

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CIVIL GRAND JURY
2019-2020





County of Los Angeles CIVIL GRAND JURY

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February 1, 2022

Pursuant to California Penal Code section 933 and 933.05, all agencies and elected officials are required to respond to the recommendations documented in the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury final Report published on July 31, 2020. The 2021-2022 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury captured these responses and they are provided herein for review. Note: The 2020-2021 Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury was limited in their investigations due to the Covid-19 epidemic.

As of this posting:

- 1) California State Senators and California Assembly Members were not within the jurisdictional area for the "Home Sweet Home" investigation. No response was legally required from the Senators and Members.
- 2) See attached charts for agencies that did not respond after multiple attempts.

The 2021-2022 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael D. Cieplik".

Michael D. Cieplik, Chair, Continuity Committee
2021-2022 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas O'Shaughnessy".

Thomas O'Shaughnessy, Foreperson
2021-2022 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

INDEX TO RESPONSES

CIVIL GRAND JURY 2019-2020

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1.0 A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Hind Baki, Chair

Nirja Kapoor

John Palos

Jenalea Smith

Judith Whitman

Note: 1.0 Landfills responses are divided into three sections:

DEPARTMENTS, CITIES AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS

PART 1 – DEPARTMENTS

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: CUTTING DOWN ON FOOD WASTE

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.1

Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling or can establish contracts with organizations, such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis. The Board of Supervisors (Board) defers to the Department of Public Works' (DPW) response for details on the analysis.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.2

County officials should initiate programs using composting technology (such as Compostology or Earth Cube) that can compact food waste and can be easily installed in offices and schools.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. The Board defers to DPW's response for additional information on the implementation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.3

County and City officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's *Foodscraps* program and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The more immediate challenge to implementing large scale food recycling, which is noted in the Civil Grand Jury report, is the need to scale up collection and processing infrastructure. Until this infrastructure is in place, it would not be an appropriate use of limited financial resources to incentivize residents to separate food waste at this time.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.4

County officials should work with community colleges and workforce training programs, to increase classes about food waste recycling and careers in waste management that focus on diversion and conversion technologies.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented as it is premature. As noted above, the most immediate challenge to implementing large scale food recycling is the lack of adequate collection and processing infrastructure. Until this infrastructure is in place along with its related employment opportunities, it would not be an appropriate use of limited financial resources to invest in training a workforce to support the operation and maintenance of the infrastructure that does not yet exist. In addition, the Board notes that the OurCounty Sustainability Plan (OurCounty Plan) provides a hierarchy for waste management that prioritizes investments in source reduction and improving recycling over the use of these types of technologies.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.5

County officials should create a garden/compost program at Pitchess Detention Center in Castaic and investigate the option of a garden at some or all of the juvenile detention facilities.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation will not be implemented. While the Board agrees that this could be a good program in principle, we defer to the Sheriff's Department which has jurisdiction over the facility. It is noted, however, that due to the restrictions implemented as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, it may not be feasible to move forward with such a program at this time.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.6

The County Department of Public Health should develop a program to train its 300 food inspectors as "ambassadors" when they are in the field. The inspectors need to be armed with the Food DROP brochure, as well as information about how that establishment can safely separate and recycle any food waste. (This recommendation is also for Long Beach and Pasadena, which have their own Public Health departments.)

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation has been implemented. Since this recommendation is specifically directed to the Department of Public Health (DPH), the Board defers to their response on this recommendation. We note, however, that this recommendation may be aligned with action 128 in the OurCounty Sustainability Plan (OurCounty Plan) which directs that the County "enhance and expand the County's existing Food DROP food donation and redistribution program..."

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.7

The County Department of Public Health should take the lead in creating a food waste education component as part of its permit process required for all outdoor public events that will be serving food. Department officials can work with the event manager ahead of time to plan for excess edible food donation, and for how food waste will be collected and separated. (This recommendation is also for Long Beach and Pasadena, which have their own Public Health departments.)

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation will not be implemented. Since this recommendation is specifically directed to DPH, the Board defers to their response on this recommendation. We note, however, that this recommendation may be aligned with action 121 in the OurCounty Plan, which directs that the County "promote and communicate source separation, organic waste collection requirements, food waste reduction and donation, local organic waste recycling programs, and conduct targeted, sector-based educational campaigns."

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.8

County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Particularly at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

RESPONSE

Partially disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The Board defers to the response from DPH.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.9

The County Board of Supervisors should require that the vendor operating the Hall of Administration cafeteria institute procedures to separate food waste, both in the food prep area and in the dining room.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The Chief Executive Office will work with Public Works to develop resource management plans to reduce waste and set up recycling programs, including for organics. Waste haulers that provide waste collection services to County facilities will be required by the terms of their agreements to provide mandatory organic waste collection services to all County facilities by January 1, 2022. New contract language requiring that food service providers at the Hall of Administration institute procedures to separate food waste (in both the food prep area and the dining area) will be added the next time these agreements are amended or new agreements are executed.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.14

Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. The Board defers to DPW's response for additional information on the implementation since they produced the referenced plan as well as the recently released *Roadmap to a Sustainable Waste Future*, which incorporates and updates the referenced plan.

In addition, the County is a strong advocate of increasing capacity for organic waste processing. This is reflected in the targets for Strategy 9D from the Sustainability Plan, which calls for increasing organic waste processing capacity by 20 percent, 30 percent, and 45 percent by 2025, 2035, and 2045, respectively. Earlier this year, the County also co-sponsored AB 2612 (Maienschein) which would annually allocate \$200 million from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund for development of traditional and organics recycling infrastructure. As a result of the COVID-19 emergency, the bill is currently on hold; however, it may be reintroduced in 2021.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: CUTTING DOWN ON FOOD WASTE

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.1

Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling or can establish contracts with organizations, such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis. The Chief Executive Office (CEO) defers to the Department of Public Works' (DPW) response for details on the analysis.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.2

County officials should initiate programs using composting technology (such as Compostology or Earth Cube) that can compact food waste and can be easily installed in offices and schools.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. The CEO defers to DPW's response for additional information on the implementation.

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RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The more immediate challenge to implementing large scale food recycling, which is noted in the Civil Grand Jury report, is the need to scale up collection and processing infrastructure. Until this infrastructure is in place, it would not be an appropriate use of limited financial resources to incentivize residents to separate food waste at this time.

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RESPONSE

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RESPONSE

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RESPONSE

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RESPONSE

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RESPONSE

Partially disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The CEO defers to the response from DPH.

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The County Board of Supervisors should require that the vendor operating the Hall of Administration cafeteria institute procedures to separate food waste, both in the food prep area and in the dining room.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The CEO will work with Public Works to develop resource management plans to reduce waste and set up recycling programs, including for organics. Waste haulers that provide waste collection services to County facilities will be required by the terms of their agreements to provide mandatory organic waste collection services to all County facilities by January 1, 2022. New contract language requiring that food service providers at the Hall of Administration institute procedures to separate food waste (in both the food prep area and the dining area) will be added the next time these agreements are amended or new agreements are executed.

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RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. The CEO defers to DPW's response for additional information on the implementation since they produced the referenced plan as well as the recently released *Roadmap to a Sustainable Waste Future*, which incorporates and updates the referenced plan.

In addition, the County is a strong advocate of increasing capacity for organic waste processing. This is reflected in the targets for Strategy 9D from the Sustainability Plan, which calls for increasing organic waste processing capacity by 20 percent, 30 percent, and 45 percent by 2025, 2035, and 2045, respectively. Earlier this year, the County also co-sponsored AB 2612 (Maienschein) which would annually allocate \$200 million from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund for development of traditional and organics recycling infrastructure. As a result of the COVID-19 emergency, the bill is currently on hold; however, it may be reintroduced in 2021.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE -CHIEF SUSTAINABILITY OFFICE

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: CUTTING DOWN ON FOOD WASTE

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.1

Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling or can establish contracts with organizations, such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis. The Chief Sustainability Office (CSO) defers to the Department of Public Works' (DPW) response for details on the analysis.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.2

County officials should initiate programs using composting technology (such as Compostology or Earth Cube) that can compact food waste and can be easily installed in offices and schools.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. The CSO defers to DPW's response for additional information on the implementation.

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RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The more immediate challenge to implementing large scale food recycling, which is noted in the Civil Grand Jury report, is the need to scale up collection and processing infrastructure. Until this infrastructure is in place, it would not be an appropriate use of limited financial resources to incentivize residents to separate food waste at this time.

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RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.5

County officials should create a garden/compost program at Pitchess Detention Center in Castaic and investigate the option of a garden at some or all of the juvenile detention facilities.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation will not be implemented. While the CSO agrees that this could be a good program in principle, we defer to the Sheriff's Department which has jurisdiction over the facility. It is noted, however, that due to the restrictions implemented as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, it may not be feasible to move forward with such a program at this time.

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RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation has been implemented. Since this recommendation is specifically directed to the Department of Public Health (DPH), the CSO defers to their response on this recommendation. We note, however, that this recommendation may be aligned with action 128 in the OurCounty Plan which directs that the County "enhance and expand the County's existing Food DROP food donation and redistribution program..."

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.7

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RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation will not be implemented. Since this recommendation is specifically directed to DPH, the CSO defers to their response on this recommendation. We note, however, that this recommendation may be aligned with action 121 in the OurCounty Plan, which directs that the County "promote and communicate source separation, organic waste collection requirements, food waste reduction and donation, local organic waste recycling programs, and conduct targeted, sector-based educational campaigns."

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.8

County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

RESPONSE

Partially disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The CSO defers to the response from DPH.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.9

The County Board of Supervisors should require that the vendor operating the Hall of Administration cafeteria institute procedures to separate food waste, both in the food prep area, and in the dining room.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The CEO will work with Public Works to develop resource management plans to reduce waste and set up recycling programs, including for organics. Waste haulers that provide waste collection services to County facilities will be required by the terms of their agreements to provide mandatory organic waste collection services to all County facilities by January 1, 2022. New contract language requiring that food service providers at the Hall of Administration institute procedures to separate food waste (in both the food prep area and the dining area) will be added the next time these agreements are amended or new agreements are executed.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.10

The City of Los Angeles should partner with LA Compost to expand that organization's footprint in the city to increase its capacity to collect and compost food waste.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. This recommendation is specific to the City of Los Angeles, so the CSO defers to the City of Los Angeles's response.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.11

The City of Los Angeles should work with its 99 Neighborhood Councils to increase public education around food waste separation/recycling programs.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. This recommendation is specific to the City of Los Angeles, so the CSO defers to the City of Los Angeles' response.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school and monitor edible food recovery efforts.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation will not be implemented. This recommendation is specific to school districts within the County, so the CSO defers to their response.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation will not be implemented. This recommendation is specific to school districts within the County, so the CSO defers to their response.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.14

Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. The CSO defers to DPW's response for additional information on the implementation since they produced the referenced plan as well as the recently released *Roadmap to a Sustainable Waste Future*, which incorporates and updates the referenced plan.

In addition, the County is a strong advocate of increasing capacity for organic waste processing. This is reflected in the targets for Strategy 9D from the Sustainability Plan which call for increasing organic waste processing capacity by 20 percent, 30 percent, and 45 percent by 2025, 2035, and 2045, respectively. Earlier this year, the County also co-sponsored AB 2612 (Maienschein) which would annually allocate \$200 million from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund for development of traditional and organics recycling infrastructure. As a result of the COVID-19 emergency, the bill is currently on hold; however, it may be reintroduced in 2021.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
INTERNAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

**2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: CUTTING DOWN ON FOOD WASTE**

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.14

Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

RESPONSE

This recommendation will not be implemented. Internal Services Department does not have jurisdiction over this recommendation.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: CUTTING DOWN ON FOOD WASTE

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.8

County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people¹⁴² for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite,^[1] and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

RESPONSE

The Department of Parks and Recreation agrees with the recommendation.

Further analysis is needed and will be completed by February 28, 2021.

The County park facilities are maintained and operated by private operators and foundations under a Board-approved agreement. Discussions with these entities, their stakeholders and review of their contracts with the County and their applicable sub-contracts are necessary to determine if this recommendation is feasible at the sites.

For example, the Hollywood Bowl is more than a concert venue. It hosts tailgate parties and other special events. A thorough analysis on the implementation of a food waste recycling program at this facility will require input from its many stakeholders, along with an analysis of the associated costs and the ability to negotiate and amend existing contracts.

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^[1] <https://www.hollywoodbowl.com/visit/when-youre-here>

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PROBATION DEPARTMENT**

**2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: CUTTING DOWN ON FOOD WASTE**

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.5

County officials should create a garden/compost program at Pitchess Detention Center in Castaic and investigate the option of a garden at some or all of the juvenile detention facilities.

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. The Department will implement this recommendation within Probation facilities, with the exception of the Pitchess Detention Center, as it is not a Probation owned facility. Probation has prior experience with gardens tended by youth in our facilities and continues to involve youth in personal development programs such as green-scape garden and facility upkeep. Having youth share in the creation and care of these gardens contributes to their overall feelings of comfort, responsibility, and accomplishment. However, gardens will not be intended to provide vegetables for consumption by youth as it is not practical due to regulations that require periodic monitoring and sampling of various aspects of detention facility vegetable gardens such as soil, nutrients, and water content.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH - ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: CUTTING DOWN ON FOOD WASTE

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.6

The County Department of Public Health should develop a program to train its 300 food inspectors as "ambassadors" when they are in the field. The inspectors need to be armed with the Food DROP brochure, 141 as well as information about how that establishment can safely separate and recycle any food waste. (This recommendation is also for Long Beach and Pasadena, which have their own Public Health departments.)

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. In January and February of 2018, DPH developed a program and trained 480 of its Environmental Health Specialists, on "Safe Surplus Food Donations" which is applicable in 85 of the 88 contract cities, including county unincorporated. As field "ambassadors," inspectors began distributing informational brochures in February 2020 in English and Spanish on food waste and donations to Los Angeles County permitted food businesses during routine field inspections.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.7

The County Department of Public Health should take the lead in creating a food waste education component as part of its permit process required for all outdoor public events that will be serving food. Department officials can work with the event manager ahead of time to plan for excess edible food donation, and for how food waste will be collected and separated. (This recommendation is also for Long Beach and Pasadena, which have their own Public Health departments.)

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. This recommendation will not be implemented. Due to the current response to the COVID-19 pandemic, resources are not available at this time to do the education and outreach that is needed. DPH-EH defers to the response provided by DPH.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.8

County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picknicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. Please refer to the response provided by DPH.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.9

The County Board of Supervisors should require that the vendor operating the Hall of Administration cafeteria institute procedures to separate food waste, both in the food prep area, and in the dining room.

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. This recommendation will not be implemented. DPH-EH defers to the Public Works response for this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school, and monitor edible food recovery efforts.

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. This recommendation will not be implemented. In the latter part of 2019, an assessment of the 80 school districts was conducted by DPH and the Los Angeles County Office of Education, through an online survey (of which 50 percent of the school districts responded), informant interviews and review of official school documents. The goal was to gather data on the school districts' waste prevention strategies, the way they were implemented, where they were being practiced and the extent of the implementation. Findings from this assessment was compiled into a draft publication titled "Food Recovery in School Districts – A Snapshot of Food Waste Prevention and Reduction Activities in School Districts in LA County" pending Board approval.

The results of the assessment revealed most schools were implementing at least three activities to help reduce food waste, through such programs as "Offer vs. Service," applied "Smarter Lunchroom" techniques, and the implementation of share tables. Among the least popular responses for food waste prevention/reduction efforts, was the composting of food scraps both on and/or off site.

For DPH to explore the feasibility of the effectiveness of a garden and compost program and to monitor edible food recovery in every school would require the participation of all school districts, developing a plan with the County's Department of Public Works, another assessment to be conducted in order to obtain additional data, and identifying different funding sources. Also, a Countywide outreach and educational program would have to be developed in order to overcome the dislike of composting activities, as noted in the assessment's findings. A funding source to implement would need to be identified.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The development of a garden/compost program would require further engagement with all 80 school districts, exploring strategies to overcome challenges presented by seasonal climate and its impact on a viable garden. Other issues to consider include the need to address cultural backgrounds and needs of student populations with varying diets and tastes. The effectiveness of such a program would require the approval and acceptance of school districts as well as a well-coordinated effort with Public Works, an extensive educational and outreach plan with significant funding and resources to implement.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: CUTTING DOWN ON FOOD WASTE

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.6

The County Department of Public Health should develop a program to train its 300 food inspectors as "ambassadors" when they are in the field. The inspectors need to be armed with the Food DROP brochure, as well as information about how that establishment can safely separate and recycle any food waste. (This recommendation is also for Long Beach and Pasadena, which have their own Public Health departments.)

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The Department of Public Health (DPH) supports the ability to leverage its workforce to inform permitted food businesses about safely donating surplus food and encourages participation in existing food redistribution programs, such as Food DROP.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.7

The County Department of Public Health should take the lead in creating a food waste education component as part of its permit process required for all outdoor public events that will be serving food. Department officials can work with the event manager ahead of time to plan for excess edible food donation, and for how food waste will be collected and separated. (This recommendation is also for Long Beach and Pasadena, which have their own Public Health departments.)

