



April 23, 2013

UCLA LABOR OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH (LOSH) PROGRAM
PETER V. UEBERROTH BUILDING, SUITE 2107
BOX 951478
LOS ANGELES, CA 90095-1478
PHONE: (310) 794-5964
FAX: (310) 794-6403

Honorable Members, Los Angeles City
Council
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 am writing to convey the importance of including mechanisms to protect worker health and safety and workers' rights in an implementation plan for the City's commercial and multifamily waste system as specified in Section 2.3 of the April 2013 Final Plan prepared by the Bureau of Sanitation.

The UCLA Labor Occupational Safety & Health Program (UCLA-LOSH) is a nationally recognized center promoting safe jobs and worker health through education, research and policy advocacy. Our extensive experience demonstrates the importance of worker training, an effective Injury and Illness Prevention Program and mechanisms for workers to report workplace hazards without fear of reprisal.

As you take steps to create a model program, we urge you to ensure the safety of workers in jobs along the waste collection, hauling and recycling process by including explicit language in the RFP to require:

1. Effective health and safety training about hazards, controls and protection, a description of the franchisee's worker health and safety program including mechanisms for reporting and correcting exposure to hazards.
2. Whistleblower protection to prohibit retaliation against workers for reporting hazards, injuries or illnesses.
3. Responsible contractor language requiring responsive bidders to document and report citations, violations, workers' compensation claims and other relevant information from the past 15 years.

The above measures are an important component of a program that can be a model within California and beyond. The Bureau of Sanitation Final Implementation Plan lays a foundation for these worker protections.

Please feel free to contact me at 310 794 5964 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Linda Delp, PhD, MPH
Director, UCLA-LOSH





April 24, 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,

Los Angeles is in the process of a much-needed transformation of its commercial and multifamily waste and recycling system. Based on our review of the Bureau of Sanitation's final draft implementation plan, this transformation to a strong exclusive franchise system will make our City a model for the entire nation. The Don't Waste LA Coalition urges immediate approval of the Bureau's implementation plan.

The Don't Waste LA coalition has identified the following top priorities, in no particular order, for the new system, and hopes the Council will give full consideration to these areas as well: 1) moving towards zero waste by increasing diversion from landfills and incinerators; 2) ensuring high standards for recycling, including robust standards for facility certification; 3) protecting workers' health, safety, and rights; and 4) improving air quality by reducing and minimizing truck and route impacts. It is also deeply important to our coalition that the system balance the fostering of long-term, high-road competition with ensuring the capacity to hold franchisees accountable to the highest possible standards. By all accounts, the City shares these priorities, while also focusing on uniform rates, service standards and sufficient staffing. We believe the Bureau's implementation plan successfully addresses all of these priorities in a manner that best ensures a healthy environment, good, green jobs and thriving communities and neighborhoods.

Reaching Our Zero Waste Goals

The Bureau's implementation plan proposes robust goal-setting and programming for diversion from landfills and incinerators to successfully move towards the City's Zero Waste goals. This programming will include requirements such as organic material pilots, rate structures that incentivize diversion, waste assessments and education programming (3.6). The plan's emphasis on the use of source separation through provision of blue bins will ensure a consistent customer experience and is imperative to maximizing recycling, reducing pollution, and preventing contamination of commodities that can be

re-used and re-manufactured (3.6.1). The organic waste phased pilot program will make LA a national inspiration and dramatically improve air quality by preventing methane release in landfills (3.6.2). The plan also calls for much needed reporting requirements to ensure goals are met (3.8.2). In terms of *downstream* infrastructure, we anticipate the Bureau's commitment to facility and processing standards will result in performance improvements in existing and proposed facilities, while also encouraging reuse and remanufacturing and limiting the impacts of facilities and truck yards on communities (3.8.6).

Finally, we believe the competition inherent in the Bureau's proposed system will lead hauling companies to reach for the maximum possible performance in their diversion and recycling performance. The RFP and bid process will position the City to demand full commitment to our Zero Waste goals while also collaborating with the best industry practitioners in getting there.

