



JAN PERRY  
COUNCILWOMAN  
NINTH DISTRICT  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

City Council  
of the  
City of Los Angeles  
City Hall

Date: 9/28/12  
Submitted in E+V Committee  
Council File No: 10-1797-57  
Item No.: 1  
~~Deputy:~~ ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT  
CHAIR  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY &  
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS  
VICE-CHAIR  
HOUSING, COMMUNITY &  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
MEMBER  
PUBLIC SAFETY  
MEMBER

September 28, 2012

Re: Item #1- Solid Waste Hauling Franchise

Dear Councilman Parks,

I am concerned about the level of awareness and participation of our Neighborhood Councils (NCs) as it relates to important city business and policy changes that will have a direct effect on their day-to-day lives. Item #1 in committee, the (Parks – Perry) motion relative to a request for Neighborhood Councils to report on their process for community outreach efforts as well as on the status of their understanding and awareness of major issues pending before the City Council. This includes a proposal to establish eleven waste-sheds in neighborhoods to serve as temporary repositories for waste separation of recyclable materials. Today's committee process will shed light on ways we can better engage and support our NCs, as well as ensure that their input is considered in important city business.

I urge the adoption of the CAO's recommendations as they relate to a non-exclusive franchise system for waste-hauling in the City. I have reviewed the reports transmitted by the Board of Public Works and the City Administrative Officer, and listened to the testimony that was given at the joint Energy and the Environment and Ad Hoc Waste Reduction and Recycling Committees. I have several concerns with the proposal put forth by the Board of Public Works:

- The proposed exclusive model will put dozens of small waste-hauling businesses out of work, some of which are small family-owned businesses that have been operating in Los Angeles for generations.
- The proposed exclusive model will prevent Los Angeles residents and businesses from doing business with the waste-hauler of their choice, and may prevent Los Angeles businesses the ability to get the service they need.
- An exclusive system will reduce the City's leverage over waste haulers performance, and could create a number of large waste-hauling monopolies that would be negotiating against the City.
- The City would likely have to develop a new program – and hire new staff – to implement, monitor, and enforce elements of an exclusive system, and to respond to customers when they are dissatisfied with their mandated waste-hauler, at a time when the City cannot afford more expenses.
- An exclusive system could compromise the City's ability to implement alternative waste processing technologies and facilities that it has been moving towards over the last several years, and could reduce control the City has over existing transfer stations and materials recovery facilities.

In contrast, the non-exclusive system proposed by the CAO will continue to allow the City to mandate environmental programs, diversion requirements, and workplace safety regulations, and will generate revenue for the City's General Fund. It will continue to allow rates to be set in a competitive marketplace, not require significant new levels of staffing, and will allow customers to choose which waste-hauler they want to do business with and negotiate appropriate service levels and prices directly with their haulers. For these reasons, I urge support of a non-exclusive system for waste-hauling in the City.

If we continue to pursue an exclusive franchise agreement, the next question is why aren't we including residential trash pick-up to achieve the economies of efficiency? We are going to have two systems, people who live in single family homes will have trash pick-up by the City and residents living in apartments will have their trash picked up by the private franchise haulers.

Thank you for introducing this motion and bringing it to Committee. The NCs need sufficient time to consider this matter, as it affects the commercial and residential areas of our City.

Sincerely,



Jan C. Perry  
Councilwoman, Ninth District