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation will not be implemented. Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic response efforts, the resources needed to expand education and outreach are not available. DPH plays and will continue to play a supporting role to Public Works in their efforts to ensure compliance to the Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCP): Organic Waste Methane Emissions Reductions policy. In addition to establishing targets to reduce the level of statewide disposal of organic waste, this policy included an additional target that no less than 20 percent of currently disposed edible food is recovered by 2025. DPH is also supportive of assisting Public Works in their existing efforts, including the Food DROP program, to develop a food waste education program on how waste can be collected and separated.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.8

County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picknicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented at this time. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, adequate resources and staffing needed to proceed with this work are not available.

DPH's Division of Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention (CDIP) currently reviews all new and/or renewing Requests for Proposals for food and vending services to ensure dietary requirements are integrated into final contracts, as required through the *Healthy Food Promotion in County Food Service Contracts* motion, adopted by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors in 2011. To include requirements on food waste separation and recycling in multiple County contracts, a comprehensive assessment of County departments and their food service contracts will be necessary to provide an in-depth understanding of the number of departments that currently require the implementation of food waste separation and recycling programs in their contracts and the potential costs of doing so. The contracting process is complex and varies to some degree by department and non-department entity.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.9

The County Board of Supervisors should require that the vendor operating the Hall of Administration cafeteria institute procedures to separate food waste, both in the food prep area, and in the dining room.

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. This recommendation will not be implemented. DPH defers to the Public Works response for this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school, and monitor edible food recovery efforts.

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. This recommendation will not be implemented. DPH recognizes that schools are responsible for an estimated 1-2 percent of food wasted in the United States, which translates to approximately 26 percent of a school district's budget. DPH appreciates the need to support edible food recovery in schools and has developed two guides that schools can use as resources to support their efforts in implementing edible food recovery strategies, such as establishing share tables. These two guides are titled, 'Share Tables and Food Donations in Schools Best Practices for Los Angeles County,' and 'CalFresh Healthy Living Share Table Implementation Guide.'

Garden and composting programs can have a myriad of benefits to students, including making healthier food choices, as well as improving social and emotional health. While there are many benefits, significant challenges to establishing gardening and composting programs Countywide need to be addressed, including time, staff, funding, curriculum, and space. While the County can provide capacity building opportunities for individual schools to address these challenges, it is up to each school district to examine its priorities and allocate its resources towards efforts such as these.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation will not be implemented, as these efforts are contingent on State funding. Many after-school daycare providers receive state funding, which has dwindled over time. Current programs may lack the capacity to develop a garden/compost program.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: CUTTING DOWN ON FOOD WASTE

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.1

Each of the 88 cities and the County's unincorporated areas should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling or can establish contracts with organizations, such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation requires further analysis which will be completed by February 2021. Public Works will conduct further analysis within the unincorporated County to determine exactly where and how to implement a pilot program. Public Works will consider establishing a pilot in partnership with community gardens and farmers markets. Public Works defers to the cities on their role in establishing food waste drop-off centers.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.2

County officials should initiate programs using composting technology (such as Compostology or Earth Cube) that can compact food waste and can be easily installed in offices and schools.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. Public Works currently uses worm bins to compost pre-consumer food waste at its Headquarters. In addition, Public Works has prepared information about small-scale on-site organic waste processing technologies and plans to post the information online by the end of 2020. Public Works will also provide assistance to businesses, County facilities, schools, and other local jurisdictions that are interested in utilizing these technologies.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.3

County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the City of Santa Barbara, businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the City's Food Scraps Program and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. This recommendation will not be implemented. Monetary incentives can be a good tool in certain situations; however, in this case, in accordance with SB1383, the County must require residents and businesses to use organic waste collection services and enforce the requirements with monetary penalties for noncompliance therefore incentives are not appropriate.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.4

County officials should work with community colleges and workforce training programs to increase classes about food waste recycling and careers in waste management that focus on diversion and conversion technologies.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented by Public Works as jurisdiction for this recommendation lies with the community colleges. Public Works does not operate waste management or recycling facilities but can support County efforts to develop educational programs related to those activities.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.5

County officials should create a garden/compost program at Pitchess Detention Center in Castaic and investigate the option of a garden at some or all of the juvenile detention facilities.

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. This recommendation will not be implemented by Public Works as jurisdiction lies with the Sheriff's Department. Public Works has previously assisted Pitchess Detention Center with their recycling programs, including their farming and composting program.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.7

The County Department of Public Health should take the lead in creating a food waste education component as part of its permit process required for all outdoor public events that will be serving food. Department officials can work with the event manager ahead of time to plan for excess edible food donation and for how food waste will be collected and separated.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will be implemented with respect to Public Works' role in developing educational materials. Public Works defers to Public Health's response regarding their role in this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.8

County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options on-site, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds. Implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

RESPONSE

Agree. Implementation of this recommendation is in progress with respect to Public Works' role. Public Works has been working with County facilities to develop resource management plans to reduce waste and set up recycling programs, including for organics. Public Works will continue scheduling site visits and waste assessments at large venues and facilities generating large amounts of food waste. Public Works defers to other County agencies' responses regarding their role in this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.9

The County Board of Supervisors should require that the vendor operating the Hall of Administration cafeteria institute procedures to separate food waste, both in the food prep area and in the dining room.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. Public Works has been working with County facilities to develop resource management plans to reduce waste and set up recycling programs, including for organics. Public Works has discussed implementing food waste collection programs at other County facilities and can assist with this effort. Public Works defers to the CEO's response regarding their role in this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school and monitor edible food recovery efforts.

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. This recommendation will not be implemented as jurisdiction lies with school districts. It is important to note that Public Works has provided assistance to school districts that are interested in developing sustainable gardening, composting, and edible food recovery programs through its Smart Gardening Program and can continue to support school districts in their efforts to create such programs.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.14

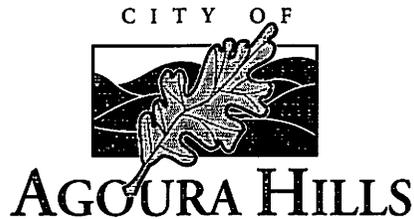
Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented in County unincorporated areas. The first part of this recommendation is referring to the County's "2018 Countywide Organic Waste Management Plan." Page 39 of the plan lists 11 Organic Waste Management Options. Elected officials and jurisdictions may consider these options, separately or in conjunction with one another, to divert organic waste. Public Works is currently working on implementing many of these options, such as an enforcement ordinance, contract modifications, exclusive commercial hauling, and source separated organics collection. While Public Works agrees that jurisdictions should consider the 11 Options as they develop organics recycling programs, they are not a one-size-fits-all solution and jurisdictions will need to assess each individual Option and implement them as appropriate.

Public Works agrees with the need to express support for increasing organic waste infrastructure capacity.

PART-- 2 CITIES



"Gateway to the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area"

October 20, 2020

The Honorable Kevin C. Brazille
Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Flr., Rm. 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: Diet of Landfills; 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury –
City of Agoura Hills' Response**

Dear Judge Brazille:

The City of Agoura Hills appreciates the effort and hard work of the Civil Grand Jury to evaluate the important issue of food waste and its impacts on the environment. The City has historically supported all efforts to reduce its refuse allocations to local landfills by the many recycling and collection programs currently underway. Additionally, the City continues to evaluate future impacts in response to legislation AB 341, AB 1826 and AB 1383. In response to the Civil Grand Jury recommendations, enclosed please find the City's response to recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14 associated with the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury report.

While the City continues its examination of future programs to help reduce refuse and organic waste, it must go on record to respectfully encourage the Civil Grand Jury respectfully take into consideration the current economic circumstances created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

While the City supports all efforts to reduce the impact on area landfills, and has historically demonstrated its support through the various refuse, recycling and collections programs currently in place, many of the recommendations will create additional economic hardships for the business, and possibly residential sectors, who will be required to participate in many of the mandated programs. The lack of adequate processing facilities will impact collection costs which will ultimately be passed along to residential and business customers.

Additionally, at this time, many businesses are struggling to keep their doors open due to the limited operations allowed by current County Health Officer orders. New additional programs

and their associated costs, will only add to their current burdens. The City has also experienced challenges due to the pandemic, which has resulted in severe budget reductions that have impacted staff and revenue resources. Finally, the unknown future economic recovery effects from the pandemic must be taken in to consideration.

The City will continue its due diligence to cut down food waste, and fully supports efforts to reduce the amount of refuse being disposed at local landfills. However, we all must examine whether during the pandemic is the time to mandate new programs and/or studies in response to recommendations from this report. The Civil Grand Jury must consider permitting agencies time to address these issues when economic times improve.

Thank you again for the Civil Grand Jury's efforts. Should you have any questions, please contact Louis Celaya, Deputy City Manager, at [REDACTED].

Respectfully,



Illece Buckley Weber
Mayor

cc: City Council
City Manager

Attachment: City of Agoura Hills Response - Grand Jury Report: A Diet for Landfills

City of Agoura Hills Response

Grand Jury Report: A Diet for Landfills

Report Recommendation	City Response - C.P.C.S. 933.05 (a) Response	C.P.C.S. 933.05 (b) Response regarding Implementation
<p>1.1 Each of the 88 cities, and the County's incorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.</p>	<p>The City disagrees with this finding. The City has limited resources and the lack of knowledge and expertise to establish a food drop-off center. Additionally, there are no local permitted composting facilities in the nearby region. The City's current residential franchise hauler does have the capacity to accept limited food waste within its collections of green waste recycling. The capacity for a larger scale food collection, from a food waste drop off center is still not available. City residents can currently add food waste such as bread, fruit, vegetables, teas bags, coffee grounds, fish and meat into the green waste residential containers. The residential program/service is available at no cost to residential customers. The material is hauled to the Simi Landfill and then to Kern County for composting.</p>	<p>The recommendation requires further analysis. The City will consider conducting a study on the feasibility of establishing a food waste drop-off program. It is possible at the conclusion of the study that the program will not be created or warranted due to current regulations associated with AB 1826 and AB 1383 and the current collection programs in place for both residential and commercial organic collection.</p>
<p>Recommendation 1.3 County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the</p>	<p>The City partially agrees with this finding. The recommendation of an incentive program has the potential to work if the cost for food waste diversion is less than the cost for landfilling waste. Due to the lack of sufficient processing facilities available, the cost for transporting food waste to two facilities that are substantially distanced from many</p>	<p>The recommendation has been partially implemented. There are current collection programs in place for both residential and commercial organic collection. Future incentive programs will need to be studied and evaluated. The City will consider conducting a</p>

<p>form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's <i>Foodscraps</i> program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.</p>	<p>municipalities at the western end of the County of Los Angeles drive up food waste recycling costs. This is the result of the refuse waste collectors' inability to process food locally. The processing of food waste is far more expensive than disposal or recycling. As a practice, refuse waste haulers for the last year have established the organics/food diversion at the same rate as trash. Finally, the City has begun the process for commercial businesses to have the ability to establish a food waste collection program. Current permitted commercial collectors are required to provide organics collection programs. Commercial business are subjected to the following challenges: 1) High cost of organics collection program; 2) Turn-over rate of employees charged with properly disposing of organics creates issues with inconsistent disposal; 3) Currently COVID-19 has created unprecedented hardship for many businesses; and 4) Many commercial sector centers in the City were designed in the early 1970's with limited refuse collection enclosure space which presently cannot accommodate additional containers for organic collection.</p>	<p>study on the feasibility of establishing incentive programs. It is possible at the conclusion of the study that the program will not be created or warranted due to current regulations associated with AB 1826 and AB 1383.</p>
<p>Recommendation 1.8 County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County</p>	<p>The City agrees with this finding.</p>	<p>The City has implemented this recommendation. In Agoura Hills, there are no large venue facilities where the City has contracts with food vendors. Small city events, whereby food vendors may be available, could require some implementation method for food waste collection by the vendor. The</p>

City of Agoura Hills Response

<p>Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.</p>		<p>City also has as part of its refuse and recycling collection process for community events methods for food/organics recycling which it could establish with its franchise collector. These methods consist of the provision of collection bins for refuse and recycling. A food waste refuse collection bin can be added to this current process. Finally, the City would also require applicants who host non-city events at park sites, where a permit is issued for use, to implement food waste collection program in addition to the normal refuse and recycling collection as a condition of approval</p>
<p>Recommendation 1.14 Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new</p>	<p>The City partially agrees with this finding.</p>	<p>The City will not implement all eleven recommendations as the majority are targeted toward County or City of Los Angeles operations that do not pertain to the City. The City will implement the applicable recommendations to which it has responded. With respect to advocating with CalRecycle, the City continually advocates for quicker permitting of processing facilities in its annual meeting with CalRecycle staff. The City also comments as appropriate</p>

City of Agoura Hills Response

facilities to handle organic waste.		on proposed legislation that would support this endeavor.
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City of Alhambra
Office of the Mayor and City Council

October 12, 2020

Presiding Judge Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shorridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste – City of Alhambra

To The Honorable Presiding Judge:

In response to the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury's report "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste," the City of Alhambra submits the following responses to the four recommendations (Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14) requested by the Mayors of the 88 cities located within Los Angeles County.

RECOMMENDATION:

1.1 Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

Response:

The City of Alhambra disagrees with this recommendation. The City has concerns that any containers utilized as part of a food waste drop-off center would likely become contaminated with other waste streams; thereby, rendering any food waste collected unusable for recycling or composting purposes. Further, the City's position is that more efficient food waste collection and diversion programs can be established when its new solid waste and recycling franchise agreement for commercial and residential services is installed (July 2021) with scope in compliance with State mandates under S.B. 1383.

Actions:

While more efficient food waste collection and diversion programs are being sought under the City's new waste management agreement, it should be noted the City's current franchise hauler, Republic Services, offers a commercial organics recycling and food diversion program on a voluntary basis for all business customers within the city. To date, the City has over 80 commercial customers who have subscribed to the program. Currently, Republic Services partners with Food Finders for food diversion efforts to help provide edible food



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partners with Food Finders for food diversion efforts to help provide edible food for those experiencing food insecurity in the community. The City's franchise hauler was also recently recognized as the 2020 Organics Recycler of the Year by the National Waste and Recycling organization.

Alhambra's new franchise agreement will implement a "mandatory" (as opposed to a voluntary) organics recycling program citywide to meet State requirements under S.B. 1383. The City will continue to build upon its current commercial organics recycling program under the new franchise agreement regardless of which franchise waste hauler is selected. In addition to providing mandatory organics recycling services, each RFP respondent is offering food diversion options for commercial food generators and composting bins and materials for community use. Furthermore, the City may explore potential partnerships in the future between the City's Community Garden and local businesses for food waste recycling purposes, which could be facilitated by the City's franchise waste hauler pursuant to negotiations. The new franchise agreement is scheduled to go into effect on July 1, 2021.

RECOMMENDATION:

1.3 County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's *Foodscraps* program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

Response:

The City of Alhambra disagrees with this recommendation. New legislative requirements mandate all residences and commercial generators comply with food waste separation and collection. In addition, any possible incentives may require negotiating with the City's new hauler; nonetheless, the City can pursue a discussion. Overall, the City contends the key to compliance shall be to secure the tools needed to enforce (ordinances) and educate.

Actions:

The City of Alhambra expects to pass a mandatory organics recycling ordinance in early 2021. The ordinance will mandate all residential and business customers subscribe to organics recycling services to comply with State mandates under S.B. 1383. Failure to comply with the ordinance will result in written warnings, including, and up, to administrative citations for non-compliance. The City is also in the middle of an RFP process for a new solid waste and recycling franchise agreement. The City is open to discussing a recognition program where businesses are acknowledged for their recycling efforts. This type of business incentive may need to be established as part of contract negotiations with the successful proposer for solid waste and recycling services.

Furthermore, the City's new solid waste and recycling franchise agreement will go into effect on July 1, 2021. A major component to this new agreement is extensive education and outreach to both residents and businesses regarding new organics recycling services and the importance of compliance with CalRecycle mandates. That outreach and education shall be achieved via a collaborative effort by the City and the new hauler. By combining a mandatory organics recycling ordinance with franchise waste hauler organics recycling services and educational outreach, the City believes it will ensure compliance with statutory requirements under S.B. 1383.

RECOMMENDATION:

1.8 County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl., which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options on site, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

Response:

The City of Alhambra agrees with this recommendation to work with vendors and require City facilities to separate food waste and place in the appropriate containers. The City expects to pass a mandatory organics recycling ordinance in early 2021. After the passage of the ordinance, the City will coordinate with its sole food vendor at the Almansor Court facility to comply with A.B. 827, A.B. 1826 and S.B. 1383 organics recycling requirements. The City will also install source separated food waste recycling containers in employee break rooms and place food waste recycling containers at large scale city-sponsored events such the annual 4th of July Celebration, and the summer movies and concerts in the park series.

Actions:

The recommendation has not yet been implemented; however, it will be implemented with the installation of the new solid waste and recycling franchise agreement on July 1, 2021.

RECOMMENDATION:

1.14 Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

Response:

The City agrees with the overall need to increase capacity to handle organic waste regionally and build new facilities. The City also agrees with most of the suggestions outlined by the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan; however, disagrees that additional actions are necessary, such as incentives, until such time the City has had time to evaluate compliance based on the new hauler arrangements, ordinances, and education and outreach. The City expects the mandatory organics recycling ordinance, combined with extensive community outreach and education, will be sufficient to meet the diversion goals established by CalRecycle.

