

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council

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Date of NC Board Action: 10/16/2012

Type of NC Board Action: Against Proposal

Impact Information

Date: 10/29/2012

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 10-1979-S7

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Brief Summary: GGPNC opposes Bureau of Sanitation's proposal to implement an exclusive franchise for waste hauling. Per the CAO's comprehensive study, a non-exclusive franchise is less costly for the city, allows the accomplishment of desired goals, and maintains a healthy environment for local business that promotes competition and job growth. Further, the Bureau of Sanitation does not have the capacity to operate an exclusive franchise of this proportion.

Additional Information



PRESIDENT
Linda Demmers

VICE PRESIDENTS

Lisa Selano - Administration
Chris McKinley - Communications

TREASURER
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GREATER GRIFFITH PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
"Your Neighborhood. Your Voice. Your Council"



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Council File 10-1979-S7

The GGPNC requests that the following Community Impact Statement be included with agenda items relating to Council File 10-1979-S7 regarding exclusive franchise for waste management.

COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT

GGPNC opposes Bureau of Sanitation's proposal to implement an exclusive franchise for waste hauling. Per the CAO's comprehensive study, a non-exclusive franchise is less costly for the city, allows the accomplishment of desired goals, and maintains a healthy environment for local business that promotes competition and job growth. Further, the Bureau of Sanitation does not have the capacity to operate an exclusive franchise of this proportion.

At its regularly scheduled Governing Board meeting on October 16th, the Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council (GGPNC) approved by the following motion by consensus.

Motion: that the Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council urge the Los Angeles Mayor, City Council, City Attorney and Department of Public Works to NOT adopt an exclusive franchise for waste hauling with the Bureau of Sanitation.

Linda Demmers, President
Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council

Agenda Supplement B: Background Information and Pro/Con Arguments:

For background information, see attached CAO report and Department of Public Works proposal.

The perceived/potential impact on the community if this motion is adopted by GGPNC (pro/con):

Arguments for/against an Exclusive Franchise:

- Against: Under an exclusive waste hauling franchise proposal consumers, businesses and apartment owners will be forced to pay more for waste services.
- For: The city believes it can eliminate the amount of trucks that drive through neighborhoods and limit the amount of wear and tear on the streets by implementing an exclusive franchise.
- Against: Adopting a non-exclusive franchise system will allow the city to achieve these policy priorities, while maintaining the competition that keeps waste hauling and recycling rates for consumers and businesses affordable. Even the CAO's comprehensive report on this issue strongly recommends the adoption of a non-exclusive franchise because a non-exclusive franchise is less costly for the city, it allows for the accomplishment of all desired policy goals, and it maintains a healthy environment for local business that promotes competition and job growth and has IMMEDIATE REVENUE POTENTIAL.
- For: The bureau has stated that they can operate an exclusive franchise more efficiently and economically.
- Against: The bureau of sanitation does not have the capacity to handle an exclusive franchise. The bureau has argued that they can handle the job more efficiently and economically than private haulers, but the bureau's current and past actions prove otherwise:
 - The bureau has been subject to multiple class action lawsuits for overcharging Los Angeles residents for trash service they did or did not receive. (See supplement C, class action lawsuit).
 - The bureau has stated that it does not have compatible billing systems with DWP and that their overcharging residents for decades stems from "human error" and a 30-year-old "antiquated" computer program. (See Supplement D, news excerpts).
 - The bureau's sanitation fees are up to three times higher than private haulers - hardly a more economical choice for consumers.
- Against: No department is currently holding the bureau of sanitation accountable. Granting them an exclusive franchise agreement will increase the bureau's "power" and decrease the right of Los Angeles multi-unit residents and business owners to demand reasonable rates and decent service.