



JOE BUSCAINO
Councilmember, 15th District

December 7, 2016

Councilmember Nury Martinez
Chair, Energy and Environment Committee
City Hall, Room 470
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re. CF 10-1797-S17

Dear Councilwoman Martinez,

Throughout my tenure as a city councilmember, I have asked the same question and applied that same standard when deciding how to vote on a contract: is it a good deal for my constituents?

I do not believe the contract before you meets that standard, and I cannot support it in its current form.

I commend the Bureau of Sanitation for leading this major effort to reform the way the City handles waste hauling for commercial and multifamily customers and helping achieve our goal of becoming a "zero waste" city. I supported the creation of an exclusive franchise system, because I felt it would help improve the quality of life for my constituents. Granting one company the exclusive right to dispose of solid waste for a specific geographic area reduces air pollution and wear and tear on city streets and alleys through more efficient routing of trucks, increases revenue, and gives the city more leverage to require the haulers to provide services that benefit our neighborhoods.

Unfortunately, the contracts before you today do not mandate the community benefits that would help create a cleaner, more livable city. Other cities with exclusive franchises require haulers to pick up illegal dumping, empty curbside trash cans, and clean up litter and debris as part of the franchise agreement. Not only do these contracts fail to provide those benefits, there is no commitment that the additional revenue that will be generated will be used to provide those benefits.

Therefore, **I respectfully request your honorable committee recommend the Council request the City Attorney prepare and present an ordinance that will create a special fund to be used for the purposes of ensuring cleanliness of public areas, into which 50% of new waste hauling revenues will be deposited.**

If we don't have a plan for how to clean up our public spaces, I don't feel like these contracts are a good deal for my constituents, and I can't support them.

Thank you for your consideration and I appreciate your support as always.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joe Buscaino". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "B".

JOE BUSCAINO

Councilmember, 15th District