Actions:

Implementation of the City's recycling goals will be achieved with the passage of a mandatory organics recycling ordinance in the early 2021 and the implementation of a new solid waste and recycling franchise agreement on July 1, 2021.

The City of Alhambra is fully committed to implementing a comprehensive citywide organics recycling program in order to decrease the amount of food waste being diverted to landfills and reduce its greenhouse gas emissions. The City has already taken the initial steps forward with the anticipated mandatory organics recycling ordinance in early 2021 and a new solid waste and recycling franchise waste hauler agreement on July 1, 2021. The City's recycling goals are adequately addressed in the City's RFP and Agreement with the hauler.

The City of Alhambra initiated an RFP process on April 28, 2020 for a new solid waste and recycling franchise agreement. The key centerpiece to the new agreement is compliance with State laws A.B. 1826, A.B. 827, and S.B. 1383 which will essentially require all residential and business customers in the City to recycle organic waste. In addition, the new agreement will require a prospective franchise waste hauler to offer organics recycling containers and services, transfer materials to a facility capable of processing organic materials, and provide the proper reporting to the City to ensure compliance with State law. The City has already completed the first step in the RFP process and received proposals from multiple solid waste franchise haulers. Once proposal evaluations have been completed, the finalists will be presented to City Council for an award of contract and negotiate final terms in early 2021. The contract negotiations will determine the rate structure for services, scope and frequency of services, and any other incentive measures that may be established through the process. The new programs and services will go into effect on July 1, 2021.

Respectfully



David Mejia
Mayor



Jessica Binnquist
City Manager



City of Arcadia

Office of the City Council

Roger Chandler
Mayor

Sho Tay
Mayor Pro Tem

Tom Beck
Council Member

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October 12, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: City of Arcadia Response to "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

Dear Presiding Judge:

The City of Arcadia is in receipt of the Civil Grand Jury's report entitled "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste" on July 8, 2020. The City reviewed the report and below is our response to the recommendations outlined in the report.

Recommendations:

- 1.1 *Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.*

The City of Arcadia is currently in the process of renegotiating its exclusive single family and multi-family franchise agreement. Part of the service includes allowing residents to mix food waste and greenwaste into one "organics" cart to be picked up weekly as part of weekly trash collection service. The food waste and greenwaste will be taken to a facility in Tulare County and turned into compost. We anticipate beginning implementation of organics collection at single family residences prior to the January 1, 2022, deadline. Therefore, a weekly food waste drop-off center would not be necessary once the organics collection service is implemented.

- 1.3 *County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or*

a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

The City of Arcadia is unlikely to implement an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. Since food waste diversion is mandated by law, incentives will not be necessary. However, the City will be revising its Ordinance in the next several months to require covered commercial generators to have organics recycling in place, consistent with SB 1383, and work with businesses to ensure compliance.

In addition, as part of the City's renegotiation with the exclusive franchise hauler, the City will require the franchise hauler to offer a standard service that includes organics recycling to single family and multi-family dwellings greater than 5 units. The City expects to have the organics recycling program in place prior to the January 1, 2022, deadline.

- 1.8 *County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.*

While the Arboretum is located within city limits, the Arboretum is operated and managed by County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation and is outside of the City of Arcadia's jurisdiction. It is assumed that the management of food waste at the Arboretum will be integrated with other County facilities in the County's response.

The City of Arcadia has no City owned/sponsored facilities that are managed by outside food vendors. However, the City manages the Let's Do Lunch program in which senior citizens can purchase low cost prepared lunches at the Senior Center Monday through Friday. The City will be monitoring to ensure that organic waste is separated and placed in the appropriate containers.

In addition, the City will review, and if necessary, modify its facility rental agreements to ensure that applicants are aware of the requirements to participate in both traditional recycling and organics recycling at those facilities. All rental facilities will be equipped with all the necessary containers to ensure an easy and convenient way to recycle as well as facilities where organic waste is generated.

1.14 *Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity on site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.*

The City of Arcadia is in agreement to many of the options outlined in the County of Los Angeles Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan (Plan) dated March 2018. The City is committed to meeting the goals outlined in the Plan consistent with the goals of SB 1383. That said, the City is in the process of initiating discussions with the residential franchise hauler and the commercial haulers to offer services that are compliant with SB 1383; reviewing and updating the City's existing Ordinance to incorporate new language from the State's Model Ordinance and disseminating outreach and education materials and information to all affected generators on the upcoming changes to their refuse and recycling services.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Tom Tait, Public Works Services Director via phone at [REDACTED] or via email at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,



Roger Chandler
Mayor



"Service Builds Tomorrow's Progress"

THE CITY OF ARTESIA, CALIFORNIA

18747 CLARKDALE AVENUE, ARTESIA, CALIFORNIA 90701

Telephone 562 / 865-6262

FAX 562 / 865-6240

October 12, 2020

Kevin Brazile, Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: City of Artesia Response to Grand Jury Report Entitled "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

Honorable Judge Brazile:

On July 8, 2020, the Los Angeles County Grand Jury issued its report entitled, "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste" (the "Report"). In the Report, the Civil Grand Jury recommends that cities and districts in Los Angeles County recommend a public education campaign around food waste that creates drop-off food waste centers in more areas of the County and provides financial incentives, as well as County-owned facilities "leading by example" in recycling food waste.

At the conclusion of the Report, the Grand Jury requested a response from the City of Artesia ("City") to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8 and 1.14. The City provides the following responses to these Recommendations in accordance with Penal Code §933.05.

Recommendations:

1.1 The Grand Jury recommends that each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

While the City agrees that food waste must be collected, the establishment of a drop-off center is not necessary. Currently, the City's exclusive

franchise agreement with CR&R, Inc. includes organic waste service for all residential and commercial customers. This service is free for commercial customers and there is a nominal charge for residential customers. As part of the City's efforts to ensure compliance with the State organic waste mandates of AB1826, SB1383 and AB827, all customers will be required to subscribe to organics service. Food waste recycling regulations as adopted by the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) requires cities to pass an ordinance mandating on-site separation and recycling of food waste for both the commercial and residential sectors under a specific timeline (enforcement is to begin January 1, 2022). Further, due to budgetary restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the City has neither the staff nor the funds to arrange for regular pickup and delivery of food waste as recommended. Thus, a separate drop-off location will be unnecessary and impractical.

However, the City will monitor resident demands and work with its waste hauler to gauge feasibility of a drop-off program and will consider it to be included in any future amendment to the franchise agreement.

1.3. The Grand Jury recommends that County and City officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on solid waste fee. For example, in the City of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program and can have several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be considered as a future community outreach program. The City is currently reviewing the waste rates for potential changes. One such aspect is the rates for organics recycling which would potentially include a discount for those who source separate rather than co-mingle and require material recovery facility processing (MRF). Incorporating such discounts will provide incentive to separate food waste. Tentative timeframe for any rate adjustment/implementation is Q2 of 2021. However, as stated above, the City's exclusive franchise agreement already includes organic waste service for all residential and commercial customers.

1.8. The Grand Jury recommends County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling, etc... implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

The recommendation requires further analysis as the City does not have food vendor companies that are inside City facilities. The City does contract with an approved County of Los Angeles vendor who provides meals to seniors at the City's Community Center, Monday through Friday. The City will be looking into amending the agreement with the contractor to include providing a separate waste bin for food waste. Additionally, the City does comply with the requirements of AB 2176 (large venue and large event recycling) and reports its compliance annually to CalRecycle. However, the City will incorporate food waste separation and food waste recycling program public education as part of and in accordance with SB1383 tiered regulations.

1.14 The Grand Jury recommends elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

- 1. Commercial Recycling Ordinance. Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. We are working with CalRecycle to craft an Ordinance that will codify the mandatory organics recycling requirements of SB1383. This Ordinance will mandate organics recycling for all customers as well as monitoring and education activities to ensure compliance with CalRecycle's mandates. Currently, the City is reviewing the draft model language for this Ordinance released by CalRecycle in September 2020.

- 2. SFR Recycling Ordinance. Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single-family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. We are working with CalRecycle to craft an Ordinance that will codify the mandatory organics recycling requirements of SB1383 (as mentioned above). This Ordinance will include mandatory organics recycling programs for all commercial and residential customers. This will be made possible utilizing

the City's existing disposal service which include a variety of container sizes and curbside pick-up for organics.

- 3. Self-Haul Standards. Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.*

The City is currently implementing the former part of this recommendation by including equivalent language in an Ordinance that will codify the mandatory organics recycling requirements of SB1383. This will utilize annual customer audits and reporting requirements implemented by the City's franchised waste hauler per the existing franchise agreement. However, establishing a system to regulate self-haul landscapers would be very challenging logistically and thus the latter part of this recommendation is impractical to implement. The sheer volume of unlicensed gardening, and landscaping contractors in the greater Los Angeles area alone would make this very difficult. It would require a significant amount of staff effort to manage.

- 4. Flow Control. Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City has language in its franchise agreement currently that ensures maximum diversion and composting of organic waste. The agreement requires the hauler to take green waste to a facility that ensures maximum diversion upon approval by the City. A future amendment to the agreement is planned for 2021 that will strengthen this language, in line with the requirements of SB1383, by extending this requirement indefinitely and requiring it adapt to any future changes in State or local laws

- 5. Contract Modification. Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City has language in its franchise agreement currently that ensures maximum diversion and composting of organic waste. A future amendment to the

agreement is planned that will strengthen this language, in line with the requirements of SB1383 as mentioned above.

6. Exclusive Commercial Hauling. Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City has language in its franchise agreement currently that ensures maximum diversion and composting of organic waste. Annual reporting requirements also include detailed information on tonnage and facilities used for organic waste processing. A future amendment to the agreement will strengthen this language, in line with the requirements of SB1383, to include food donation education and reporting along with customer site audits to help monitor contamination.

7. Source Separated Organics Collection. Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City will soon begin working with its waste hauler to include a plan for adopting and implementing a source separated organics collection program across all customer sectors. It is anticipated that these new programs will be in place by December 31, 2021.

This is in the current franchise agreement and is planned to be included when the agreement is amended in 2021.

8. Wet/Dry Collection. Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City currently offers all customers source-separate collection of organics using dedicated organics containers. The City does not see a need for wet/dry separation at this time. Ongoing monitoring of the service will help determine need and feasibility before considering implementation of any changes to this existing service.

9. Incentives. Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be considered in the future. The City is currently reviewing the waste rates for potential changes. One such aspect is the rates for organics recycling which would potentially include a discount for those who source separate rather than co-mingle and require material recovery facility processing (MRF). Incorporating such discounts will provide incentive to separate food waste. Tentative timeframe for any rate adjustment/ implementation is Q2 of 2021. However, as stated above, the City's exclusive franchise agreement already includes organic waste service for all residential and commercial customers.

10. Education Only. No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.

The City agrees with this recommendation and has implemented it. Education and outreach are essential components of the City's waste program including: site visits, distribution of education materials, recognition of sustainable businesses, and more. Site visits performed by the waste hauler monitor contamination levels and proper usage of containers as well as training for staff. These site visits are required annually for all organics customers. Education materials are available in City facilities, distributed to customers by the waste hauler via mail and in-person, and provided to the public at special events and through digital media.

11. On-Site Management. Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies.

The City agrees with this and has implemented it. As mentioned above, the waste hauler is required to annually visit each organics recycling customer to provide education and training. This includes contamination monitoring, offering a variety of container and service types, and training to customers and staff. Additionally, through the City's hauler, every restaurant in the City is provided information about organics recycling education, organics recycling service, and food rescue opportunities.

The Honorable Kevin Brazile
October 12, 2020
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We thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Report. Should you have any further questions or desire any further information, please contact me or City Manager William Rawlings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ali Taj", with a small dot at the end.

Ali Taj, Mayor

cc: Artesia City Council
William Rawlings, City Manager
Christi Hogin, City Attorney



CITY OF AVALON

October 25, 2021

Sent Via Electronic Mail Only

Kevin Brazile, Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: City Of Avalon Response to the 2019-2020 Civil Grand Jury Recommendations for "A Diet For Landfills: Cutting Down On Food Waste"

Dear Honorable Judge Brazile,

The 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury issued a report on July 13, 2020 entitled, "A Diet for Landfill: Cutting Down on Food Waste" ("Report"). The Report investigated how Los Angeles County disposes of its waste and identified several recommendations for supportive public policies to incentivize and create avenues to increase food waste recycling and organic waste diversion rates. The Civil Grand Jury requested the City of Avalon ("City") provide a response to recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14. In accordance with Penal Code §933 and §933.05, below is the City's following responses.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.1

Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

RESPONSE

The City agrees with this recommendation. The City is currently working with its permitted solid waste hauler on an amendment to its existing agreement to implement a centralized drop-off depot accessible for residents, businesses, and visitors consisting of multiple bins for trash, recyclables, and organic food waste. The centralized drop-off depot will be open for disposal twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

The City is also working with CalRecycle and its permitted solid waste hauler to meet the requirements of AB 827, AB 1826, and SB 1383, bringing organic services to all residents and businesses. The City's solid waste hauler will be expanding its existing outreach and education.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.3

County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's



CITY OF AVALON

market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. The City already has an ordinance in effect mandating businesses separate compostable food waste (as well as cardboard boxes, plastic, and paper and glass) with associated penalties for violations. As mentioned in Recommendation 1.3, the City is also working with CalRecycle and its permitted solid waste hauler to meet the requirements SB 1383, bringing organic services to all residents and businesses.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.8

County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

RESPONSE

While the City supports food waste separation and recycling, this recommendation will not be implemented as it pertains to County facilities.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.14

Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

Suggestion #1: Commercial Recycling Ordinance

Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

RESPONSE

The City agrees with this suggestion. The City has implemented mandatory commercial recycling and food waste programs and is anticipating adopting an ordinance with model language for compliance with SB 1383 at a City Council meeting in November 2021.

Suggestion #2: Single Family Residence (SFR) Recycling Ordinance

Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including, but not limited to SFR dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.



RESPONSE

The City agrees with this suggestion and will implement it in accordance with SB 1383's timeline. As mentioned in recommendation #1, the City is working to prepare, approve, and implement an ordinance for SB 1383 to establish organic collection requirements for single and multi-family residential dwellings.

Suggestion #3: Self-Haul Standards

Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. While the City supports increasing self-haul standards, implementing and enforcing such standards is impractical and cost prohibitive as the City does not have the means to audit every self-hauler.

Suggestion #4: Flow Control

Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.

RESPONSE

The City agrees with this and currently has composting and green waste processing facilities located at its landfill. The City is also currently amending its solid waste hauler's agreement to comply with SB 1383, including diverting organic waste to a composting grinder for use as compost or fertilizer.

Suggestion #5: Contract Modification

Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

RESPONSE

The City agrees with this suggestion and is currently working on amending the agreement with its solid waste hauler to bring the agreement into compliance with the requirements of AB 827, AB 1826, and SB 1383.

Suggestion #6: Exclusive Commercial Hauling

Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.



CITY OF AVALON

RESPONSE

The City agrees with this suggestion and currently has a franchise and lease agreement with a solid waste hauler for solid waste, recyclables, green waste, construction and demolition, and debris box collection services. The City is currently working with its solid waste hauler to bring the agreement into compliance with the requirements of AB 827, AB 1826, and SB 1383.

Suggestion #7: Source Separated Organics Collection

Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e. residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

RESPONSE

The City agrees with this suggestion and currently has a franchise and lease agreement with a solid waste hauler for solid waste, recyclables, green waste, construction and demolition, and debris box collection services. The City is currently working with its solid waste hauler to bring the agreement into compliance with the requirements of AB 827, AB 1826, and SB 1383.

Suggestion #8: Wet/Dry Collection

Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

RESPONSE

The City is already implementing mandatory commercial recycling and food waste programs and will modify its existing programs to bring it into compliance with the requirements of SB 1383. The City's landfill currently has a materials recovery facility.

Suggestion #9: Incentives

Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.

RESPONSE

The City does not agree with the suggestion and does not support providing incentives as organics recycling will be mandatory via SB 1383 by January 1, 2022. Under Proposition 218, subsidies and incentives may be challenged.



CITY OF AVALON

Suggestion #10: Education Only

No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.

RESPONSE

The City agrees with the suggestion and is currently implementing this. The City and its solid waste hauler have developed a proactive education program for the commercial sector on recyclables and waste generator diversions. This will be expanded as part of the amended agreement with the solid waste hauler to bring the agreement into compliance with SB 1383 where the solid waste hauler will provide waste generators with information on properly separating materials, Organic Waste prevention, on-site recycling, composting, methane reduction benefits, how to recycle Organic Waste, approved haulers, public health and environmental impacts associated with landfilling Organic Waste, self-haul requirements, and edible food donation. The solid waste hauler is also responsible for preparing and distributing public education and outreach materials in non-English languages and providing Tier One and Tier Two Commercial Edible Food Generators with information on the City's edible food recovery program, generator requirements, and food recovery.

Suggestion #11: On-Site Management

Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies.

RESPONSE

Due to budgetary restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the City has neither the staff nor the funds to provide on-site management to businesses. City staff and its solid waste hauler will continue to provide information on organic recycling during regular business site visits and compliance checks.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Report. Please contact me or the Assistant City Manager, Michael Parmer, should you have any additional questions or require further information.

