

April 18, 2013

Los Angeles City Council Committee Services, Legislative Assistant
Sharon Gin
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Ms. Gin,

As a resident of Westlake and a board member of Westlake North Neighborhood Council and Neighborhood Council Plan Review Committee, I want to express my support for the Bureau of Sanitation's plan for an exclusive waste franchise in the City of Los Angeles.

In addition to being critical for our environment, this change is needed for neighborhoods such as Westlake with a lot of mixed housing and local businesses that are serviced by too many different haulers.

When you talk to people in my neighborhood, this change is a no-brainer. Many of us can't recycle and don't know why. We all live with the constant traffic and noise which takes a toll on our quality of life as a community. So, as you finalize plans for this new system, please ensure that the residents and businesses of Westlake and other neighborhoods around the city are going to have a system that works.

I am also supportive of the Bureau's plan to designate 11 franchise zones to haulers who will provide the best service in return for the right to do exclusive business. In order for the franchise to work, haulers will need to be invested in new ways in serving their customers. They will need to offer better options for recycling, reasonable rate structures, more sensible collection times, and cleaner, greener, trucks in our neighborhoods. This won't happen if you divide parts of the city into smaller and smaller zones. We'll wind up with the same overlapping of truck routes, traffic and confusion.

Please stay the course in implementing a waste and recycling system that will truly work for neighborhoods such as Westlake, enable all Angelenos to recycle, and make Los Angeles the city where everyone looks for the dream of a greener future.

Best Regards,

Erika Thi Patterson