



MARK PESTRELLA, CHAIR  
MARGARET CLARK, VICE - CHAIR

LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/  
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE  
900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331  
P.O. BOX 1460, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460  
[www.lacountyiswmtf.org](http://www.lacountyiswmtf.org)

May 25, 2017

The Honorable Lorena S. Gonzalez Fletcher, Chair  
Assembly Committee on Appropriations  
State Capitol, Room 2114  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Assembly Member Gonzalez Fletcher:

**OPPOSE ASSEMBLY BILL 890 (MEDINA): LOCAL LAND USE INITIATIVES:  
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) strongly **opposes** Assembly Bill 890 (AB 890), as amended May 10, 2017. If enacted, AB 890, among other things, would (a) require local governments to determine whether a proposed local initiative measure constitutes a project under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) within 15 days after the measure is filed; (b) require a local agency to prepare a summary of that analysis; and (c) within five days of completion of analysis, submit the summary of the analysis to the initiative proponents. The bill would also establish that the provision of the summary of the analysis to the initiative proponents within 5 days of completing the CEQA analysis, would constitute approval of the initiative by the local jurisdiction for the purposes of CEQA. Further, the bill would require the jurisdiction to submit the proposed initiative, without alteration, to the voters at a special election. AB 890 raises serious concerns for local governments on many fronts.

Under this bill, local governments would be required to conduct an environmental review resulting in a tremendous cost and work load increase to the jurisdiction. In addition, the jurisdiction would have no discretion to actually comply with CEQA as the bill requires the lead agency to provide a summary of the analysis to the proponent and by providing this information, would deem the project approved. AB 890 would compel jurisdictions to call a special election for all proposed ballot measures for which an environmental review is conducted. This process can be considerably expensive for a local jurisdiction to conduct a standalone special election. Finally, this bill exposes local governments to significant liability and unacceptable risk that the jurisdiction has no control to mitigate. Even though the measure would be decided by the voters, the jurisdiction is liable for faults relating to CEQA and takes all discretion away from the lead agency in terms of project approval.

Pursuant to the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Assembly Bill 939) and Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code, 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 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, the waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies.

Based on the foregoing, the Task Force strongly **opposes** AB 890, for the reasons described herewith. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer, a Member of the Task Force at [MikeMohajer@yahoo.com](mailto:MikeMohajer@yahoo.com) or (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,



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

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cc: Assembly Member Jose Medina  
Each member of the Assembly Committee on Appropriations  
Committee Chief Consultant, Jennifer Galehouse and Jessica Peters  
California State Association of Counties  
League of California Cities – Los Angeles County Division  
Each Member of the County of Los Angeles 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 Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task  
Force