Sincerely,

Anni H. Marshall
Mayor

cc: Avalon City Council
Denise Radde, City Manager
Michael Parmer, Assistant City Manager



CITY of BELL

July 22, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Subject: A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste (Responses to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14)

Dear Presiding Judge,

Thank you for the commendable report and information gathered by the Grand Jury. The City of Bell values your input and is committed to diverting organic waste from landfills by promoting programs as listed on the Food Waste Recovery Hierarchy. On April 11, 2018, the City Council approved a solid waste rate increase to the City's commercial and industrial accounts in order to implement an Organic Waste Recycling Program. On January 8, 2020, the City Council approved Amendment No. 1 with Consolidated Disposal Services, LLC (aka, "Republic Services"), extending the term of the Agreement three (3) years from February 1, 2020 to March 1, 2023. Amendment No. 1 includes language pertaining to organic waste laws AB 1594 and AB 1826 and the City and Republic Services have agreed to increase the rates to cover the costs attributable to such programs.

City staff and Republic Services are working together on a plan which focuses on the following:

- AB 1826 Education and Outreach
- Electronic/print activities and direct contact
- Organic Waste Notice of Violation Letter to non-participating businesses
- Tracking data, monitoring, and follow-up
- Developing a residential food waste program as required by SB 1383 by 2022

As you are aware, the current pandemic has had devastating impacts on our city, businesses, and economy. The statewide emergency became a significant barrier in developing new organic waste programs and conducting in-person outreach. The statewide emergency quarantine prohibited interactions and shifted efforts to meet public health and safety priorities.

As you may know, during the COVID-19 pandemic, almost all materials recovery facilities and recycling operations have closed as a result of the inability to function such operations in compliance with social distancing and pandemic-driven safety measures.



CITY of BELL

This places government agencies and their franchised waste haulers in a predicament given that jurisdictions are still mandated to meet state-dictated recycling thresholds—i.e., the “diversion” of solid waste away from landfills and towards recycling and re-use. As the Grand Jury moves forward with its commendable efforts to facilitate organics recycling, the members should be aware that the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery’s (“CalRecycle”) recently released guidelines on the tracking and reporting of recyclables during the COVID–19 pandemic. The guidelines set forth new procedures for reporting all recyclables that were not able to be diverted away from landfills as a result of COVID-19.

Notwithstanding the unfortunate barriers posed by COVID-19, the City of Bell has continued to move forward with enhancing organics recycling programs in the City and will continue to exercise good-faith efforts, such as promoting the mandates through our hauler’s quarterly newsletters, educating businesses through the City website and social media pages, and working with our hauler to contact businesses that are still operating, once businesses are in a better position to participate in engagement.

Below are our responses to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14 (which are the recommendations directed at cities and most applicable to the City of Bell):

Recommendation 1.1 - Each of the 88 cities, and the County’s unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer’s market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

City’s Response: The City of Bell will research establishing a weekly food waste drop-off center and arrange for the food waste to be taken to a compost facility. The City’s waste hauler, Republic Services, has a weekly organic waste collection route and can collect the organic waste from participating commercial entities that source separate the food waste. The City will review its current garden spaces to see if community members and garden patrons will participate in dropping off food scraps at the garden space for collection by Republic Services. The City appreciates learning about various nonprofits such as the LA Community Garden Council and will evaluate what free resources are available to improve local garden spaces and on-site composting programs. Republic Services is also an active educator in the community, assisting with workshops and videos to help residents and businesses learn about the value of composting.



CITY of BELL

Recommendation 1.3 - County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

City's Response: The City of Bell and Republic Services currently offer businesses access to food waste recycling services at the same rate as trash collection. The program allows residents to enroll in the services and modify their service level so that the program remains cost neutral. Furthermore, the City will begin publicly acknowledging businesses for their exemplary environmental stewardship at Council meetings with an award from the Council and promote their business through social media and newsletters.

Recommendation 1.8 - County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people¹⁴² for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite,¹⁴³ and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

City's Response: The City of Bell will assess contracts with food vendors that work directly with the City to promote food waste separation and recycling. For example, every August the City offers free Concerts in the Park to residents and hires food vendors for the event. As part of the contract, we can ask vendors to promote organics recycling. The City can provide "food," "recycling," and "trash" bins with visible signage. The City can also use available part-time staff to stand by the bins and educate attendees.

Recommendation 1.14 - Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.



CITY of BELL

City's Response: The City of Bell is committed in adopting the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan. Below is a brief status update:

	Option Name	Status
1	Commercial Recycling Ordinance	Scheduled to be presented to council by December 2021 as required in SB 1383
2	Single Family Residence Recycling Ordinance	Scheduled to be presented to council by December 2021 as required in SB 1383
3	Self-haul standards	Completed
4	Flow Control	Completed
5	Contract Modification	Completed
6	Exclusive Commercial Hauling	Commercial food waste program completed. Residential food waste program pending in preparation for the SB 1383 2022 implementation date
7	Source Separated Organics	Completed
8	Wet/Dry Collection	Not needed, 3 bin system in place
9	Incentives	Completed
10	Education Only	Currently in place through newsletters, electronic social media outreach, and in-person outreach.
11	On-Site Management	Currently in effect and ongoing



CITY of BELL

Again, the City of Bell would like to thank you and the Grand Jury members for the informative report and valued recommendations. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ali Saleh".

Ali Saleh, Mayor
City of Bell
6330 Pine Avenue
Bell, CA 90201

CC:
City of Bell City Council
Paul Philips, City Manager
Javier Ochiqui, Contracts and Facilities Manager



August 12, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Subject: A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste (Responses to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14)

Dear Presiding Judge,

Thank you for the commendable report and information gathered by the Grand Jury. The City of Bell values your input and is committed to diverting organic waste from landfills by promoting programs as listed on the Food Waste Recovery Hierarchy. On April 11, 2018, the City Council approved a solid waste rate increase to the City's commercial and industrial accounts in order to implement an Organic Waste Recycling Program. On January 8, 2020, the City Council approved Amendment No. 1 with Consolidated Disposal Services, LLC (aka, "Republic Services"), extending the term of the Agreement three (3) years from February 1, 2020 to March 1, 2023. Amendment No. 1 includes language pertaining to organic waste laws AB 1594 and AB 1826 and the City and Republic Services have agreed to increase the rates to cover the costs attributable to such programs.

City staff and Republic Services are working together on a plan which focuses on the following:

- AB 1826 Education and Outreach
- Electronic/print activities and direct contact
- Organic Waste Notice of Violation Letter to non-participating businesses
- Tracking data, monitoring, and follow-up
- Developing a residential food waste program as required by SB 1383 by 2022

As you are aware, the current pandemic has had devastating impacts on our city, businesses, and economy. The statewide emergency became a significant barrier in developing new organic waste programs and conducting in-person outreach. The

statewide emergency quarantine prohibited interactions and shifted efforts to meet public health and safety priorities.

As you may know, during the COVID-19 pandemic, almost all materials recovery facilities and recycling operations have closed as a result of the inability to function such operations in compliance with social distancing and pandemic-driven safety measures. This places government agencies and their franchised waste haulers in a predicament given that jurisdictions are still mandated to meet state-dictated recycling thresholds—i.e., the “diversion” of solid waste away from landfills and towards recycling and re-use. As the Grand Jury moves forward with its commendable efforts to facilitate organics recycling, the members should be aware that the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery’s (“CalRecycle”) recently released guidelines on the tracking and reporting of recyclables during the COVID–19 pandemic. The guidelines set forth new procedures for reporting all recyclables that were not able to be diverted away from landfills as a result of COVID-19.

Notwithstanding the unfortunate barriers posed by COVID-19, the City of Bell has continued to move forward with enhancing organics recycling programs in the City and will continue to exercise good-faith efforts, such as promoting the mandates through our hauler's quarterly newsletters, educating businesses through the City website and social media pages, and working with our hauler to contact businesses that are still operating, once businesses are in a better position to participate in engagement.

Below are our responses to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14 (which are the recommendations directed at cities and most applicable to the City of Bell):

Recommendation 1.1 - Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

City's Response: The City of Bell will research establishing a weekly food waste drop-off center and arrange for the food waste to be taken to a compost facility. The City's waste hauler, Republic Services, has a weekly organic waste collection route and can collect the organic waste from participating commercial entities that source separate the food waste. The City will review its current garden spaces to see if community members and garden patrons will participate in dropping off food scraps at the garden space for collection by Republic Services. The City appreciates learning about various nonprofits such as the LA Community Garden Council and will evaluate what free resources are available to improve local garden spaces and on-site composting programs. Republic

Services is also an active educator in the community, assisting with workshops and videos to help residents and businesses learn about the value of composting.

Recommendation 1.3 - County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

City's Response: The City of Bell and Republic Services currently offer businesses access to food waste recycling services at the same rate as trash collection. The program allows residents to enroll in the services and modify their service level so that the program remains cost neutral. Furthermore, the City will begin publicly acknowledging businesses for their exemplary environmental stewardship at Council meetings with an award from the Council and promote their business through social media and newsletters.

Recommendation 1.8 - County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people¹⁴² for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite,¹⁴³ and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

City's Response: The City of Bell will assess contracts with food vendors that work directly with the City to promote food waste separation and recycling. For example, every August the City offers free Concerts in the Park to residents and hires food vendors for the event. As part of the contract, we can ask vendors to promote organics recycling. The City can provide "food," "recycling," and "trash" bins with visible signage. The City can also use available part-time staff to stand by the bins and educate attendees.

Recommendation 1.14 - Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

City's Response: The City of Bell is committed in adopting the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan. Below is a brief status update:

	Option Name	Status
1	Commercial Recycling Ordinance	Scheduled to be presented to council by December 2021 as required in SB 1383
2	Single Family Residence Recycling Ordinance	Scheduled to be presented to council by December 2021 as required in SB 1383
3	Self-haul standards	Completed
4	Flow Control	Completed
5	Contract Modification	Completed
6	Exclusive Commercial Hauling	Commercial food waste program completed. Residential food waste program pending in preparation for the SB 1383 2022 implementation date
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9	Incentives	Completed
10	Education Only	Currently in place through newsletters, electronic social media outreach, and in-person outreach.
11	On-Site Management	Currently in effect and ongoing

Again, the City of Bell would like to thank you and the Grand Jury members for the informative report and valued recommendations. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ali Saleh', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Ali Saleh, Mayor
City of Bell
6330 Pine Avenue
Bell, CA 90201

[REDACTED]

CC:
City of Bell City Council
Paul Philips, City Manager
Javier Ochiqui, Contracts and Facilities Manager



City of BELL GARDENS

7100 Garfield Avenue • Bell Gardens, CA 90201 • 562-806-7700 • www.bellgardens.org

October 14, 2020

Presiding Judge

Los Angeles Superior Court

Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center

210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506

Los Angeles, California 90012

SUBJECT: CITY OF BELL GARDENS RESPONSES TO RECOMMENDATIONS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES' CIVIL GRAND JURY REPORT "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS"

The City of Bell Gardens has provided the following responses to the recommendation numbers 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, 1.14 included in the County of Los Angeles' Civil Grand Jury's "A Diet for Landfills" report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend:

- 1.1 Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting. The City of Bell Gardens disagrees partially with the recommendation. The City does not hold a farmer's market or other program of that nature, nor does the City have an area within the City limits where a food waste drop-off center would not pose health and safety concerns. Additionally, the City does not have sufficient staff to manage such a program.
- 1.3 County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's *Foodscraps* program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee. The City of Bell Gardens disagrees partially with the recommendation. Given the financial impact on the City due to COVID-19, the City does not possess the resources to provide an incentive program. The City may require haulers to provide an incentive program to their customers in the amended solid waste agreements.
- 1.8 County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people¹⁴² for most of its summer

concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign. The City of Bell Gardens agrees partially with this recommendation. While this is an important program, the City of Bell Gardens does not contract with any food vendors.

1.14 Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan¹⁴⁶ and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste. Please see the City of Bell Gardens responses below.

1 Commercial Recycling Ordinance

Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary. The City of Bell Gardens will take this recommendation under consideration.

2 SFR Recycling Ordinance

Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single-family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary. The City of Bell Gardens plans to use the model ordinance being developed by CalRecycle. The City plans to adopt the ordinance in the 2nd quarter of 2021 (dependent upon release of model by CalRecycle).

3 Self-Haul Standards

Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements. Self-haul standards will be incorporated in the ordinance referenced in item #2 above.

4 Flow Control

Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities. The City of Bell Gardens has a non-exclusive solid waste collection system for commercial and multi-family customers; and, therefore, the City does not enforce flow control. The City will include the transfer and processing standards included in SB 1383 in their amended exclusive and non-exclusive franchise agreements.

5 Contract Modification

Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions. The City of Bell Gardens will be amending the existing exclusive residential collection services agreement, and the non-exclusive commercial and multi-family agreements to comply with the requirements of SB 1383.

- 6 **Exclusive Commercial Hauling**
Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions. As stated above, the City of Bell Gardens' commercial and multi-family premises are serviced under non-exclusive agreements. The amended agreements will include all of the requirements of SB 1383 including those stated in suggestion #6.
- 7 **Source Separated Organics Collection**
Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions. The City of Bell Gardens' solid waste collectors will determine whether organics will be collected separately or co-collected with green materials or other materials. The amended agreements will include the diversion, transfer and processing requirements included in SB 1383.
- 8 **Wet/Dry Collection**
Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions. The City of Bell Gardens' solid waste collectors will determine which SB 1383 compliant program they will use to serve the City. The amended agreements will include the diversion, transfer and processing requirements included in SB 1383.
- 9 **Incentives**
Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives. The City of Bell Gardens will take this recommendation under consideration.
- 10 **Education Only**
No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support. Both the City of Bell Gardens and its exclusive and non-exclusive haulers will provide extensive education to all food waste generators. The amended agreements will include the SB 1383 requirements for compliance monitoring.
- 11 **On-Site Management**
Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies. The amended agreements will include requirements to perform site visits and waste assessments to the food waste generators

that they serve.

I hope you will find the city's responses to the grand jury report adequate. The City of Bell Gardens continues to strive in reducing landfills and will work with local agencies, private industry, and the State to achieve a cleaner, greener environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alejandra Cortez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mayor Alejandra Cortez

The City of Bellflower

Families. Businesses. Futures.

16600 Civic Center Drive, Bellflower, CA 90706

Tel 562.804.1424 Fax 562.925.8660 www.bellflower.org



October 30, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: City of Bellflower Response to Recommendations of 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report on "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

Dear Presiding Judge:

The City of Bellflower ("City") has reviewed the Civil Grand Jury Report on A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste (the "Report"). In accordance with California Penal Code Sections 933 (c) and 933.05, the following are the City's responses to the Report's recommendations:

Recommendation 1.1 - Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

The City of Bellflower disagrees with this recommendation. Implementing a weekly food waste drop off-center in the City is not warranted because the City is already mandated by SB 1383 to establish residential and commercial organic waste recycling programs by January 1, 2022; and AB 1826 already requires the City to offer organic waste recycling programs to commercial and multi-family generators. The City intends to implement the requirements of SB 1383 for residential and commercial generators no later than January 1, 2022. Currently, in accordance with AB 1826, the City's franchise hauler already offers organic waste recycling services to commercial and multi-family generators and provides organic waste recycling services at City facilities. Additionally, SB 1383 and AB 1826 likely preempt this recommendation.

Recommendation 1.3 - County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

Page 1 of 3

Juan Garza
Mayor

Dan Koops
Mayor Pro Tem

Ray Dunton
Council Member

Raymond Y. Hamada
Council Member

Sonny R. Santa Ines
Council Member

The City of Bellflower disagrees with this recommendation. Creating an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste is not warranted because beginning in January 1, 2022, SB 1383 will require food waste collection in the residential, multi-family, and commercial sectors. Furthermore, due to COVID-19 pandemic, the City has experienced a loss of sales tax revenue and is facing a potential budget deficit. Implementing an incentive program would be unreasonable since the City will already be expected to pay for the costs to implement the requirements of SB 1383, which is an unfunded State mandate. Additionally, SB 1383 likely preempts this recommendation.

Recommendation 1.8 - Modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling.

Since the City of Bellflower does not have jurisdiction over the County of Los Angeles, its facilities, or its contracts with its vendors, the City cannot comment on this recommendation. The City defers to the County on this recommendation.

Recommendation 1.14 - Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organic Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

The City of Bellflower disagrees partially with this recommendation. Implementation of all of the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan is not warranted because many of these suggestions will already be required and preempted with the mandatory implementation of SB 1383 by January 1, 2022, or are already being implemented, as noted below:

Suggestion 1. Commercial Recycling Ordinance – *Required under SB 1383.*

Suggestion 2. SFR Recycling Ordinance – *Required under SB 1383.*

Suggestion 3. Self-Haul Standards – *Required under SB 1383.*

Suggestion 4. Flow Control – The City is already implementing this suggestion through its solid waste franchise agreement. The City's franchise waste hauler is required to transport organic waste collected from commercial and multi-family generators to a processing facility for recycling in accordance with AB 1826.