Job Standards – Training, Rights and Protections

Working conditions are a critical concern in this industry, and the implementation plan recognizes the necessity for the City to take a leadership role in ensuring safe and healthy working conditions (3.8.4). Facility certification and inspection is crucial, as is incorporating the City's Living Wage Ordinance, Service Contract Workers Retention Ordinance (SCWRO), and First Source Hiring Ordinance (FSHO) provisions into the franchise agreements (3.8.5). Additionally, it's critical to incorporate responsible contractor provisions, as well as whistleblower protection so that workers on the frontlines can report issues around job safety and training, diversion and truck fleets without fear of retaliation (3.8.4.1). As the RFP process is developed, we recommend that job standards be further enhanced with the additional requirements that responsive bids include: a) detailed descriptions of training and professional development programs, b) detailed description of plans to prevent injury and illness, and c) exhaustive reporting of the past 10-15 years of worker health and safety records.

Promoting High-road Competition

Opportunities for smaller waste hauling companies are vital for the continued success of the franchise, and must be balanced with the City's capacity to ensure accountability to the highest possible standards. Smaller collection zones set aside for medium-sized haulers will foster robust competition, ensuring maximum standards are met while preserving a diverse landscape of bidders for future RFPs. We applaud the Bureau's thorough and well-researched service zone map and boundaries, including the three smaller collection zones to be located near the CLARTS facility and the medium-sized zone in the Harbor area (3.1.2-3). In effect, this provides 4 distinct zones that are accessible to the mid-size haulers that currently comprise approximately 10% of the market. Cumulatively, they represent an even larger share of the market than mid-size haulers currently enjoy – and will create an arena for high-road competition that will mirror the competition for the larger zones.

Overall, the Bureau's service zone map creates franchises substantive and lucrative enough to incentivize gold standard service and performance, while also maximizing efficiencies and economies of scale. Importantly, it also creates a landscape of contractors that will be manageable and practicable for the Bureau to oversee and hold accountable.

Improving Air Quality by Reducing Truck Traffic and Truck Impacts

We are very pleased to see strong language to reduce truck impacts, such as clean fleets and efficient routing (3.4.1, 3.8.3). As part of ensuring the highest caliber fleets, we look forward to the Bureau building in additional protocols to move fleets towards the best available technologies commercially available as technologies improve. We also look forward to discussing mechanisms to ensure fleets are maintained and repaired to protect peak efficiency and safety.

Routing and efficiency requirements are also a crucial part of this plan – and vital to ensuring this system increases quality of life for all Angelenos. We applaud the plan to maximize – and require – routing efficiencies; requirements that bidders provide vehicle miles travelled (or VMT) plans; and requirements around real-time tracking via technologies such as GPS. These should be requirements for anyone doing waste and recycling business in the city of Los Angeles in the 21st century.

We are excited about the tremendous efforts made by the Bureau of Sanitation, the Mayor, the Board of Public Works and the Councilmembers who have worked so hard to make this progress possible. We look forward to participating in the development of what truly promises to be a national model. When implemented, LA's commercial and multifamily waste and recycling franchise will create good green jobs, while ensuring clean air, fair rates and recycling for all. We urge you to approve the Bureau's implementation plan and continue our City's transformation to a national Zero Waste leader.

Sincerely,



Greg Good, Director
Don't Waste LA Project

CC: Bureau of Sanitation
Board of Public Works



Dolores Mission

CATHOLIC CHURCH

171 S. GLESS ST. LOS ANGELES, CA 90033 (323) 881-0039 FAX (323) 881-0034

April 23, 2013

Honorable City Council Members
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 Council Members,

As pastor of Dolores Mission parish in Boyle Heights, I support the LA City Bureau of Sanitation's Implementation Plan for the commercial and multifamily exclusive waste franchise.

Communities in our city have suffered under the current system for waste and recycling in Los Angeles. They have been overburdened with trucks that pollute the air their children breathe. They have been given limited, if any, option to recycle and act as faithful stewards of the earth that has been given to us by God; and many of them have worked in dirty, dangerous waste jobs where little care is given to their health and their safety by employers who answer to no one.

At Dolores Mission, weekly reflection on the gospel with my parishioners who live in the lowest income section of Boyle Heights, often leads us to social action. Our experience enables us to see all that is broken, but our faith moves us to take concrete action to improve our community and the world.

