such as the Plastic-Free July campaign, also empower the community to reduce plastic usage in their daily lives.

In response to California's Senate Bill 1383 mandates, the City has developed a comprehensive organic recycling and food recovery program. Since 2022, the City has ensured that all residents and businesses comply with these requirements by providing organics collection services, virtual training, and over 150 kitchen

caddies distributed to the community. Last year, the City collectively recycled 8,156 tons of organic waste.

To address community concerns about rodenticides affecting the local ecosystem, the City established a Dumpster Locking Lid Ordinance for commercial dumpsters in 2020. The City also launched an outreach campaign, including in-person visits and mailers, to educate business owners about these requirements. In 2023, staff conducted 236 inspections to ensure compliance and assist businesses in improving their waste management practices.

The City's Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program provides residents with safe collection services and locations for hazardous materials. Since 2007, bi-monthly collection events have been offered to residents free of cost. City staff monitors and tracks the amount of dangerous materials from collection events and reports the total tonnage to the State annually. In 2024, the City recycled approximately seven tons of HHW and e-waste, demonstrating its commitment to responsible waste management.

Additionally, the City adheres to the California Green Building Standards Code, focusing on recycling efforts in construction and demolition activities. Staff monitors debris from development projects, ensuring compliance with state and local laws. Notably, the City has supported rebuilding efforts following the 2018 Woolsey Fire, helping homeowners navigate the recycling reporting process. Last year, approximately 5,944 tons were recycled, and currently, the City has a successful diversion rate of 87 percent, which is well above the State's required rate of 65 percent.

The City's Solid Waste Program demonstrates how local actions can support broader environmental goals. As the implementation of these programs continues and neighboring municipalities adopt similar practices, our collective efforts will further drive waste reduction and recycling, paving the way for a more sustainable future for all residents of Los Angeles County.

For more information about the City of Malibu's Solid Waste Program and other sustainability efforts, visit www.malibucity.org/267/Environmental-Programs.



The 15th Waste Conversion Technology Conference & Trade Show



The 15th Waste Conversion Technology Conference & Trade Show, organized by the Southern Waste Information Exchange, was held in San Diego from August 12 - 14, 2024. The conference focused on advanced waste recycling technologies and their conversion into renewable energy and other products. Over 20 speakers representing industry, government, and legal and consulting firms participated. Topics included technology, waste recycling infrastructure development, the regulatory environment, waste processing equipment, air quality permitting, and renewable energy. Attendees included representatives from local jurisdictions, regulatory agencies, utilities, academia, non-profits, facility and technology developers, operators, and vendors.

The opening session began with a presentation on the current landscape of advanced recycling projects and development opportunities. Mr. Scott Vanderau, Partner at Energy Transaction Advisors, LLC, provided an overview of pyrolysis and gasification projects across the United States. Mr. Steven Torres, Partner at West Group Law LLC, then delivered a presentation titled "Sustainable Partnerships: Navigating Waste's Complex Regulatory Future." An example of this complexity is the statutory and regulatory requirements for the potential use of waste gasification and/or pyrolysis technologies for the destruction and disposal (D&D) of per- and poly-

fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), collectively known as "forever chemicals." Waste, especially biosolids, contains these chemicals that can be destroyed at higher temperatures. Composting and anaerobic digestion processes do not typically operate at the higher temperatures required for PFAS destruction. As a result, the presence of PFAS in digestate or biosolids could limit the land application of compost and digestate. Additionally, landfilling these PFAS-laden materials could create leachate containing PFAS that could enter soil or water if not properly treated.

Mr. Torres stated that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency interim guidance for D&D of PFAS includes a new technology evaluation framework to help analyze the safety and effectiveness of gasification and/or pyrolysis technologies. Technology providers must demonstrate that their technology is effective and does not result in harmful products created by incomplete combustion or PFAS air emissions. Regulatory decisions on managing PFAS and PFAS containing waste materials are specific to each type. In addition, D&D technology providers must also consider the impacts of potential releases on communities already overburdened by pollution.

The opening session's final speaker was Mr. Timothy Kelley, President and CEO of the Imperial



Valley Economic Development Corporation. He presented on “Developing a Waste Conversation Ecosystem.” He highlighted efforts to develop the Mesquite Lake Industrial Park, a planned industrial zone that spans 5,100 acres in central Imperial County between State Route 86 and State Route 111. The Mesquite Lake Industrial Park area includes a 75-acre fully permitted material recycling facility. It is also suitable for a wide range of medium to heavy industrial uses such as manufacturing, energy development, and lithium extraction. Mr. Kelley also presented the Mesquite Waste-By-Rail Landfill as a potential waste conversion hub, as it is permitted to receive waste by rail from local jurisdictions in Southern California. The landfill is next to Mesquite Gold Mine, east of Glamis, near the Union Pacific Railroad mainline.