Suggestion 5. Contract Modification - The City has already implemented this suggestion through a June 2018 amendment of the City's existing solid waste franchise agreement which added organic waste recycling services for commercial and multi-family generators subject to AB 1826. The City will also be considering another contract modification or new franchise agreement that will incorporate the requirements of SB 1383.

Suggestion 6. Exclusive Commercial Hauling - The City has already implemented this suggestion since it has an exclusive solid waste franchise agreement for both residential and commercial hauling.

Suggestion 7. Source Separated Organics Collection – The City is already implementing this suggestion through its solid waste franchise agreement. The City's franchise waste hauler provides source separated organic waste recycling containers to commercial and multi-family generators. The collected organic waste is then processed at a recycling facility in accordance with AB 1826.

Suggestion 8. Wet/Dry Collection – *Required under SB 1383.*

Suggestion 9. Incentives – Please see response to Recommendation 1.3 above.

Suggestion 10. Education Only – The City is already implementing this suggestion through its solid waste franchise agreement. The City currently has a Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling Program Action Plan ("MORe Action Plan") in place, which expands on the City's previous Enhanced Mandatory Commercial Organic Waste Recycling Outreach Program. The MORe Action Plan includes education and outreach efforts.

Suggestion 11. On-Site Management – The City is already implementing this suggestion through its solid waste franchise agreement. The City's franchise waste hauler is required to transport organic waste collected from commercial and multi-family generators to a processing facility for recycling in accordance with AB 1826.

The City of Bellflower appreciates the opportunity to respond to the Report. Should you have any questions regarding the City's responses, you may contact Bernardo Iniguez, Public Works Manager, at [REDACTED], ext. [REDACTED] or via email at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,



Juan Garza
Mayor



**PUBLIC
WORKS**

October 12, 2021

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles County Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Via Email to: [REDACTED]

Your Honor,

This letter is in response to a September 17, 2021 letter from Foreperson Thomas O'Shaughnessy requesting the City's response to the 2019-2020 LA County Civil Grand Jury Final Report: "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste".

We apologize for not sending the City's response in a timely manner. The Department of Public Works brought a draft response letter before the City Council on October 27, 2020 and they approved the response letter (please see attached). We simply did not send the response out at that time.

If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Ken Berkman, PE
Director of Public Works

Attachment: Response Letter dated October 20, 2020



CITY OF BURBANK



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

October 20, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, County 90012

Re: City of Burbank's Response to the Los Angeles Grand Jury Report "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

On July 31, 2020, the Los Angeles County Grand Jury issued its report entitled "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste" ("Report"). In the Report, the Grand Jury identified several public policies to increase food waste recycling and organic waste diversion rates. At the conclusion of the Report, the Grand Jury requested a response from the City of Burbank ("City") to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14. The City provides the following responses to these Recommendations in accordance with Penal Code §933 and 933.05.

Grand Jury Recommendation 1.1: Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

City's Proposed Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted and is not reasonable. A weekly food waste drop-off center would likely result in minimal diversion, and expenditure of City resources that are already designated for more effective solid waste programs. Instead, the City's Public Works Department will focus on establishing comprehensive organics recycling programs to maximize organics diversion and participation in compliance with State mandates. The City is mandated by State law SB1383 to establish residential and commercial organics recycling programs. Though the requirements for SB1383 have not yet been finalized, the City's residential and commercial organics recycling programs will be in place and ready to commence no later than January 1, 2022.

Grand Jury Recommendation 1.3: County and City officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

City's Proposed Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not reasonable. The City does not support creating incentives programs for recycling organics and other materials. Organics processing/recycling in the Los Angeles region is approximately 30 percent more expensive than landfilling. The City's Public Works Department will focus on establishing comprehensive organics recycling programs to maximize organics diversion and participation as mandated by State law SB1383 by January 1, 2022. Subsidies or incentives may also be challenged under Proposition 218.

Grand Jury Recommendation 1.8: County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implanting a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

City's Proposed Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted since it pertains to County facilities. However, the City supports food waste separation and recycling at large venues. The Starlight Bowl has had a successful food waste/composting program in place for all large events for about seven years.

Grand Jury Recommendation 1.14: Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

City's Proposed Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable. The City will adopt, as required by State law, many of the suggestions from the Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan if they align with recent State legislation that mandates organics recycling. The City supports some of the 11 suggestions as follows:

Suggestions the City agrees or partly agrees with implementing:

- 1 – Commercial Recycling Ordinance
- 2 – Single Family Residential Recycling Ordinance
- 3 – Self-Haul Standards
- 4 – Flow Control
- 5 – Contract Modification
- 6 – Exclusive Commercial Hauling
- 7 – Source Separated Organics Collection
- 8 – Wet/Dry Collection
- 10 – Education Only
- 11 – On-Site Management

Suggestions the City Disagrees with Implementing:

- 9 – Incentives: The City does not support providing incentives since organics recycling will be mandatory by State law by January 1, 2022. Subsidies or incentives may also be challenged under Proposition 218.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon Springer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sharon Springer
Mayor, City of Burbank

CITY OF BURBANK



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

October 20, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, County 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: City of Burbank's Response to the Los Angeles Grand Jury Report "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

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City's Proposed Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted and is not reasonable. A weekly food waste drop-off center would likely result in minimal diversion, and expenditure of City resources that are already designated for more effective solid waste programs. Instead, the City's Public Works Department will focus on establishing comprehensive organics recycling programs to maximize organics diversion and participation in compliance with State mandates. The City is mandated by State law SB1383 to establish residential and commercial organics recycling programs. Though the requirements for SB1383 have not yet been finalized, the City's residential and commercial organics recycling programs will be in place and ready to commence no later than January 1, 2022.

Grand Jury Recommendation 1.3: County and City officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

City's Proposed Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not reasonable. The City does not support creating incentives programs for recycling organics and other materials. Organics processing/recycling in the Los Angeles region is approximately 30 percent more expensive than landfilling. The City's Public Works Department will focus on establishing comprehensive organics recycling programs to maximize organics diversion and participation as mandated by State law SB1383 by January 1, 2022. Subsidies or incentives may also be challenged under Proposition 218.

Grand Jury Recommendation 1.8: County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implanting a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

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Grand Jury Recommendation 1.14: Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

City's Proposed Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable. The City will adopt, as required by State law, many of the suggestions from the Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan if they align with recent State legislation that mandates organics recycling. The City supports some of the 11 suggestions as follows:

Suggestions the City agrees or partly agrees with implementing:

- 1 – Commercial Recycling Ordinance
- 2 – Single Family Residential Recycling Ordinance
- 3 – Self-Haul Standards
- 4 – Flow Control
- 5 – Contract Modification
- 6 – Exclusive Commercial Hauling
- 7 – Source Separated Organics Collection
- 8 – Wet/Dry Collection
- 10 – Education Only
- 11 – On-Site Management

Suggestions the City Disagrees with Implementing:

- 9 – Incentives: The City does not support providing incentives since organics recycling will be mandatory by State law by January 1, 2022. Subsidies or incentives may also be challenged under Proposition 218.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon Springer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sharon Springer
Mayor, City of Burbank



OK

CITY of CALABASAS

September 30, 2021

Thomas O'Shaughnessy, Foreperson
Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury
222 South Hill Street, 6th Floor, Suite 670
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: City of Calabasas Response to the Los Angeles County Grand Jury Report "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

Dear Mr. O'Shaughnessy,

On July 31, 2020, the Los Angeles County Grand Jury issued its report entitled "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste" ("Report"). In the Report, the Grand Jury identified several opportunities for supportive public policies that can incentivize and create avenues to increase food waste recycling and organic waste diversion rates.

At the conclusion of the Report, the Grand Jury requested a response from the City of Calabasas ("City") to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14. The City provides the following responses to these Recommendations in accordance with Penal Code § 933 and 933.05.

Recommendations:

1.1 Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

This recommendation will not be implemented. The City is in the process of adopting an ordinance to comply with AB 1828 and SB 1383 requirements. This includes providing commercial organics recycling to all multi-family complexes and businesses that generate organics waste. The City already provides organics recycling to all single family household residents.

1.3 County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

100 Civic Center Way
Calabasas, CA 91302

████████████████████
Fax (818) 225-7324

This recommendation will not be implemented. The City is working with CalRecycle and its franchised hauler to provide organics recycling services to residents and customer in compliance with SB 1383. Therefore, an incentive program will not be necessary for participation in organics collection.

1.8 County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

This recommendation does not currently apply to the City of Calabasas, which does not contain any large County facilities within its borders, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, or the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

1.14 Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan' and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

Below are the responses to the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan:

1. **Commercial Recycling Ordinance:** Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place) Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

The City is currently in the process of implementing this recommendation. The City is preparing an organics recycling ordinance to be adopted by City Council prior to January 2022. This Ordinance will mandate organics recycling for all customers as well and include monitoring and education activities to ensure compliance with CalRecycle's mandates.

2. **Single Family Residence Recycling Ordinance:** Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single-family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

The City already provides organics (including food waste) collection for single-family residential dwellings and will provide organics collection to multi-family residential dwellings in accordance with the SB 1383 timeline. This will be included in the organics recycling ordinance.

3. **Self-Haul Standards:** Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.

There are many landscapers that work within city limits and are not required to provide disposal reports to the City. Landscapers may be required to provide disposal and tonnage reports to the City in the future, however, the City will not perform any audits. Auditing the performance of every self-hauler is impractical and cost prohibitive.

4. **Flow Control:** Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.

Per the City's franchise agreement with its hauler, the City has the absolute ability to determine the location for the delivery and/or disposal of all solid waste including organics.

5. **Contract Modification:** Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City's solid waste franchise agreement includes language pertaining to commercial organics recycling. However, further modifications may be implemented to include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

6. **Exclusive Commercial Hauling:** Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City currently has an exclusive franchise agreement with Waste Management for commercial hauling.

7. **Source Separated Organics Collection:** Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City's current solid waste franchise agreement allows for source separated organics collection for residential customers as well as commercial customers upon request.

8. **Wet/Dry Collection:** Require the hauler to provide two or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

There is no need for this recommendation as organics are collected separately and are delivered to an organics recycling facility and not a materials recovery facility.

9. **Incentives:** Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree

necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.

The City has determined that there is no need to provide incentives for participation in organics collection as this will be mandated by SB 1383.

10.10. Education Only: No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.

This suggestion will be implemented in accordance with SB 1383. The City has and will continue to provide education via letters, flyers, annual newsletter and information provided on the City and Waste Management's websites.

11. On-Site Management: Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and technologies.

The City currently does not have the available budget or staff to provide on-site management. However, the City's franchised hauler, Waste Management, can provide guidance/assistance upon request from businesses.

The City appreciates the opportunity to provide an update on its organics waste recycling program, including the forthcoming expansion via the SB 1383 implementation ordinance.

Sincerely,



Robert Yalda, P.E., T.E.
Public Works Director/City Engineer
City of Calabasas

Cc:

Mayor and City Council, City of Calabasas
Kindon Meik, City Manager, City of Calabasas
Matthew Summers, City Attorney, City of Calabasas



CITY OF CLAREMONT

Tara Schultz, City Manager

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207 Harvard Avenue
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City Manager • (909) 399-5441
City Clerk • (909) 399-5460
Community Information • (909) 399-5497
Personnel • (909) 399-5450
Technology • (909) 399-5462

October 14, 2020

Judith Krimmel, Foreperson
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Ms. Krimmel:

Enclosed please find the City of Claremont's response to recommendations in the Civil Grand Jury Report "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste." The enclosed response was unanimously approved by the Claremont City Council at its October 13, 2020 meeting.

Should you have any questions regarding the City of Claremont's formal response, please contact Kristin Mikula, Community Services Manager at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

Kristin Mikula
Community Services Manager

Enclosure: City of Claremont's Response to Civil Grand Jury Report

City of Claremont
Response to Civil Grand Jury Report
“A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste”

OVERVIEW

On July 31, 2020, the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury filed a report, which was directed to the Mayor and the Claremont City Council entitled “A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste.” This grand jury report discusses recommendations for increasing food waste recycling in Los Angeles County.

The Grand Jury Report included four recommendations which require response from all 88 cities within the County. Required responses must be submitted within 90 days of report publication, or October 30, 2020.

Responses to the Grand Jury recommendations must indicate that the recommendation (1) has been implemented; (2) has not yet been implemented but will be in the future; (3) requires further analysis, (4) will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable. Explanations for responses are requested when applicable.

Pursuant to California Penal Code Section 933(c), the Mayor and City Council of the City of Claremont provide the following responses to the applicable recommendations included in the above referenced Grand Jury Report:

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommendation 1.1: *Each of the 88 cities and the County’s unincorporated areas should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer’s market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and Council officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.*

Response: This recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable.

The City of Claremont does not currently plan to implement a weekly drop-off center. This program model is insufficient to meet upcoming regulatory mandates associated with SB 1383. The amount of diversion associated with a drop-off program would likely be low when compared to a more convenient and widespread curbside food waste collection program. The City of Claremont is committed to developing a curbside food waste collection program for all Claremont customers. The convenience of a curbside program will likely result in greater participation and diversion than a drop-off program and be a better use of City resources.

Recommendation 1.3: *County and City officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store / farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.*

Response: This recommendation has been implemented.

The City of Claremont agrees that incentivizing food waste recycling is a key component to creating a successful collection program. The City of Claremont currently offers a commercial food waste recycling program to all Claremont businesses. The program is included in the base trash rate and businesses can take advantage of unlimited food waste recycling at no additional cost. All fees for commercial sanitation service are based upon the frequency of solid waste collection services; therefore, businesses that optimize their food waste recycling can potentially lower their sanitation bill by utilizing food waste recycling containers and reducing the number of refuse pickups per week. The City of Claremont intends to continue this sanitation fee model to encourage greater participation in diversion programs.

At this time, costs to recycle or compost food waste is approximately three times the cost to landfill food scraps; therefore, food waste diversion programs will likely result in cost increases. As there is no State or grant funding currently available to offset these increased costs; the City will likely need to increase solid waste collection fees to cover the costs of new programs. Increasing the cost for solid waste collection and providing organic recycling at no additional cost will ensure operational costs associated with the program are covered while still providing a financial incentive to customers to divert material.

Recommendation 1.8: *County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.*

Response: This recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or reasonable.

The City of Claremont supports the recommendations outlined in Recommendation 1.8; however, the City of Claremont will not be implementing the recommendation because it pertains to Los Angeles County facilities outside the City of Claremont's jurisdiction.

Recommendation 1.14: *Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.*

Response: This recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future.

The City of Claremont currently offers a source-separated food waste recycling program to all commercial customers. The City is committed to expanding food waste recycling to all residents prior to January 1, 2022. The suggestions outlined in the Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan will be considered during program development as well as regulatory requirements associated with SB 1383. The City of Claremont supports increasing capacity for organic waste processing and siting and building new facilities to handle organic waste.



CITY OF COMMERCE

Ivan Altamirano
Mayor

July 22, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: A Diet For Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste

For purposes of subdivision (b) of Section 933, The City of Commerce agrees with the finding of a report for "A Diet for landfills cutting down on Food Waste". Please contact me if you have any questions at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,


Ivan Altamirano
Mayor
City of Commerce

JK



CITY OF INDUSTRY

VIA OVERNIGHT AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

September 30, 2021

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90011
[REDACTED]

Re: City of Industry's Response to the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report-A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste

Honorable Judge Taylor:

This letter serves as the City of Industry's ("City") response to the July 31, 2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report, A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste ("Report"), in accordance with Penal Code Section 933(c), and as a response to your September 17, 2021 correspondence.

In accordance with the Report, the City is required to respond to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14. Please see the City's responses, below.

Recommendation 1.1: *Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.*

City's Response to Recommendation 1.1:

In accordance with the requirements for response set forth in Penal Code Section 933.05(b), the City disagrees with this finding, and the recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. Rather than considering a weekly food waste drop-off center, the City is currently developing an organics and food waste recycling program to provide residents and businesses with an organics container for food waste collection and recycling, as required pursuant to SB 1383. Direct and continuous access to a private, designated food waste container is anticipated to be more effective in diverting food waste from landfills than transporting food waste to an off-site location.

City of Industry
Response to Civil Grand Jury Report
Page 2 of 5

Recommendation 1.3: - *County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.*

City's Response to Recommendation 1.3: In accordance with the requirements for response set forth in Penal Code Section 933.05(b), the City disagrees with this finding, and the recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. The City has not considered an incentive program for residents and businesses to recycle their food waste. While incentives programs may help increase food waste recycling, SB 1383 requires cities to establish enforcement measures that include penalties for non-compliance. As a result of the State required enforcement, the City anticipates that residents and businesses will participate in the food waste recycling program to avoid non-compliance penalties.

Recommendation 1.8: - *County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.*

City's Response to Recommendation 1.8: While the Report requires a response to Recommendation 1.8, the City has no jurisdiction over County facilities or County contracts, therefore the City will not provide further response to this Recommendation.

Recommendation 1.14: - *Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.*

City's Response to Recommendation 1.14: In accordance with the requirements for response set forth in Penal Code Section 933.05(b), the City disagrees with this finding, and the recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. The City is updating the ordinance to require organics and food waste recycling and recovery, as mandated by SB 1383, and may address and implement the 11 suggestions provided in the "County Wide Organics Waste Management Plan – Executive Summary" should they be required under applicable State law.