We feel the suffering of the waste workers who endure harsh and unhealthy conditions in their jobs. They are injured and treated like they are disposable, rather than being treated as human beings who are children of God. And we are moved to speak up for them and demand better. They are part of our community, our mothers, our fathers, and our sisters and brothers.

The Bureau of Sanitation's implementation plan you are voting on this week will help to fix all that is broken in our system for waste and recycling. It will protect workers, communities, and our environment with health and safety standards and measures for accountability. When you vote for this implementation plan, you will be taking concrete action to improve the lives of residents in my parish and all over Los Angeles.

I trust that you will answer the call of your leadership, and I respectfully urge you to approve the Bureau of Sanitation's implementation plan and uplift and improve the lives of all who are the face of God in our city.

Rev. Scott Santarosa, S.J.
Pastor

April 23, 2013

Honorable Members, Los Angeles City Council
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 am a resident of Echo Park for almost two years *now* and 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. Environmental organizations like NRDC, Sierra Club, and Coalition for Clean Air, as well as many other organizations, strongly support this plan for a transformed waste and recycling system.

The current system is broken: our landfills are filling up, diesel trucks pollute our air and clog our streets, and too many people can't recycle where they live or work. We are also concerned about the dangerous working conditions for the men and women who sort and pickup our trash for little pay. Some irresponsible companies ignore environmental standards and workers' health and safety. We are throwing too much away: recyclables, good jobs, and clean air.

The Bureau's plan will make Los Angeles and 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.

I urge you to approve the implementation plan for a new system and protect our future.

Thank you,

Lenin Solano

April 22, 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 traveled, 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 efficiency and economy 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,

George Watland

April 20, 2013

Honorable Members, Los Angeles City Council
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 am a youth environmentalist and 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. Environmental organizations like NRDC, Sierra Club, and Coalition for Clean Air, as well as many other organizations, strongly support this plan for a transformed waste and recycling system.

The current system is broken: our landfills are filling up, diesel trucks pollute our air and clog our streets, and too many people can't recycle where they live or work. We are also concerned about the dangerous working conditions for the men and women who sort and pickup our trash for little pay. Some irresponsible companies ignore environmental standards and workers' health and safety. We are throwing too much away: recyclables, good jobs, and clean air.

The Bureau's plan will make Los Angeles and 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.

We urge you to approve this plan for a new system and protect our future.

Thank you,

Michael GOLD

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Michael Gold', with a large, sweeping flourish underneath. To the left of the signature is a small 'x' mark.

- WE NEED MORE THROUGH EDUCATION + PRACTICES
TO LIMIT LAND FILL BUILD, TO CREATE A
MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

90745, CARSON, CA

April 20, 2013

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

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We urge you to approve this plan for a new system and protect our future.

Thank you,



90731

I believe this is a crucial issue because landfills are increasingly becoming filled especially if much of the products can be recycled.

April 20, 2013

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We urge you to approve this plan for a new system and protect our future.

Thank you,

Galina Patton 90057

It is important to have this policy because it will teach inner-city residents to be more cautious of the damages being done by not properly disposing waste.

April 20, 2013

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

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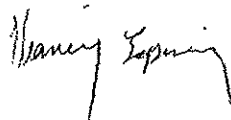
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We urge you to approve this plan for a new system and protect our future.

Thank you,



It is important to recycle to protect our earth. We need clean air and streets.

90028

April 20, 2013

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

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We urge you to approve this plan for a new system and protect our future.

Thank you,

I live in multi-unit apartments in Los Angeles. I have seen first hand how much of my recyclable waste is sent to landfills due to a lack of recycling programs or incentives. Please approve this.

- Carol Peralta

Carol Peralta

90028 & zip.

April 20, 2013

Honorable Members, Los Angeles City Council
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We urge you to approve this plan for a new system and protect our future.

Thank you,

Jean Liu
zip code 90731

April 20, 2013

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200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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We urge you to approve this plan for a new system and protect our future.