The remainder of the sessions and speakers focused on advanced waste recycling technology and infrastructure development. Advanced waste recycling is a term that describes the processes and technology used

to convert waste, including organic material and plastics, into hydrocarbon products such as fuel, ammonia, and feedstock for new plastic materials. Sessions also covered properly tracking waste-derived fuel from feedstock through production to meet procurement and emissions credit requirements set by the United States, European Union, and other government agencies, depending on where the fuel is used. Speakers highlighted the need for transparency, record-keeping, and rigorous certification testing to ensure that the public and the governing agencies could have confidence in the integrity of the advanced recycling processes and products. The conference concluded with a session focused on distributed on-site anaerobic digestion technology, air permitting of solid waste facilities, and using wood waste combustion to power landfill leachate evaporation systems.

The conference proceedings are available at [WCTC 2024 - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...).

The City of Diamond Bar Advances Senate Bill 1383 Procurement Initiatives



The City of Diamond Bar (City) is making significant strides toward meeting the procurement requirements set by Senate Bill (SB) 1383, California's legislation aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions through organic waste reduction. One of the critical mandates of SB 1383 is for cities to procure recovered organic waste products, such as compost and mulch, to support statewide climate goals. In response, the City has finalized several strategic initiatives to meet its 2024 and 2025 procurement targets, ensuring compliance with state regulations and promoting sustainability within the community.

At the forefront of these efforts is a newly established contract with Zero Food Print, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting sustainable agriculture for small farmers. This partnership leverages Zero Food Print's expertise to help the City comply with state regulations, enrich local soils, and reduce organic waste sent to landfills. The compost application process is scheduled primarily from late fall through winter, which aligns with the City's timeline for meeting its procurement target by the end of the year.

In addition to collaborating with Zero Food Print, the City is moving forward with its Landscape Analysis for local compost and mulch procurement. The City has completed its proposal evaluation and selected a vendor to begin work later this year. The selected vendor will identify areas of the City where compost or mulch could be utilized, assess labor costs for applying the recommended materials, and analyze potential cost savings in water consumption and maintenance. This effort supports the City's commitment to bolstering organic waste recovery and ensuring high-quality materials for local landscaping projects. Applying compost and mulch within the City will enhance these areas' local ecology and sustainability, adhering to the true spirit of the law.

The City launched a self-serve compost and mulch program in September 2024 to further expand community access to recovered organic waste materials. This program allows residents to access high-quality compost and mulch year-round, not just during seasonal events, with materials regularly replenished to meet demand. The self-serve initiative supports the City's



SB 1383 procurement goals and encourages residents to use sustainable landscaping practices that promote water conservation and healthy soil management.

Looking ahead, the City remains committed to exploring additional procurement options, including the potential use of renewable natural gas with its waste haulers. This option could further enhance the City's sustainability efforts by reducing its reliance on traditional fossil fuels while contributing to its SB 1383 procurement targets. To ensure the long-term success of these initiatives, the City has updated its Procurement Policy to incorporate enforceable procurement targets.

These targets are also embedded within individual vendor contracts, ensuring accountability and compliance with SB 1383 regulations.

Through strategic partnerships, community programs, and policy updates, the City of Diamond Bar is making impressive progress in meeting its SB 1383 procurement requirements. These efforts benefit the environment and reinforce the City's commitment to fostering a safe, sustainable, healthy community for all residents.

For more information on the City of Diamond Bar's SB 1383 Procurement Initiatives, visit <https://www.diamondbarca.gov/1059/Reducing-Organic-Waste>.



WINTER 2025 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 tracked during the start of the 2025/2026 Legislative Session.

California State Legislation:

Bill Number / Author

Status

AB 27

Schiavo

Introduced December 2, 2024

This bill, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2024, would provide an exclusion from gross income for amounts received, on or after March 1, 2024, as compensation for specified costs and losses related to the Chiquita Canyon elevated temperature landfill event in the County of Los Angeles. The bill would include additional information required for any bill authorizing a new tax expenditure.

AB 28

Schiavo

Introduced December 2, 2024

This would, upon approval, enact subsequent legislation that would appropriate sufficient funds to cover the temporary and permanent relocation costs of those individuals and families impacted by the Chiquita Canyon Landfill disaster.

AB 70

Aguiar-Curry

Introduced December 11, 2024

This bill would define pyrolysis as the thermal decomposition of material at elevated temperatures in the absence or near absence of oxygen.

Bill Number / Author

Status

AB 80

Aguiar-Curry

Introduced December 19, 2024

This bill would authorize civil penalties of \$25,000 per day if a violation of any provision is intentional of knowing.

AB 436

Ramsom

Introduced February 6, 2025

This bill would require, the Office of Planning and Research along with CalRecycle to develop a technical advisory by June 1, 2027, detailing best practices for siting composting facilities. Upon revising land use elements after the advisory is posted, cities, counties, and city and county entities must consider incorporating best practices recommended in the advisory by January 1, 2029

SB 45

Padilla

Introduced December 12, 2024

This bill would require, starting on January 1, 2027, beverage containers sold in the state, to have a cap that is intended to stay attached to the bottle when it is opened by a consumer. Bottles that have a 70% recycling rate are exempt until January 1, 2028. Containers with a 3-liters capacity will also be exempt.

For more information on these bills, 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.