1. *Commercial Recycling Ordinance - Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already*

City of Industry
Response to Civil Grand Jury Report
Page 3 of 5

in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

The City is preparing an ordinance that will require organics and food waste recycling for commercial uses, in accordance with State law.

- 2. SFR Recycling Ordinance - Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single-family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.*

The City is preparing an ordinance that will require organics and food waste recycling for residential dwelling units, , in accordance with State law.

- 3. Self-Haul Standards Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.*

The City currently has a permit program for self-haulers in place and this permit program will remain in effect with the updated ordinance.

- 4. Flow Control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.*

The City's franchise hauler will process the organic and food waste material at facilities to meet the State's diversion requirements.

- 5. Contract Modification - Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

The contract between the franchise hauler and the City has been updated recently. Per the contract, the franchise hauler is required to provide solid waste collection and recycling services subject to the City's requirements. The requirements are to be set forth in the City's ordinance and Staff is proposing to include providing collection services for commercial businesses, multi-family residential dwellings, and single-family dwellings with containers necessary to meet requirements of SB 1383.

The contract includes provisions for quantifying total tonnages of solid waste and recyclables collected within the City.

- 6. Exclusive Commercial Hauling - Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

The City, has for many years, been in a trash collection contract with the current franchise hauler. To meet the new recycling requirements set forth by the State, the City negotiated a consolidated and restated exclusive franchise agreement for solid waste and recyclables collection with the franchise hauler. Therefore, a new trash collection contract is not necessary.

- 7. Source Separated Organics Collection - Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

The organics recycling program will require separation of organics by businesses for collection by the Franchise Hauler, and the Franchise Hauler will process the organic materials accordingly at designated facilities.

- 8. Wet/Dry Collection - Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

The City is currently working on various options for the collection of organics material; this program will be outlined in the City's ordinance. One of the options include providing commercial uses three separate containers, with one container designated solely for organic materials, including food waste, and the other container(s) designated for the servicing of dry material, including recyclables.

- 9. Incentives - Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.*

City of Industry
Response to Civil Grand Jury Report
Page 5 of 5

The City has not considered incentives for participation in organics collection as it is not required under SB 1383.

10. Education Only - No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.

Last year, the City conducted outreach to businesses via an informational brochure which detailed the upcoming changes under SB 1383. This information is provided on the City's website as well. The City will also be sending out additional information material to businesses towards the end of this year to remind businesses and residents about the upcoming changes to their trash service and will include information about organics and food waste recycling. In the outreach provided by the City, businesses have been encouraged to reach out to the City's consultant regarding organic recycling methods to meet the requirements of SB 1383.

11. On-Site Management - Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies

The City recognizes the limited capacity for organics and food waste recycling and has been exploring options for establishment of an organics recycling facility.

It is my understanding that this correspondence adequately responds to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles Civic Grand Jury Final Report and fulfills all of the City's responsibilities, pursuant to California Penal Code Section 933(c). Should you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact Bing H. Hyun, Assistant City Manager, at [REDACTED], extension [REDACTED], or via email at [REDACTED].

Regards,



Cory C. Moss
Mayor

cc: City of Industry City Council (via e-mail)
Joshua Nelson, City Manager (via e-mail)
Bing Hyun, Assistant City Manager (via e-mail)
James M. Casso, City Attorney (via e-mail)



CITY OF COVINA

www.covina-ca.gov

125 East College Street • Covina, CA 91723-2199

October 12, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shorridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: Response to Recommendations in LA County Civil Grand Jury Report Entitled "A Diet for Landfills"

Dear Honorable Presiding Judge,

The City of Covina (City) has received the July 8, 2020 letter issued by the County of Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury regarding the report entitled A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste. As required by California Penal Code Sections 933(c), 933.05(a), and 933.05(b), contained herein is the City's response to the recommendations outlined in the Grand Jury report.

The City of Covina recognizes the negative impact of organic waste upon our region's landfills, and supports activities that beneficially reuse this material and divert it from disposal. The City also recognizes the unfortunate loss of edible food that is currently disposed, and fully encourages local food recovery efforts.

In accordance with the aforementioned Grand Jury report, mayors of the 88 cities within Los Angeles County must respond to recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14, which are presented on pages 19 through 21 of the report. Responses presented on behalf of the City of Covina are outlined in the table on the following pages.

If you require further information regarding this response, please feel free to contact City Manager Mr. Chris Marcarello, at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

CITY OF COVINA

Victor Linares
Mayor

Responses to Recommendations in Grand Jury Report

Responses to Findings	
Recommendation	933.05 (a)
Recommendation 1.1	<p>(1) Respondent agrees with findings.</p>
	<p>933.05 (b)</p>
Recommendation 1.3	<p>(1) Respondent agrees with findings.</p>
Recommendation 1.8	<p>NA</p>

- (1) Recommendation has been implemented.
- Beginning 1/1/2020, any business or multi-family property in Covina may request food waste recycling barrels, at no additional cost. Food waste is collected two times per week, and delivered to the American Organics facility in Victorville, CA for composting. Issuance of food waste recycling barrels to individual properties (together with staff training) allows for more targeted control of food waste collection, storage, and pick-up vs. a community drop off.
 - It is expected that SB1383, once adopted, will require food waste recycling in the residential sector. Upon adoption, the City will work in partnership with its franchise waste hauler to satisfy any residential recycling requirements included in the new law.
 - To encourage food waste recycling, the City distributes free backyard compost bins and kitchen composters to interested residents on an ongoing basis.
 - Several active food banks exist in and around Covina, and accept edible food donations. During organic waste site assessments, food service businesses are provided with a listing of local food banks in an effort to pair supply and demand.
- (1) Recommendation has been implemented.
- Beginning 1/1/2020, any business or multi-family property in Covina may request food waste recycling barrels, at no additional cost. Staff training, prep area posters, and slim jim containers are also provided at no additional cost. Separating food waste into the specialized barrels has allowed participating businesses to reduce their trash service levels, thereby reducing their monthly refuse bill.
 - To incentivize food waste recycling, the City distributes free backyard compost bins and kitchen composters to interested residents on an ongoing basis.
- NA – Recommendation 1.8 is intended for County officials.



<p>Recommendation 1.14</p>	<p>(1) Respondent agrees with findings.</p>	<p>(1) Recommendation has been implemented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All 11 suggestions have been implemented by the City, as described in the following points. • The City amended its contract with its franchise waste hauler by unanimous City Council approval in December 2019. • The contract amendment establishes a comprehensive system for organic waste recycling in the commercial and multi-family sectors. The City's franchisee is required to deliver the following system components – outreach on food waste recycling, resources for edible food recovery, on-site assessments, source separated organics collection, food service staff training, ongoing monitoring, tonnage tracking, and delivery of all organic material to the American Organics facility in Victorville, CA for composting. • The amendment requires all residential green waste to be composted. • A new rate structure was also established as part of the contract amendment. Effective 1/1/2020, the standard refuse rates include organic waste recycling. Therefore, single family residents, businesses and multi-family properties are provided with separate collection of organic waste at no additional cost, and the material is later composted. • To close the loop, the amendment requires up to 50 tons of finished compost to be returned for City use or community giveaways. • Any additional requirements imposed by SB1383, once adopted, will be implemented by the City. Any required ordinances will also be adopted. • Landscapers are required by City ordinance to divert at least 75% of self-hauled debris. • The City recognizes the need to expand our local capacity to manage organic waste, and supports grant and loan programs that enhance or establish new facilities.
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CITY OF CULVER CITY

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CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA 90232-0507
CITY HALL Tel. (310) 253-6000
FAX (310) 253-6010

GÖRAN ERIKSSON
MAYOR

ALEX FISCH
VICE MAYOR

COUNCIL MEMBERS
DANIEL LEE
MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS
THOMAS AUJERO SMALL

October 26, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Via e-mail: [REDACTED]

Subject: City of Culver City's Responses to *A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste* Civil Grand Jury Report by the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

Dear Presiding Judge:

The City of Culver City appreciates the opportunity to review and provide responses to the *A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste* Civil Grand Jury Report. City staff has included Culver City's responses in the following document.

If you have any questions, or if you wish to discuss this further, please contact Ms. Kim Braun, Environmental Programs and Operations Manager at [REDACTED] or by calling [REDACTED].

Sincerely,


Göran Eriksson
Mayor

cc: The Honorable Members of the City Council
John M. Nachbar, City Manager
Charles D. Herbertson, P.E. & L.S., Director of Public Works & City Engineer

Responses to Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury: A Diet for Landfills

- 1.1 Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.**

The City of Culver City has implemented a similar recommendation. Culver City provides all single family residents with an organics container. Food waste, compostable products including napkins, paper towels, soiled cardboard, and green waste can be comingled in the organics containers for weekly collection. In accordance with AB 1826, commercial establishments are provided with food waste containers for a minimum of one time per week collection. Frequency of service may increase per establishment depending on need. Organics collection has not been implemented for Multi-family properties having 5 or more units but will be implemented in the future.

Organic materials, including food waste, are taken to the Culver City Transfer Station where the material is tipped and then transferred into semi-truck vehicles. The material is hauled to American Organics processing facility in Victorville for composting. The city hosts a compost give-away event annually for its residents. In FY 2019/2020, Culver City collected approximately 5,200 tons of organic materials.

- 1.3 County and City officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.**

√ This recommendation will not be implemented, because it is not warranted. The state has enacted both AB 1826 and SB 1383 mandating recycling of food waste and recovering consumable food. Cities and counties must comply, or penalties will be enforced. The City of Culver City provides organics collection for single family residents which is included in the refuse rates for the collection of trash, recycling and organics materials. This rate is levied on the parcel tax annually and is determined by actual costs to provide these services to the residents. Culver City also provides food waste collection for businesses. There is a cost associated for this service and is billed monthly. The incentive to businesses for separating food waste is noted in the reduction of waste generated for collection. This would allow for a decrease in the frequency of service of waste collection, lowering the rates for trash services.

1.8 County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

✓ The City has implemented a similar recommendation. All special events permitted in the City are required to have both a recycling and food waste plan submitted as required for the permit. The City provides waste, recycling and organics containers for the event and charges a fee for this service.

1.14 Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

City of Culver City Suggestion - Description from the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan

1 Commercial Recycling Ordinance:

Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

✓ This recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, by the end of FY 2021/2022 or sooner. An ordinance will be adopted to include references to state legislation AB 341, AB 1826 and SB 1383. The City currently has a system in place to quantify recovery through the transfer station weighmaster system and quarterly waste characterization analysis at various processing facilities. The City also has an Environmental Compliance Inspector to monitor compliance and provide outreach and education to residents and businesses not in compliance. The City will need to establish methods of enforcement in the ordinance.

2 SFR Recycling Ordinance:

Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

✓ This recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, by the end of FY 2021/2022 or sooner. An ordinance will be adopted to include references to state legislation AB 341, AB 1826 and SB 1383 as well as properties not subject to AB 1826. The City currently offers waste, recycling and organics to all single family residents and multi-family residential units with 2 – 4 units. The City currently has a system in place to quantify recovery through the transfer station weighmaster system and quarterly waste characterization analyses at various processing facilities. The City also has an Environmental Compliance Inspector to monitor compliance and provide outreach and education to residents and businesses not in compliance. The City will need to establish methods of enforcement in the ordinance.

3 Self-Haul Standards:

Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.

✓ This recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future. Culver City is currently an exclusive franchise and collects most materials in-house with city staff. This includes construction & demolition debris. However, the City will research establishing standards for self-haul landscapers and determine a process to gather this data to determine that minimum standards are being met. The City will consider adjusting business licensing requirements to include annual recycling reports.

4 Flow Control:

Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.

✓ This recommendation has been implemented. Culver City is currently an exclusive franchise and collects all materials in-house with city staff. This includes construction & demolition debris. As a result, the City directs all materials collected to qualified processing and composting facilities.

5 Contract Modification:

Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

- ✓ This recommendation has been implemented as the City is an exclusive franchise and collects all materials in-house with city staff. This includes construction & demolition debris. The City maintains data of all materials recovered and follows all reporting mandates by the state.

6 Exclusive Commercial Hauling:

Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

- ✓ This recommendation has been implemented as the City is an exclusive franchise and collects materials in-house with city staff. This includes construction & demolition debris. The City maintains data of all materials recovered and follows all reporting mandates by the state.

7 Source Separated Organics Collection:

Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

- ✓ This recommendation has been implemented as the City is an exclusive franchise and collects materials in-house with city staff. This includes construction & demolition debris. The City maintains data of all materials recovered and follows all reporting mandates by the state.

8 Wet/Dry Collection:

Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

✓ This recommendation has been implemented as the City is an exclusive franchise and collects materials in-house with city staff. This includes construction & demolition debris. The City provides separate bins for trash, recycling and organics to residents and businesses. The City maintains data of all materials recovered and follows all reporting mandates by the state.

9 Incentives:

Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.

✗ This recommendation will not be implemented as it is not warranted. AB 1826 and SB 1383 require that food waste and organics be diverted from landfills. The City currently has a program for residents and businesses. A reduction in trash fees and service is the incentive for businesses to separate food waste from the trash. The Environmental Compliance Inspector monitors residents and businesses through inspection of containers to determine contamination levels. Educational materials are provided to assist with compliance.

10 Education Only:

No change to contracts but educates businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.

✓ This recommendation has been implemented. The City has an Environmental Compliance Inspector who inspects containers provided to businesses to ensure compliance. The Inspector also provides educational materials to businesses concerning state and local legislation. If a business does not have a recycling or organics program, the inspector will provide direction to the business to begin the recycling and organics programs.

In addition, Culver City implemented a Sustainable Business Certification Program. Businesses that comply with the parameters of the program including reductions in water usage, energy usage, trash volumes are celebrated annually with an awards ceremony, recognition by the City Council and certifications to be placed in the windows of their facilities.

11 On-Site Management:

Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies

✓ This recommendation has been implemented. The City will provide guidance to businesses that need to implement an organics program but do not have the space requirements for an additional organics container. Businesses are advised of new anaerobic digester technologies that could be installed in their facilities to digest food waste to comply with current state legislation. All new development plans are reviewed and require that space be provided for organics containers or for aerobic digester installation in food preparation establishments.

Culver City is very aware of the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste. Culver City will express support to establish regional infrastructures to process organics waste. Culver City and other municipalities on the westside of Los Angeles County are in critical need of such a facility but due to spatial restraints there is little opportunity to develop the infrastructure necessary to process organics materials. Culver City would support efforts by the County of Los Angeles to develop that infrastructure.



City of Diamond Bar

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Steve Tye
Mayor

Nancy A. Lyons
Mayor Pro Tem

Andrew Chou
Council Member

Ruth M. Low
Council Member

Jennifer "Fred" Mahlke
Council Member

October 20, 2020

Honorable Kevin Brazile, Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste

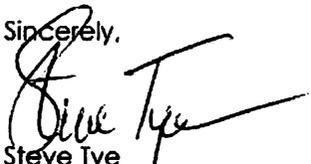
Dear Judge Brazile:

The City of Diamond Bar is in receipt of the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury's 2019-2020 report titled: *A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste*, which was released July 31, 2020. California Penal Code Sections 933(a), 933.05(a), and 933.05(b) require that the public agency provide response to all Recommendations within ninety (90) days following the release of the report, and no later than October 31, 2020. More specifically, the report requires incorporated cities in Los Angeles County to provide responses to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8 and 1.14.

This response was reviewed and authorized by the Diamond Bar City Council at the October 20, 2020 City Council meeting.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide the responses to the grand jury report. Please contact City Manager Daniel Fox at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] with any questions regarding the submitted response.

Sincerely,


Steve Tye
Mayor

Attachment 1: City of Diamond Bar Response to Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report

cc: City Council
Daniel Fox, City Manager
Ryan McLean, Assistant City Manager
David Liu, Public Works Director/City Engineer
Greg Gubman, Community Development Director

R 1.1. Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

R 1.1 Response: The City agrees with this recommendation. The recommendation requires additional analysis.

In addition to the provision for weekly residential refuse collection services, the existing residential solid waste agreement with Waste Management includes a yard waste reduction discount. Residents that receive backyard composting instruction (including viewing a video or attending a City-sponsored event) and secure a composting container are eligible for a waiver of the mandatory yard waste bin, resulting in an ongoing monthly savings. The City works with the Los Angeles County Public Works Smart Gardening Program, to host an average of three (3) free public composting classes per year.

In order to comply with Recommendation R1.1, the City would need to amend its contracts with either its residential and/or commercial waste haulers to expand the current services to provide for a food waste drop-off center, and further analysis is needed as to whether having a drop-off center is the appropriate program for increasing residential food waste recycling in the City. A reasonable timeframe for determining whether such a program is viable is 12 months after the contracts are amended.

R 1.3 County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste

fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

R 1.3. Response: City agrees with this recommendation. The recommendation has been partially implemented.

The City of Diamond Bar contracts for commercial waste hauling services under an exclusive franchise with Valley Vista Services. This franchise was amended in 2017 to include, among other terms, a new source separated organic collection service. Businesses are able to establish service using a 96-gallon cart, minimum 1 day per week collection at the established rate of \$43.01 per month. The City's pricing for organic waste recycling is lower than trash rates, thus providing an economic incentive for participating businesses.

