

April 23, 2013

Honorable Members, Los Angeles City Council
Los Angeles City Hall
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Bureau of Sanitation Final Implementation Plan for Exclusive Commercial and Multi-family Franchise Hauling System – CF #10-1797-S15

Dear Councilmembers:

The LA Collaborative for Environmental Health and Justice is the sponsor of the Clean Up Green Up campaign and urges the Los Angeles City Council to support the Bureau of Sanitation's Implementation Plan for an exclusive waste and recycling franchise for businesses and apartments. This plan will contribute to the environmental protections of the Clean Up Green Up policy by significantly addressing the pollution and environmental impacts related to the waste and recycling industry as well as leading to good quality environmentally friendly jobs.

Clean Up Green Up's three pilot communities of Boyle Heights, Pacoima, and Wilmington, all experience heavy diesel traffic, including traffic to and from neighboring waste and recycling facilities that pollutes and damages their streets as well as contributing to litter. Residents in these communities also often work in waste and recycling facilities or as drivers that pick up waste, and are exposed to pollution and other hazards each day, often for little pay and with no benefits. Facilities that are not well maintained are a nuisance for neighbors, creating noise and stench and attracting vectors such as rodents. These neighborhoods, and other similarly burdened areas throughout the city, need policy changes that will reduce pollution, while also encouraging good green jobs that allow them to provide for their families and invest in their neighborhoods.

The Bureau of Sanitation's impressive Implementation Plan will address these concerns with a new system that will radically transform the City and improve the lives of millions of residents including the working families of Boyle Heights, Pacoima and Wilmington.

The PLUM Committee has been very supportive of our Clean Up Green Up policy, and last week unanimously voted to move forward the policy change and approve the City Planning Department's work plan. The next day, the Energy and Environment and Ad Hoc Waste Reduction and Recycling Committees approved the implementation plan in a 4-0 vote last week. The LA Collaborative encourages the City Council to continue their environmental leadership and approve the Bureau's implementation plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elva Yañez".

Elva Yañez
Policy Coordinator



NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL

April 23, 2013

Honorable Members, Los Angeles City Council
Los Angeles City Hall
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Strong Support for Approval of Implementation Plan for Exclusive Waste Franchises (C.F.10-1797-S15)

Dear Councilmembers,

On behalf of the NRDC and our thousands of members in Los Angeles, I am writing today to strongly support the LA City Bureau of Sanitation's Implementation Plan for the commercial and multi-family exclusive waste and recycling franchise system. The process to develop the implementation plan has been the product of a long, inclusive multi-year process with myriad stakeholder meetings, many public hearings, and strong analytical work by the Bureau staff and its consultants.

The time to move forward with the Implementation Plan is now because the current system to handle trash for apartment buildings and businesses is broken. We need the solution for the next fifty years to allow Los Angeles to get to the next level of recycling, composting, and minimizing the impacts from the waste industry on residents.

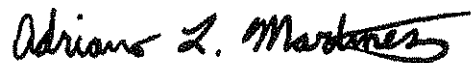
The Bureau's Implementation Plan sets Los Angeles further along a path to be an environmental leader in this industry, dramatically increasing recycling, executing landmark organic waste pilot programs, ensuring rigorous clean truck standards and reductions in vehicle miles travelled, and holding companies accountable with stringent environmental standards.

The vote tomorrow is not the end of the road on this program development. There will still be ample opportunity for more input along the way. In particular, the Bureau is currently conducting the most robust analysis available under the California Environmental Quality Act as requested by business groups like the LA Chamber of Commerce. This Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") process provides many points for stakeholders to continue to provide input as this program is further analyzed.

Support for Approval of Exclusive Waste Franchises Implementation Plan (C.F.10-1797-S15)
April 23, 2013
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NRDC urges you to approve the implementation plan for a new system and protect our future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adriano L. Martinez". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Adriano L. Martinez
Staff Attorney

April 23, 2013

Honorable Councilmembers
Los Angeles City Hall
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Approval of Implementation Plan for Exclusive Waste Franchises (C.F. 10-1797-S15)

Dear Councilmembers,

I write you to emphatically support the LA City Bureau of Sanitation's Implementation Plan for the commercial and multi-family exclusive waste and recycling franchise system. A diverse coalition, lead in part by Sierra Club, NRDC, and Coalition for Clean Air, strongly supports this bold and thorough plan for a transformed waste and recycling system.