Thank you,

Jessenia
Lopez

April 20, 2013

Honorable Members, Los Angeles City Council
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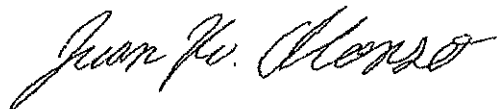
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Thank you,



Juan M. Alonso

- 90031

April 20, 2013

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Thank you,

Alan Ryz 90042

April 20, 2013

Honorable Members, Los Angeles City Council
Los Angeles City Hall
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Los Angeles, CA 90012

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90012

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We urge you to approve this plan for a new system and protect our future.

Thank you,

Osvaldo Vicuna
90031

I would like for our current system to be fixed of course, as many others. I see that making an environmental change within the city will make a dramatic change towards becoming responsible in our communities.

April 20, 2013

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We urge you to approve this plan for a new system and protect our future.

Thank you,

Gabriela Martinez

The reason why I want this is because I want the future generations to be better.

April 20, 2013

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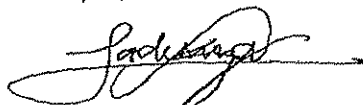
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Thank you,


Kristine
90042

April 20, 2013

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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 am a youth environmentalist and 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. Environmental organizations like NRDC, Sierra Club, and Coalition for Clean Air, as well as many other organizations, strongly support this plan for a transformed waste and recycling system.

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The Bureau's plan will make Los Angeles and 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.

We urge you to approve this plan for a new system and protect our future.

Thank you,

 Allan Huang

90042

This is important because by approving this it
will keep the land fill smaller and it will not harm
the environment too much.

April 20, 2013

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

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Thank you,


Ammie Huang
90042

April 20, 2013

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

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We urge you to approve this plan for a new system and protect our future.

Thank you,

Aw Soto 90033
Is important because we need to ~~think~~ think of our future ~~again~~

April 20, 2013

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

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We urge you to approve this plan for a new system and protect our future.

Thank you,

Ana Gomez 90031

For my future generation could have a safe place.

April 20, 2013

Honorable Members, Los Angeles City Council
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)

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We urge you to approve this plan for a new system and protect our future.

Thank you,



The environment has enough waste as it is and if a recycling system isn't put to action then our future generations will have to deal with our problems.

Los Angeles, CA
90065

April 20, 2013

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

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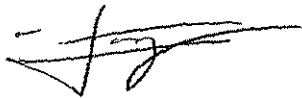
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We urge you to approve this plan for a new system and protect our future.

Thank you,

As someone who works and plays in LA, I'd like to see a more efficient system of recycling and waste management. This would make both economic and environmental sense.


Jim Truong

April 20, 2013

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

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Thank you,



Diego Cortez

for a more efficient and clean system,
reduce trucks on the road.

90012

April 20, 2013

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

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Thank you,



South Gate, CA 90280

April 20, 2013

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

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Thank you,

ffele Sillalobos
Los Angeles, CA 90006.

April 20, 2013

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

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Thank you,

MIGUEL RANNEY

90042

April 20, 2013

Honorable Members, Los Angeles City Council
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Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and lines, positioned below the text "Thank you,".

April 20, 2013

Honorable Members, Los Angeles City Council
Los Angeles City Hall
200 N. Spring St.
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Thank you,

Luis Pardo 1654 Rising Glen Rd
Los Angeles CA 90069

Paul Koretz

Council member District 10

April 20, 2013

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

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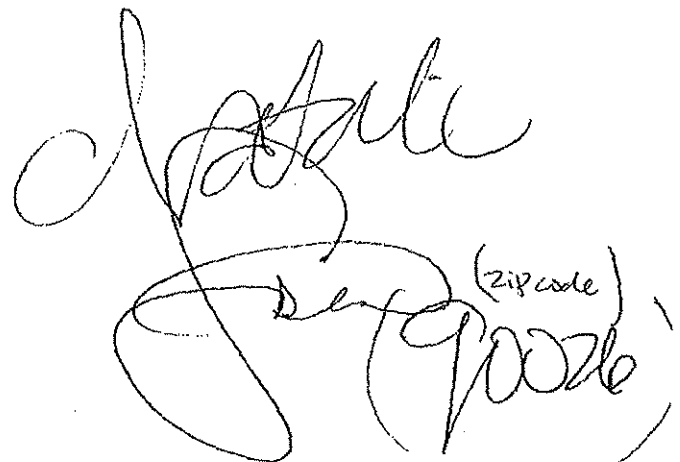
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Thank you,



