

September 24, 2012

Dear Councilmember,

In Aug 2011, the Del Rey Neighborhood voted overwhelming to support an exclusive waste franchise. Our Board, after hearing considerable evidence from multiple sides of this debate, concluded that the waste and recycling system serving LA's apartments and businesses 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. 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.

This system is broken, and an exclusive franchise system is the solution.

I personally support this proposal and urge you to vote for these recommendations when they come before you. Attached you'll also find our Board resolution stating the same support.

This industry is too important - and the implications too far-reaching - for the city to adopt half-measures. We need dramatic change, and we need it now.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E DeSobe". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter "E" being particularly large and stylized.

Eric DeSobe

Del Rey Neighborhood Council President



A RESOLUTION
by the
DEL REY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
in support of
A RATIONAL WASTE & RECYCLING SYSTEM FOR LOS ANGELES' COMMERCIAL AND
MULTI-FAMILY PROPERTIES

WHEREAS, The Zero Waste goals of the City of Los Angeles [www.zerowaste.lacity.org] are a critically important component of our city having a cleaner, greener future; and

WHEREAS, despite significant recycling success, the city of Los Angeles continues to send over 3 million tons of waste, much of which could be recycled or composted, to landfills or incinerators annually; and the commercial and multi-family sectors currently contribute approximately 70 percent of the waste sent to landfills or incinerators from the city, yet many Angelenos have no access to recycling services in their apartments or workplaces; and

WHEREAS, the existing permit system creates a landscape of overlapping truck routes, leading to unnecessary emissions, congestion, wear and tear on city streets, and a complete lack of accountability, particularly on the part of hauling companies to communities and neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, particular communities and neighborhoods have and continue to suffer disproportionately from the convergence of unnecessary trucks due to the high amount of processing facilities and landfills in their proximity; and

WHEREAS, communities and neighborhoods with a high density of apartment buildings and small businesses suffer from the injustices of higher truck density and more limited service standards; and

WHEREAS, the existing system contributes to unfair and obscure rate-setting standards, particularly for small businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Don't Waste LA campaign, comprising more than 30 organizations, has issued a proposal that would achieve streamlined rates, efficient routes, enforceable standards, and the kind of partnership with franchised haulers that would allow substantial reduction in landfilling, the creation of green jobs, and the opportunity to maximize the city's asset and spin off appealing business opportunities; and

WHEREAS, key to realizing these benefits is the establishment of an exclusive franchise agreement with designated service areas, allowing the city maximum opportunity to lower rates, protect communities, enforce environmental standards and create a long-term partnership with franchisees;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Del Rey Neighborhood Council supports the Don't Waste LA Policy for a competitive, exclusive franchise system, with multiple designated service areas for waste and recycling service for commercial and multi-family properties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Del Rey Neighborhood Council endorses the broad goals of a waste and recycling system that maximizes waste diversion, removes excess trucks from our streets, achieves transparency in rate-setting, creates green jobs with high standards, and facilitates a strong partnership between the city and its haulers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that notice of this resolution be sent to the Mayor, the City Council, and the Board of Public Works of the City of Los Angeles.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric DeSobe", is written over the name of the council president.

Eric DeSobe, Del Rey Neighborhood Council President