The current system is broken: too much waste is going to landfills, our streets are choked with too many diesel-spewing trucks, and there's scant accountability to the City's ambitious Zero Waste goals. Our landfills are reaching capacity while too many renters and businesses can't recycle – leading to the development of costly "alternatives" like transporting our waste by rail to the desert, or waste-to-energy. Low-road haulers skirt environmental standards with no accountability. Inefficient, overlapping truck routes pollute our air and destroy our streets. We are throwing too much away: recyclables, good green jobs, and clean air.

The Bureau's plan will make Los Angeles an environmental leader in this industry, dramatically increasing recycling, executing landmark organic waste pilot programs, ensuring rigorous clean truck standards and reductions in vehicle miles travelled, and holding companies accountable with stringent environmental standards.

The eleven zones proposed by the Bureau also strike the right balance of accountability, asset management, and high-road competition. All parties agree that extensive investments in processing, remanufacturing and reuse infrastructure are necessary to meet our ambitious goals. The Bureau's proposal will promote these investments by protecting the value of the service zones, making it easier for companies to get the financing necessary for infrastructure investments, and increasing efficiencies and economies of scale. Any increase in the number of service zones will undermine this very critical element to reaching our environmental goals, as well as making it nearly impossible for the Bureau to hold companies accountable.

Last week, your colleagues on the Energy and Environment Committee and Ad Hoc Waste Reduction and Recycling Committee approved this plan in a 4-0 vote. We urge you to continue that progress towards a new system and approve this plan, leading the way from an outdated system to a national model for zero waste, clean air, and good green jobs.

We need dramatic change, and we need it now.

Thank you,

Amanda Fish

April 23, 2013

Honorable Members, Los Angeles City Council
Los Angeles City Hall
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Via electronic mail

RE: Bureau of Sanitation Final Implementation Plan for Exclusive Commercial and Multi-family Franchise Hauling System – CF #10-1797-S15

Dear Councilmembers,

As pastor of St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church, I support the LA City Bureau of Sanitation's Implementation Plan for the commercial and multifamily exclusive waste franchise.

St. Mark's is a multi-cultural congregation committed to diversity, worshipping in our South LA neighborhood for over 100 years. We are actively involved in tending to our congregation and community's needs, from worshipping together to food assistance to a community garden. We recognize that social justice is at the core of our beliefs, and are a founding member of the Figueroa Corridor Coalition for Economic Justice that led the successful effort for a Staples Center Community Benefit Agreement. Our values and Lutheran heritage make clear that caring for our neighbors, the environment, and those without a voice is central to our religious faith.

However, under the current waste and recycling system in Los Angeles, we can't even take simple steps for the environment like recycling or composting. The two primary types of waste our church produces are paper and waste from our food program, which feeds hundreds of meals weekly to those who in need. Recent youth visiting from a sister congregation in Denver were shocked that our church had no municipal compost.

Our resources go into our programs and worship. The current system is difficult to navigate, making it challenging to get the most affordable rates or best service. We do not have the staff capacity, leverage or budget to change our current waste hauler to get better service or competitive rates in the current system.

The sanctity of human life and the health of God's creation are of key principals of our Lutheran faith, and we are charged to protect and steward both. I was saddened to learn that in the current system, our brothers and sisters working in the waste and recycling facilities face hazardous conditions for low pay. I was disheartened by the failure of the current system to care for our environment, as recyclables end up in landfills and diesel trucks pollute our air.

I know from personal experience it doesn't need to be like this. At home, I have a blue bin, a black bin, and a green bin, making recycling easy. Prior to joining St. Mark's, I worked in a congregation in Seattle, a city with an exclusive waste and recycling franchise system. In this

system, the needs of congregations, neighborhoods, workers, and the environment are met, and rates are transparent. It's a clear and effective system that respects human life and creation.

As a congregation that makes every effort to put our faith into action and to make choices that improve our community rather than harm it, we want a system that protects our families and our earth.

I trust you will act with urgency to rectify this broken system by voting to approve the Bureau of Sanitation's plan today.

Sincerely,

Pastor Matt Keadle
St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

CC: Board of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation

April 22, 2013

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200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Thank you,

Nadine Cano