

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the City's recycling (diversion) rates.

Recommendation for Council action:

RECEIVE and FILE the October 20, 2013 Board of Public Works (Board) report relative to the City's recycling (diversion) rates.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Not applicable.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On December 4, 2013, your Committee considered an October 30, 2013 Board report relative to the City's recycling (diversion) rates. According to the Board, the Bureau of Sanitation (BOS) commissioned the faculty and students of the UCLA Engineering Extension's Recycling/Municipal Solid Waste Management Certification Program, the Project Team, to provide an independent review and assessment of the City's progress towards its Zero Waste goal, as well as provide recommendations for the City's programmatic and policy approach to achieving this Zero Waste goal of 90 percent Diversion by 2025.

The findings in the report show that the City achieved a remarkable landfill diversion rate of 76.4 percent by the beginning of calendar year 2012 based on the calculation methodology adopted by the State of California. The State's method of calculating the diversion rate is called the Adjustment Method which requires that population, employment, taxable sales, and Consumer Price Index all be used in the adjustment formula. The State's Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 mandated that each city achieve a 25 percent diversion rate of solid waste from landfill disposal by the year 1995, and a 50 percent diversion rate by the year 2000.

The City successfully complied with this mandate and achieved an approved/accepted diversion rate for reporting Year 2000 of 60 percent. The diversion rate, is defined as the percentage of generated waste that is not disposed in a landfill. This rate is the environmental metric used to evaluate the City's progress towards its Zero Waste goal. Waste can be diverted from landfill disposal through source reduction, recycling, composting, or other technologies that beneficially use the materials found in solid waste. In 2006, the City adopted a goal of zero waste (90 percent diversion) by year 2025. Each jurisdiction measures its own progress towards zero waste.

After further consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to receive and file the Board report. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
FUENTES:	YES
BLUMENFIELD:	YES
LABONGE:	ABSENT
HUIZAR:	YES
KORETZ:	YES

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-