

13-0685

RESOLUTION ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

WHEREAS, on March 18, 1992, City Council adopted a resolution to create a Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) in the Wilmington Industrial Park. The Motion states that manufacturing with recycled feedstock is a rapidly growing industry that can help stem the tide in our eroding local job base; and

WHEREAS, on February 01, 1994, the City of Los Angeles (City) adopted a motion to expand the RMDZ in Wilmington Industrial Park to include the boundaries of the City and renew the RMDZ designation for another ten (10) years, to expire on March 18, 2003; and

WHEREAS, on January 21, 2003, the City adopted a resolution to renew the RMDZ designation for another ten (10) years, to expire on March 31, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the RMDZ is a program established by the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) pursuant to California Public Resources Code Section 42010, et al. to provide for the establishment of the RMDZ program throughout the State to provide incentives to stimulate development of post-consumer and secondary materials markets for recyclables; and to stimulate recycling based manufacturing businesses and create jobs. The most significant benefit of RMDZ program is that existing and new recycling based manufacturing businesses may obtain much needed financing from the State of California. The State of California's Department of Resources Recovery and Recycling (CalRecycle) succeeded the administration of the RMDZ when the CIWMB was eliminated in 2009. CalRecycle is soliciting applications to renew Zone designations, including from the City; and

WHEREAS, all California jurisdictions must meet a 50% reduction in landfill waste disposal as mandated by the California Integrated Waste Management Act; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles RMDZ includes all areas within the boundaries of the City of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles RMDZ is dedicated to establishing, sustaining and expanding recycling-based manufacturing businesses, which is essential for market development and to assist these jurisdictions in meeting the established landfill waste reduction goals; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles RMDZ desires existing and new recycling-based manufacturing businesses located within the City of Los Angeles RMDZ to be eligible for the technical and financial incentives associated with the RMDZ program; and

WHEREAS, the renewal of City of Los Angeles RMDZ as a RMDZ is still necessary to facilitate local and regional planning, coordination, and support existing recycling-based manufacturing businesses, as well as attract private sector recycling investments to the RMDZ; and

WHEREAS, the continued development of local markets for recycled materials would reduce the need to transport them out of the region in the future; and

WHEREAS, the current and proposed waste management practices and conditions are favorable to the development of post-consumer and secondary waste materials markets; and



WHEREAS, the California Legislature has defined environmental justice as "the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies" [Government Code section 65040.12(e)], and has directed the California Environmental Protection Agency to conduct its programs, policies, and activities that substantially affect human health or the environment in a manner that ensures the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and income levels, including minority populations and low-income populations of the state [Public Resources Code section 71110(a)]; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles is committed to Environmental Justice, the belief that all people, regardless of race, ethnicity, or economic standing, deserve to live, work, and play in a healthy environment, and have an opportunity to participate in shaping government policies that affect their health and environment; and

WHEREAS, CalRecycle has adopted a goal to continuously integrate environmental justice concerns into all of its programs and activities; and

WHEREAS, since its beginning in 1992, the City of Los Angeles RMDZ has administered over eleven million dollars in loans to recycling based businesses in Los Angeles. Renewal of the City of Los Angeles RMDZ designation will ensure we will continue to keep a vital source of funding available to new and existing businesses and that we continue to contribute toward meeting statewide AB 939 diversion goals, and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles has agreed to submit an application to CalRecycle requesting renewal as a RMDZ; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles has agreed to act as Lead Agency for the proposed renewal of the RMDZ; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the City of Los Angeles has determined that this re-designation is exempt from CEQA; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles finds there are no grounds for the City of Los Angeles to assume the Lead Agency role or to prepare an environmental document; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by adoption of this Resolution, that the Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor, approve an application to renew the designation of the City of Los Angeles as a Recycling Market Development Zone and directs the Bureau of Sanitation Solid Resources Citywide Recycling Division Manager to submit an application to CalRecycle requesting renewal of the Los Angeles Recycling Market Development Zone. The City of Los Angeles will administer the RMDZ program in a manner that seeks to ensure the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures and incomes, including but not limited to soliciting public participation in all communities within the RMDZ, including minority and low income populations.

PRESENTED BY: Jose Huijar

JOSE HUIJAR
Councilmember, 14th District

SECONDED BY: Richard Alonzo

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