

August 29, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Proposed Solid Waste Franchise

Dear Councilmember:

I am writing to you today in support of a **non-exclusive water franchise system**. Research shows that in a non-exclusive franchise system, business owners, rental housing providers, associations, and universities, achieve greater benefits than an exclusive waste franchise system. We know from evidence in other cities with exclusive franchises that these systems raise prices and eliminate high quality customer service. I am constantly asked by City of Los Angeles elected officials, "What can we do to make our city more business friendly; what can we do that we can streamline or make less costly for you to grow your business?" If the city moves forward with mandates such as regulating labor requirements and allows for a monopoly on trash contracting, our costs would increase. Why make a decision like this in these challenging economic times? Limiting competition will result in higher costs to us and to your constituents who are consumers.

Though both a non-exclusive and exclusive franchise system would provide the city of Los Angeles with the opportunity to exert more control and generate more revenue, a non-exclusive system could be implemented by the end of 2012. An exclusive franchise could not be implemented until 2016. Millions of dollars in much needed revenue for the City of Los Angeles could begin being generated as early as January 1, 2013. It would actually be the better choice for business and for the city!

Under a non-exclusive franchise system, the city would receive all of the same advantages of an exclusive system but with the benefits of lower implementation costs and the chance to gather general fund revenue five years sooner. The City of Los Angeles does not need to invent an outdated system with a huge, new bureaucracy to oversee it when our neighbors, including Los Angeles County, Long Beach, and Pasadena have successful non-exclusive franchise systems already in place. Set the criteria for haulers to meet and allow any hauler with the ability to meet the criteria, to compete in the marketplace.

Additionally, a non-exclusive franchise system will allow the city to implement greater recycling and reporting requirements, clean fleet standards, work place safety oversight, and tracking of hauling operations. At the same time, the non-exclusive franchise method allows small haulers to compete for business and consumers to negotiate for the best rates. The franchise of the city's waste hauling services will have wide impacts throughout our city. Please consider all the implications when franchising waste in Los Angeles.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

BRISTÓL EARMS

Kevin Davis President and CEO

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