Although the City generally agrees with this finding, to implement incentives for recycling of residential food waste, the City would need to amend its residential solid waste agreement with Waste Management. The City can work with Waste Management to determine whether the provisions of incentives will increase the recycling of food waste within the City, what the incentives would consist of and the associated cost. If such a program appears viable, the City estimates successful implementation in approximately 12 months after the contract is amended.

R 1.8. County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people¹⁴² for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite,¹⁴³ and traditionally draws large pre-concert picknicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

R 1.8 Response: Not applicable. This recommendation is directed to the County only.

R 1.14 Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan 146 and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

R 1.14 Response: City agrees with this recommendation. The City of Diamond Bar supports the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

Suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan

R.14(1) - Commercial Recycling Ordinance. Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

R.14(1) Response: City Agrees. The Recommendations have been partially implemented.

The existing franchise agreements and Diamond Bar Municipal Code place the diversion requirements on the waste haulers and not the specific businesses. Diamond Bar Municipal Code Sec. 8.16.450. - Diversion requirement, states that "a collector shall not deposit at any landfill more solid waste than the percentage designated in the franchise agreement. That percentage of solid waste shall be diverted from landfills through reduction, recycling and composting activities. Through implementation of the franchise agreement, a collector shall assist the city in meeting its diversion obligations under Public Resources Code § 41780".

R.14(2) - Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single-family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

R.14(2) Response: City agrees. In order to comply with Recommendation R.14(2), the City will need to consider amending its Municipal Code to establish organic collection requirements on single-family residential dwelling and multi-family residential dwelling with 2-4 units. Further analysis is needed to consult with the existing waste haulers and determine the best collection methods for an organic program. A reasonable timeframe for determining whether such a program is viable, is 12 months.

R.14(3) - Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.

R.14(3) Response: City agrees. Diamond Bar Municipal Code Sec. 8.16.590. - Gardener's exclusion, currently exempts the occasional removal of green waste as a result of significant tree trimming, gardening or landscaping activities generating waste beyond that which can be placed in a container. In order to comply with this recommendation, the City will need to consider amending the Municipal Code and evaluate the impacts of removing this exemption.

R.14(4) - Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.

R.14(4) Response: City agrees. The existing franchise agreements for both residential and commercial services contain a requirement for End Use of Green Waste. Solid waste contractors are required to divert green waste materials collected through weekly cart, holiday

tree collection, roll-off box collection and mixed waste processing from disposal. Contractors are responsible for monitoring how the green waste will be diverted and for selecting alternative facilities, if necessary, to ensure diversion.

In order to comply with Recommendation R14.(4), the City will need to amend its contract with its residential and commercial waste haulers to expand the current services to provide for a food waste drop-off center and further analysis is needed as to whether having a drop-off center is the appropriate program for increasing residential food waste recycling in the City. A reasonable timeframe for determining whether such a program is viable, including successful implementation, is 12 months after the contracts are amended.

R.14(5) - Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

R.14(5) Response: City Agrees. The Recommendations have been implemented.

R.14(6) - Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

R.14(6) Response: City Agrees. The Recommendations have been implemented.

R.14(7) - Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of

organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

R.14(7) Response: City Agrees. The Recommendations have been partially implemented.

In order to comply with Recommendation R14.(7), the City will need to amend its contract with either its residential waste hauler to expand the current services to provide for a separate collection of food waste. Further analysis is needed to determine the appropriate program for implementing a residential food waste recycling program. A reasonable timeframe for determining whether such a program is viable, including successful implementation, is 12 months after the contracts are amended.

R.14(8) - Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

R.14(8) Response: City Agrees. The Recommendations have been implemented.

R.14(9) - Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.

R.14(9) Response: To implement incentives for recycling of residential food waste, the City would need to amend its residential and commercial solid waste agreement. The City will work with Valley

Vista Services, Inc., and Waste Management to determine whether the provisions of incentives will increase the recycling of food waste within the City, what the incentives would consist of, and the associated cost. If such a program appears viable, the City estimates successful implementation in approximately 12 months after the contracts are amended.

R.14(10) - No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.

R.14(10) Response: City Agrees. The Recommendations have been implemented.

Education and outreach have been a key factor in increasing AB 1826 compliance. The City has incorporated organics outreach using the jurisdiction's and the hauler's websites, notices through hauler billing inserts, and providing written notices including outreach materials to all covered businesses.

R.14(11) - Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies.

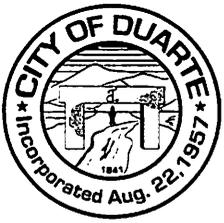
R.14(11) Response: City Agrees. The Recommendations have been implemented.

The City has performed site visits to the majority of the City businesses, starting in early 2017. The City has provided advice of organics program implementation, expanding traditional recycling, and minimizing trash services and associated costs. In 2019, the City also began educating business on food waste donations and helping firms with minimal organic waste generation to be granted di minimis waivers as allowed by AB 1826.

City of Diamond Bar

Response to the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury's 2019-2020 report titled: *A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste*
October 20, 2020

In addition to the public education methods stated above, the City has also worked with the franchised commercial waste hauler, Valley Vista Services Inc., to establish an AB1826 business assistance program that directly supports compliance technical assistance provided to business owner/managers. This is a collaborative approach and includes hauler provided in-person monitoring activities, on site assessments and the implementation of program recommendations included in technical assistance reports provided to businesses.



City of Duarte

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October 27, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Mayor
Samuel Kang

Mayor Pro Tem
Bryan Urias

Councilmembers
John Fasana
Margaret Finlay
Toney Lewis
Tzeitel Paras-Caracci
Liz Reilly

City Manager
Daniel Jordan

RE: City of Duarte Response to the Los Angeles County Grand Jury Report “A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste”

Honorable Presiding Judge of the Superior Court,

The City of Duarte (“Duarte”) is in receipt of the Civil Grand Jury Report titled, “A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste” (“Report”), issued on July 31, 2020. In the Report, the Grand Jury identifies a number of challenges and opportunities for agencies in their efforts to divert organic waste from landfills.

This letter is sent as the City’s response under California Penal Code Sections 933(c), 933.5(a), and 933.05(b) to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14 in the Report.

Recommendation 1.1

Each of the 88 cities, and the County’s unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer’s market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

Response

This recommendation will not be implemented because Duarte believes it is not warranted. The City currently offers food waste recycling programs to commercial customers through its franchise waste hauler, Burrtec Waste Services. The City continues to work with Burrtec to bring all qualifying customers into compliance with the State organic waste mandates outlined in AB 1826, SB 1383 and AB 827 (which will require all customers to subscribe to organics services).

Duarte believes that directly providing businesses and retail food customers food recycling services through their existing solid waste services provider is a more practical and efficient solution to food waste recycling than a weekly food drop-off where customers would have to self-haul to the site. Further, with the additional burden placed on municipal services and the negative budget impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic, Duarte does not believe it has the resources in staffing, location, clean up, and traffic control that would likely be needed for such a drop off.

Recommendation 1.3

County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

Duarte intends to give this recommendation further analysis. The City's current food waste recycling pricing model was established to neutralize cost hurdles. Specifically, the City adopted a rate structure whereby the cost of a food waste recycling bin is available at the same cost as a trash bin of the same capacity. Additionally, state law SB 1383 requires maximum organics diversion and participation by January 1, 2022. The final rule for SB 1383 is still in development, but the City intends to have its organics recycling systems in place to meet the deadlines set by the State. Potential funding sources for any incentive program would have to be identified, which is a particular challenge given the negative budget impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. Given that participation at this time is mandated by law, it requires further analysis whether additional incentives are necessary.

Recommendation 1.8

County officials should modify contracts with food companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

This recommendation is directed to the County, not Duarte, and therefore will not be implemented. While the City sees merit in this recommendation, Duarte does not operate facilities of the food waste magnitude described. However, the City will implement mandatory

organics recycling for its Recreation facilities (Senior Center, Teen Center, Community Center) events as mandated by SB 1383.

Recommendation 1.14

Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

The City responds to each of the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan as follows:

- 1. Commercial Recycling Ordinance. Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.*

Currently, the City is working with Burrtec and CalRecycle to draft commercial recycling ordinance to be implemented in 2021.

- 2. SFR Recycling Ordinance. Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single-family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Include system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.*

Suggestion two will be implemented in accordance with SB 1383's timeline. CalRecycle recently released a sample ordinance for SB 1383 that will establish organic collection requirements for single and multi-family residential dwellings. City staff and Burrtec will evaluate monitoring and enforcement options to include in an ordinance.

- 3. Self-Haul Standards. Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.*

This recommendation is not fully feasible due to insufficient staff available to implement, monitor, and audit self-hauling reports from third party landscapers. Chapter 6.09 of the Duarte Municipal Code provides that any recycling company or waste hauler removing recyclable materials from the waste stream shall report such diversion to the city, and indicate the type and

amount of material diverted on a form approved by the city within thirty days after the end of each calendar quarter.

4. *Flow Control. Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.*

Flow control is currently being implemented through the City's exclusive franchise agreement with Burrtec Waste Industries to assure that materials are being delivered to qualified processing and composting facilities.

5. *Contract Modification. Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance, and enforcement activities.*

The City currently implements this suggestion through the current franchise agreement with Burrtec Waste Services. The City already requires that commercial facilities participate in separating and recycling organic materials for qualifying commercial and multi-family collection. A future amendment to the franchise agreement will strengthen language around enforcement activities to reflect the passage of a commercial recycling ordinance.

6. *Exclusive Commercial Hauling. Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement action.*

The City is implementing this suggestion. The City's solid waste franchise agreement currently contains provisions for diversion and composting of organic waste including outreach on compliance. Annual reporting requirements also include detailed information on tonnage and facilities used for organic waste processing. A future amendment to the franchise agreement will strengthen language around recovery, compliance and enforcement activities.

7. *Source Separated Organics Collection. Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e. residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or*

composting facility. Should include a provision for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement action.

The City is implementing this suggestion. The City already requires that qualifying commercial facilities participate in the separation and recycling of organic materials based on State-defined thresholds. A future amendment to the franchise agreement will strengthen language around enforcement activities to reflect the passage of a commercial recycling ordinance. The City will further modify the franchise agreement and any additional City codification needed to meet State SB 1383 requirements in regard to other customer sectors once the final regulation has been released.

8. *Wet/Dry Collection. Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

Duarte believes this suggestion is premature. The City does not see a need for wet/dry separation at this time and believes that an operational history for the type and quantity of organic materials collected for recycling should be established before requiring this type of separation, to see if it is warranted and efficacious. The City will continue to monitor commercial needs and gauge feasibility of this suggestion before considering implementation of any changes to existing services.

9. *Incentives. Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.*

This suggestion requires further analysis. Given that participation in commercial organics recycling is mandated by law, it is unclear whether incentives are necessary. Incentives for residential organics recycling may be a useful tool to increase enrollment, but this will be dependent on available funding sources in a time of very limited budgets.

10. *Education Only. No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.*

Recognizing that education and outreach are essential components ensuring compliance, the City already implements this suggestion. Burrtec currently provides a comprehensive outreach and education program to commercial customers including site visits, waste assessments, and making available educational materials in City facilities. Burrtec mails information in quarterly bill inserts and regularly publishes information in the Duarte Chamber of Commerce newspaper. Additionally, Burrtec does annual educational updates to the Duarte Chamber of Commerce members and the Duarte City Council.

11. On-site Management. Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies.

The City has implemented this suggestion. Burrtec has an outreach team that works with individual businesses to assist in establishing their organics program. Support provided includes onsite training, printed materials and recommendations for equipment.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this report. Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Assistant to the City Manager Victoria Rocha at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Jordan', with a stylized flourish extending to the left.

Daniel Jordan
City Manager



City of El Segundo

Office of the Mayor

Elected Officials

Drew Boyles,
Mayor

Chris Pimentel,
Mayor Pro Tem

Carol Pirsztuk,
Councilmember

Scot Nicol,
Councilmember

Lance Giroux,
Councilmember

Tracy Weaver,
City Clerk

Matthew Robinson,
City Treasurer

Appointed Officials

Scott Mitnick,
City Manager

Mark D. Hensley,
City Attorney

Department Directors

Barbara Voss,
Deputy City Manager

Joseph Lillio,
Finance Director

Chris Donovan,
Fire Chief

Donna Peter,
Human Resources Director
(Interim)

Charles Mallory,
IT Director

Melissa McCollum,
Library Services Director

Sam Lee,
Planning & Building Safety
Director

Bill Whalen,
Police Chief

Elias Sassoon,
Public Works Director

October 21, 2020

RE: FY 2019-20 Grand Jury Report on “A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on a Food Waste” - City of El Segundo’s Response

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

As requested on July 8, 2020, the City of El Segundo has reviewed the attached 2019-20 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report on landfills and its official response to the applicable “Recommendations” and “Suggestions” are as follows:

Grand Jury Recommendation #1.1 (Page 19)

“Each of the 88 cities, and the County’s unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer’s market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.”

City of El Segundo Response:

This recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with a timeframe mentioned below for implementation. The City, in conjunction with EDCO, City’s residential and Civic services hauler, will establish a weekly food waste drop-off center at the farmer’s market held each Thursday on Main Street. The City believes the best time to begin this implementation is summer of 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The City also intends to focus its resources on implementing SB 1383 food waste diversion requirements by January 2022; namely that collection of food waste diversion will be required of all residences, multi-family properties, and commercial generators. Collecting food waste diversion from commercial and residential generators is more likely to be more effective than regional drop-off centers.

Grand Jury Recommendation #1.3 (page 20)

“County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer’s market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city’s Food scraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.”

City of El Segundo Response:

This recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted and is not reasonable. The City does not have the resources and the financial means at this time to implement this program. Starting in January 2022, collection of food waste will be required of all residences, multi-family properties, and covered commercial generators under SB 1383. Should the County create any incentive program, the City will gladly support the County’s program. The City is required by the State to have organic waste recycling systems in place by January 1, 2022 and begin enforcement actions of the systems beginning January 1, 2024. The final ruling for SB 1383 is still in development. The City’s process will be in place to meet the deadlines set by the State.

Grand Jury Recommendation #1.8 (page 20)

“County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.”

City of El Segundo Response:

This recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted and is not reasonable. This recommendation is directed towards County officials. The City of El Segundo has no control over County facilities referenced, nor does it have large facilities mentioned in the recommendation.

Grand Jury Recommendation #1.14 (page 21)

“Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan¹⁴⁶ and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.”

City of El Segundo Responses to following 11 County “Suggestions”:

Suggestion 1: Commercial Recycling Ordinance

This suggestion has been implemented. The City adopted a Commercial Recycling Ordinance in 2019 with AB 341 and AB 1826 recycling requirements for businesses and haulers. State regulations for implementing SB 1383 organics diversion are currently being finalized, after which the State will release model ordinance language for consideration by jurisdictions later this year.

Suggestion 2: SFR Recycling Ordinance

The suggestion has been implemented. In 2019, the City adopted a source separated a commercial organic waste recycling ordinance (AB 1826) for single-family residential dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings. It incorporated Food Waste as part of organics and food waste along with greens to be placed in the Green bins. Organics are defined as: Food waste, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, nonhazardous wood waste, and food soiled paper waste that is mixed in with food waste

Suggestion 3: Self-Haul Standards

The suggestion has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with a timeframe for implementation. The City is currently establishing standards and requirements for self-haul landscapers to implement a self-haul identification program, where businesses that self-haul any recycling or organic material (including multi-family properties that utilize the services of a landscaper) will be required to provide documentation to the City that effect. The City will have the standards in place by January 2021.

Suggestion 4: Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities

This suggestion will not be implemented because it is not warranted and is not reasonable. The permitted hauler collected organics are delivered to facilities with the ability to process materials.

Suggestion 5: Contract Modification

This suggestion has been implemented. The City has a new Franchise Agreement for Single Family residents with automated three cart requirements (gray for general refuse, blue for recycled materials, and green for organics) to ensure compliance with AB 341, AB 1826 as well as SB 1383 requirements.

Suggestion 6: Exclusive Commercial Hauling

This suggestion has been implemented. The City has implemented a Permitted Hauler Program. The City tracks implementation of organics recycling through quarterly reports from the permitted commercial haulers.

Suggestion 7: Source Separated Organics Collection

The suggestion has been implemented. The City has established a new refuse collection franchise agreement to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. This includes an aggressive source separation program in its public works facilities designed to maximize diversion of organics collected from various right of way collections.

Suggestion 8: Wet/Dry Collection

This suggestion has been implemented. The City requires all permitted haulers to be compliant with State regulations.

Suggestion 9: Incentives

This suggestion will not be implemented because it is not warranted and is not reasonable. Since diversion requirements are mandated by the State under AB 341, AB 1826 and SB 1383, no incentives are necessary to encourage participation.

Suggestion 10: Education Only

This suggestion has been implemented. The City began an aggressive public education campaign, including a quarterly newsletter promoting source-separation and continued public education to single family homes, which included a dedicated web page provided by the hauler.

Suggestion 11: On-Site Management

This suggestion has been implemented. The City promoted use of the County's Smart Gardening page at <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/sg>. This program also conducts annual workshops, which have been very well-received by the community. In 2020, the City sent non-compliant letters to businesses and multi-family dwellings that are subject to AB 1826 to ensure compliance/participation in organics programs.