A handwritten signature in cursive script, followed by the zip code "90026" in parentheses. The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

April 20, 2013

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Thank you,


91606

April 20, 2013

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Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Thank you,

Ysabel Gonzalez

90022

April 20, 2013

Honorable Members, Los Angeles City Council
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Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Thank you,

Alimah Colletto

April 20, 2013

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

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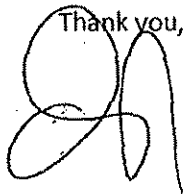
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90012

April 20, 2013

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90042

April 20, 2013

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Thank you,

ARCELIA SANDOVA |

90255

April 20, 2013

Honorable Members, Los Angeles City Council
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Thank you,

Ava Honey 90255

April 20, 2013

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Thank you,

SARA MARTINEZ

909-555

April 20, 2013

Honorable Members, Los Angeles City Council
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Thank you,

Civito Mottedano 90280

April 20, 2013

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Los Angeles City Hall
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Thank you,


OLGA GONZALEZ

90280

April 20, 2013

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Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Thank you,

Maria Kennedy H.P 90255

April 20, 2013

Honorable Members, Los Angeles City Council
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, *Paul Koretz,*

I am a youth environmentalist and 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. Environmental organizations like NRDC, Sierra Club, and Coalition for Clean Air, as well as many other organizations, strongly support this plan for a transformed waste and recycling system.

The current system is broken: our landfills are filling up, diesel trucks pollute our air and clog our streets, and too many people can't recycle where they live or work. We are also concerned about the dangerous working conditions for the men and women who sort and pickup our trash for little pay. Some irresponsible companies ignore environmental standards and workers' health and safety. We are throwing too much away: recyclables, good jobs, and clean air.

The Bureau's plan will make Los Angeles and 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.

We urge you to approve this plan for a new system and protect our future.

Thank you,

E. Panigada
Kouros & Leonizades
CA 90069

April 22, 2013

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

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We urge you to approve this plan for a new system and protect our future.

Thank you,

Name/Zip Code

Mauro Renteria
90280

April 22, 2013

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Los Angeles City Hall
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Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Thank you,

Name/Zip Code

Jasmine Heredia / 90255

April 22, 2013

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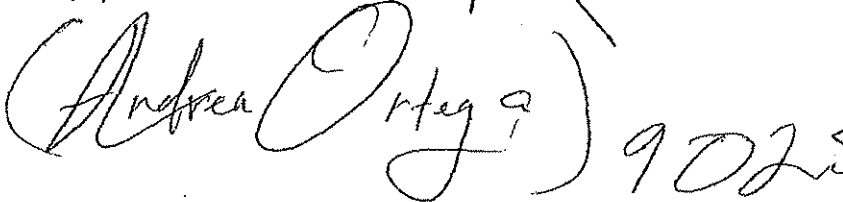
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Thank you,

Name/Zip Code


(Andrea Ortega) 90255

April 22, 2013

Honorable Members, Los Angeles City Council
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Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Thank you,

Name/Zip Code

 90201

April 22, 2013

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Thank you,

Name/Zip Code

Nancy Palle 90280

April 22, 2013

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Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Name/Zip Code

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Thank you,

Name/Zip Code

Crystal Montes 90255

April 22, 2013

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Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Thank you,

Name/Zip Code

Jessica Padron A. / 90201

April 22, 2013

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

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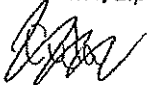
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Thank you,

Name/Zip Code

 90201

Dulce Avales

April 22, 2013

Honorable Members, Los Angeles City Council
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Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Thank you,

Name/Zip Code

Mitzi Hernandez, 90002

April 20, 2013

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

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We urge you to approve this plan for a new system and protect our future.

Thank you,



Kathleen Talbot

zip code: 90731

To offer equitable services and reduce the
impacts of material & air pollution!

April 20, 2013

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We urge you to approve this plan for a new system and protect our future.

Thank you,

 90274
[I am very passionate about coming to a
feasible & sustainable waste solution for
LA especially with the impending closure
of waste hills.]

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,

Nora Doyle

Studio City 91604