



MARK PESTRELLA, CHAIR
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LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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July 10, 2018

The Honorable Anthony J. Portantino, Chair
Senate Committee on Appropriations
State Capitol, Room 2206
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Portantino:

SUPPORT IF AMENDED AND OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED – ASSEMBLY BILL 2411 (MCCARTY) AS AMENDED ON JUNE 12, 2018 – SOLID WASTE: USE OF COMPOST: PLANNING

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Assembly Bill 2411 (AB 2411), as amended on June 12, 2018, provided it is **amended** as indicated in this letter, and **opposes** it **unless amended** as indicated in this letter.

If enacted, AB 2411 would require CalRecycle, on or before December 31, 2019, to develop and implement a plan to maximize the use of compost for slope stabilization and establishing vegetation in the course of providing debris removal services following a fire. It would also require CalRecycle, in coordination with the Department of Transportation, to identify best practices of each of the Department of Transportation's 12 districts regarding the cost-effective use of compost along roadways, and develop a plan to expand the identified best practices to the other districts.

The Task Force supports CalRecycle working with other state agencies to develop a plan for the cost-effective use of compost along roadways and in certain agricultural areas. However, the Task Force opposes the application of compost on "wild lands" which have large natural seed banks that need to germinate, particularly after a wild fire. Compost may prevent seeds from germinating and later sprouting and result in degradation of these natural areas. Therefore, the Task Force recommends amending the bill to include measures to prevent the application of compost on wild lands, but support the use of it along roads and in certain agriculture applications.

Pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939), the Task Force is responsible for coordinating the development of all major solid waste planning documents prepared for the County of Los Angeles and the 88 cities in Los Angeles County with a

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combined population in excess of ten million. Consistent with these responsibilities and to ensure a coordinated and cost-effective and environmentally sound solid waste management system in Los Angeles County, the Task Force also addresses issues impacting the system on a countywide basis. The Task Force membership includes representatives of the League of California Cities-Los Angeles County Division, County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, City of Los Angeles, waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies.

Based on the foregoing, the Task Force **supports** AB 2411 **if amended** to include measures to prevent the application of compost on wild lands and **opposes** AB 2411 **unless amended** to include measures to prevent the application of compost on wild lands. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer, a member of the Task Force, at MikeMohajer@yahoo.com or at (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,



Margaret Clark, Vice-Chair
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force and
Mayor Pro Tem, City of Rosemead

EC:mq

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cc: Assembly Member Kevin McCarty
Each Member and staff of the Senate Committee on Appropriations
Committee on Appropriations Staff Director, Mark McKenzie
California State Association of Counties
League of California Cities – Los Angeles County Division
Each member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Sachi A. Hamai, Los Angeles County Chief Executive Officer
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Gateway Cities Council of Governments
Westside Cities Council of Governments
Each City Mayor and City Manager in the County of Los Angeles
Each City Recycling Coordinator in Los Angeles County
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management
Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force