Sample City Organic Programs Efforts

The City of El Segundo has taken the necessary steps to develop an organics program and educational campaign to comply with State, County, and Local mandates/requirements. These programs, along with future actions, will assist further to implement the recommendations and suggestions outlined in the Grand Jury's report. The following highlights some of the current organics programs in place within the City of El Segundo:

- Implemented weekly source-separated organics collection to single family residential. The City contracts with EDCO for residential and civics services waste disposal, which offers a food scrap collection program where food waste can be placed in the appropriate collection bin, along with yard waste.
- Adopted a source-separated commercial organic waste recycling ordinance (AB 1826).
- Implemented an aggressive source-separation program at its Public Works facilities designed to maximize diversion of organics collected from various right of way collections.
- Began tracking implementation of organics recycling through quarterly reports from permitted commercial haulers.
- Sent non-compliant letters to businesses and multi-family dwellings that are subject to AB 1826 to enforce participation in organics programs.
- Promoted County "Smart Gardening" page at <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/sg/>
- Commenced annual "Smart Gardening" workshops, which have been very well-received by the community.

- Began distributing mulch at “Shred Events” to demonstrate Closed Loop recycling awareness to the community.
- Began an aggressive public education campaign, which included promoting a source-separatin quarterly newsletter.
- Continued educating single family dwellings by providing a dedicated web page created by permitted hauler.
- In conjunction with EDCO, established a weekly food waste drop-off center at the City’s weekly Downtown Farmer’s Market.

In conclusion, the Grand Jury’s recommendations coincide with El Segundo’s current practices and future plans. The City remains committed to working with Los Angeles County to develop additional organics programs and education to comply with Senate Bill 1383 (diverting organics from landfill disposal) and other applicable State, County, and local laws.

Thank for the opportunity to respond. Should you have any questions and/or comments, please contact City Manager Scott Mitnick at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,



Drew Boyles
Mayor

cc: City Council
City Manager



OFFICE of the MAYOR

1700 WEST 162nd STREET / GARDENA, CALIFORNIA 90247-3732 / WWW.CITYOFGARDENA.ORG / PHONE (310) 217-9507

September 23, 2020
REF: 2020.313

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, California 90012
[REDACTED]

SUBJECT: CITY OF GARDENA RESPONSES TO RECOMMENDATIONS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES' CIVIL GRAND JURY REPORT "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS"

The City of Gardena has provided the following responses to the recommendation numbers 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, 1.14 included in the County of Los Angeles' Civil Grand Jury's "A Diet for Landfills" report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend:

- 1.1 Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting. The City of Gardena disagrees partially with the recommendation. The City does not operate the farmers' market; however, the City will reach out to the farmer's market to determine if a food waste drop-off center is feasible and would not pose health and safety concerns. However, the City does not have sufficient staff to manage such a program.

- 1.3 County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's *Foodscraps* program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee. The City of Gardena disagrees with the recommendation. Given the financial impact on the City due to COVID-19, the City does not possess the resources to provide an incentive program.

1.8 County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people¹⁴² for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicing crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign. The City of Gardena agrees partially with this recommendation. While this is an important program, the City of Gardena does not contract with any food vendors.

1.14 Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan¹⁴⁶ and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste. Please see the City of Gardena responses in red.

1 Commercial Recycling Ordinance

Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary. The City of Gardena will take this recommendation under consideration.

2 SFR Recycling Ordinance

Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single-family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary. The City of Gardena plans to use the model ordinance developed by CalRecycle. The City plans to adopt the ordinance in the 2nd quarter of 2021.

3 Self-Haul Standards

Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements. Self-haul standards will be incorporated in the ordinance referenced in item #2 above.

4 Flow Control

Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities. The City of Gardena does not enforce flow control; however, the City will include the transfer and processing standards included in SB 1383 in their amended exclusive franchise agreement.

5 Contract Modification

Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions. The City of Gardena is in the process of amending the exclusive residential and commercial collection services agreement to comply with the requirements of SB 1383.

6 Exclusive Commercial Hauling

Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions. As stated above, the City of Gardena has an exclusive solid waste agreement for residential and commercial services. The amended agreement will include all of the requirements of SB 1383 including those stated in suggestion #6.

7 Source Separated Organics Collection

Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions. The City of Gardena's amended exclusive agreement will include an organics program where either food waste will be collected separately or co-collected with green materials or other materials. The amended agreement will include the diversion, transfer and processing requirements included in SB 1383.

8 Wet/Dry Collection

Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions. It is yet to be determined whether the amended agreement will include wet/dry routing. The amended agreement will include the diversion, transfer, processing, reporting, and enforcement requirements included in SB 1383.

9 Incentives

Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives. The City of Gardena will take this recommendation under consideration.

10 Education Only

No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes

business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support. Both the City of Gardena and its exclusive hauler will provide extensive education to all food waste generators. The amended agreement will include the SB 1383 requirements for compliance monitoring.

11 On-Site Management

Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies. The amended agreement will include requirements to perform site visits and waste assessments to the food waste generators that they serve.

Sincerely,



Tasha Cerda,
Mayor



CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA
Management Services

613 E. Broadway, Suite 200
Glendale, CA 91206-4308
Tel. (818) 548-4844 Fax (818) 547-6740
glendaleca.gov

October 27, 2020

Via E-mail and U.S. Mail

Kevin Brazile, Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

RE: City of Glendale Response to the Los Angeles County Grand Jury Report entitled "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

Honorable Judge Brazile:

On July 31, 2020, the Los Angeles County Grand Jury issued its report entitled "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste" ("Report"). The Report sets forth findings and makes extensive recommendations for cities and districts within Los Angeles County to increase food waste recycling and organic waste diversion rates.

At the conclusion of the Report, the Grand Jury recommends a public education campaign around food waste, that includes drop-off food waste centers, financial incentives, and adopting suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan. The Grand Jury further directs the City of Glendale to provide responses to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14. Accordingly, the City provides the following responses to these Recommendations in accordance with Penal Code §933 and 933.05.

Recommendations:

Recommendation 1.1: *Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.*

City's Response: The City disagrees with the recommendation of establishing weekly food waste drop-off centers and will not be implemented because it is not warranted and is not reasonable. Residents are unlikely to walk or drive their food waste over to a neighborhood drop off center thereby resulting in minimal diversion, possible contamination, and expenditure of City resources that are already designated for more effective programs. While the City supports a backyard composting program (in 2019, the City held four composting workshops

which had a total of 150 attendees), and hosts four neighborhood gardens, weekly food waste drop-off centers are not likely to divert much food waste.

The City of Glendale intends to focus its resources on implementing SB 1383 food waste diversion requirements by January 2022; namely that collection of food waste diversion will be required of all residences, multi-family properties, and covered commercial generators. Collecting from commercial and residential generators is more likely to be more effective than regional drop-off centers.

Recommendation 1.3: County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the City of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the City's Foodscrap program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

City's Response: The City of Glendale disagrees with the recommendation and will not be implemented because it is not warranted and is not reasonable. Starting in January, collection of food waste will be required of all residences, multi-family properties, and covered commercial generators under SB 1383. Since food waste diversion is mandated by law, no incentives are necessary. The City is required by the State to have organic waste recycling systems in place by January 2022 and begin enforcement actions of the systems beginning January 2024 and is currently revising its Municipal Code to this effect. The City does have a Green Business Certification Program that gives recognition and a small financial award for implementing green practices.

Recommendation 1.8: County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

City's Response: The City does not disagree with this recommendation; however, the City of Glendale will not implement this recommendation as it pertains to County facilities. The City of Glendale cannot comment on practices within County facilities. Under SB 1383, there are specific food waste and edible food recovery requirements for events and venues. The City intends to adopt these requirements for events and venues as part of a regulatory overhaul planned during 2021.

Recommendation 1.14: Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

City's Response: The City intends to implement (if not already implemented) many of the suggestions from the Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan to the extent they align with State law mandating organics recycling. The City's proposed response to the 11 suggestions are summarized as follows.

1. **Commercial Recycling Ordinance** - *Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.*

The City of Glendale is currently reviewing an ordinance with AB 341 and AB 1826 recycling requirements for businesses and haulers, and anticipates ordinance adoption by January 2021. State regulations for implementing SB 1383 organics diversion are currently being finalized, after which the State will release model ordinance language for consideration by jurisdictions later this year. The City expects to use this language as a basis for its regulatory overhaul during 2021 to include compliance and enforcement programs as required under SB 1383.

2. **SFR Recycling Ordinance** - *Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single-family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.*

The City of Glendale intends to adopt an ordinance with requirements for single-family residential food waste collection. State regulations for implementing SB 1383 are presently being finalized, after which the State will release model ordinance language for consideration by jurisdictions. As these model ordinances are expected later this year. The City expects to use this language as a basis for its regulatory overhaul during 2021 to include all relevant elements required under SB 1383.

3. **Self-Haul Standards** - *Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.*

A jurisdiction may have relatively easy oversight over commercial haulers, where investment in collection equipment is substantial and compliance can be verified by the presence of a storage container. The City can monitor the activities of 30-40 haulers with relative ease. However, the fact that a high percentage are likely to operate without a business license and operate in an environment that has traditionally been unregulated due to low public health-related impacts, self-haulers are considerably more difficult to regulate and monitor.

The City of Glendale is currently implementing a self-haul identification program, where businesses that self-haul any recycling or organic material (including multi-family properties that utilize the services of a landscaper) will be required to provide documentation to the City to that effect.

4. **Flow control** – *Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.*

Food waste collected by the City will be incorporated into the green waste and delivered to facilities able to process the material. The City is currently evaluating obtaining disposal capacity agreements with qualified organics processing facilities.

Private haulers operating through the City of Glendale operate throughout the Los Angeles basin. Their collected organics are delivered to facilities with the ability to process materials. It should be noted that "flow control" must be exercised with caution, to insure non-interference with Interstate Commercial Commission requirements.

- 5. *Contract Modification*** - *Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

The City of Glendale is in the process of revising contractual hauling requirements to insure compliance with AB 341, AB 1826 as well as SB 1383 requirements. SB 1383 model regulatory language is anticipated to be released by CalRecycle in 2020, including jurisdictional reporting, compliance and enforcement requirements that the City intends to implement by the January 2022 deadline, and would satisfy this recommendation.

- 6. *Exclusive Commercial Hauling*** - *Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

The City of Glendale is in the process of revising contractual hauling requirements to insure compliance with AB 341, AB 1826 as well as SB 1383 requirements. SB 1383 model regulatory language is anticipated to be released by CalRecycle in 2020, including jurisdictional reporting, compliance and enforcement requirements that the City intends to implement by the January 2022 deadline, and would satisfy this recommendation.

- 7. *Source Separated Organics Collection*** - *Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

The City of Glendale is in the process of revising contractual hauling requirements to insure compliance with AB 341, AB 1826 as well as SB 1383 requirements. SB 1383 model regulatory language is anticipated to be released by CalRecycle in 2020, including jurisdictional reporting, compliance and enforcement requirements that the City intends to implement by the January 2022 deadline, and would satisfy this recommendation.

- 8. *Wet/Dry Collection*** - *Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

Some commercial haulers are able to collect all materials as single stream and deliver the mixed waste to a certified high diversion processing facility as allowed under SB 1383. The City intends to allow that practice, and insure that such haulers inform their customers of the sorting capacity of their program.

- 9. *Incentives*** - *Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics*

Honorable Judge Brazile

October 16, 2020

Page 5 of 5

to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.

The City of Glendale does not charge for recycling or green waste collection as an incentive to maximize diversion. Since diversion requirements are mandated by the state under AB 341, AB 1826 and SB 1383, no incentives are necessary to encourage participation. The City will be evaluating its rate structure to account for the increased collection costs.

10. Education Only - *No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.*

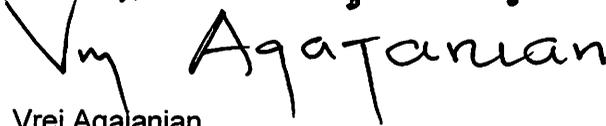
Within the coming year, the City of Glendale intends pass an ordinance that includes AB 341 and AB 1826 compliance requirements and to dedicate staffing to inform businesses of the state and City requirements. While the City does not currently have a monitoring and compliance program (as these are made optional under AB 341 and AB 1826), it intends on developing one as required under SB 1383.

11. On-Site Management - *Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies.*

The City of Glendale has implemented a Green Business Certification Program, which allows the review of environmental practices within the business and to seek ways to reduce environmental impacts. City staff are well versed in organics management technologies and are able to direct businesses toward relevant local technological solutions.

We thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Report. Should you have any further questions or desire any further information, please contact me or Acting City Manager, Roubik Golanian.

Sincerely,



Vrej Agajanian
Mayor

cc; Glendale City Council
Roubik Golanian, Acting City Manager
Michael Garcia, City Attorney
Yazdan Emrani, Director of Public Works



CITY OF GLENDORA CITY HALL

(626) 914-8200

116 East Foothill Blvd., Glendora, California 91741

www.ci.glendora.ca.us

October 23, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Subject: A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste (Responses to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8 and 1.14)

Dear Presiding Judge,

Thank you for providing the report to Los Angeles County municipalities. This serves as great resource for sustainability planning with the upcoming SB 1383 regulations. In July 2018, the City Council approved the Second Amendment to our franchise agreement with Athens Services. The amendment established our Commercial & Multi-Family Organic Waste Program and enhanced our Residential Green Waste Collection Program by incorporating AB 1594 language. In the coming years, the City intends to work with Athens Services to maintain compliance for SB 1383.

Per your request, we have compiled responses to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8 and 1.14 below:

- **Recommendation 1.1:** Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.
 - **Response:** The respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding; in which case the response shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed and shall include an explanation for the reasons therefor. The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable.
 - **Explanation:** With the implementation of SB 1383, city residents will already be required to have curbside food waste recycling services. The City will work with our waste hauler, Athens Services, to implement an outreach program to residents once verbiage and requirements for SB 1383 are finalized.

- **Recommendation 1.3:** County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.
 - **Response:** The respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding; in which case the response shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed and shall include an explanation for the reasons therefor. The recommendation requires further analysis, with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or head of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.
 - **Explanation:** City staff will work with the Chamber of Commerce to recognize businesses that comply with State organic recycling laws. Incentives in the form of discounted trash collection fees would have to be discussed with the City's waste hauler.
- **Recommendation 1.8:** Modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling.
 - **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding. The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable, with an explanation therefor.
 - **Explanation:** There are no major County facilities that contract with food vendors in the City of Glendora. The City supports the idea of County facilities working with food vendor companies to incorporate food waste separation and recycling into their contracts.
- **Recommendation 1.14:** Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.
 - **Response:** The recommendation requires further analysis, with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or head of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.

Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
October 23, 2020

- **Explanation:** Most of the suggestions require additional funding at a time when local governments throughout the state are facing financial strain. The need for funding to implement many of these items needs to be addressed. The City believes that the 11 suggestions listed in the 2018 Organics Waste Management Plan should be adopted with consideration for budget and staffing constraints in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. The City already participates in Exclusive Commercial Hauling and has modified our contract with our waste hauler to comply with previous State recycling requirements. Although there is limited space within County limits to construct new organic waste facilities, the City acknowledges that there is a need for more infrastructure to comply with upcoming State laws.

Again, the City of Glendora would like to thank you and the Grand Jury members for the informative report and recommendations. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

CITY OF GLENDORA

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael Allawos".

Michael Allawos, Mayor

CITY OF HAWTHORNE



4455 West 126th Street • Hawthorne, California 90250-4482

October 13, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Subject: Response to the County of Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste Report

Dear Presiding Judge,

The City of Hawthorne is committed to diverting organic waste from landfills by promoting programs as listed on the Food Waste Recovery Hierarchy. On February 12, 2019, the City Council approved a third and restated agreement with Republic Services, extending the term of agreement fifteen (15) years from May 8, 2019 to April 30, 2034. On May 26, 2020, the City Council approved a solid waste rate increase to the City's commercial and industrial accounts in order to implement an Organic Waste Recycling Program which includes language pertaining to organic waste laws AB 1594 and AB 1826.

City staff and Republic Services are working together on a plan which focuses on the following:

- AB 1826 and SB 1383 Education and Outreach via Cable TV, city websites, social media accounts and direct contact
- Organic Waste Notice of Violation Letter to non-participating businesses
- Tracking data, monitoring and follow-up
- Developing a convenient residential food waste program as required by SB 1383 by 2022
- Special giveaways to encourage residential engagement

As you are aware, the current pandemic has had devastating impacts on our City, businesses, and economy. The statewide emergency became a significant barrier in developing new organic waste programs and conducting in person outreach. The statewide emergency quarantine prohibited interactions and shifted efforts to meet public health and safety priorities.

The City of Hawthorne will continue to demonstrate good-faith efforts such as promoting the mandates through our hauler's quarterly newsletters, educating businesses through the City website, cable TV and social media pages, and working with our hauler to contact businesses that are still operating, once businesses are in a better position to participate in engagement.

Below are our responses to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14:

Recommendation 1.1 - Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

City's Response: The City of Hawthorne will research establishing a weekly food waste drop-off center and arrange for the food waste to be taken to a compost facility. The City's waste hauler, Republic Services has a weekly organic waste collection route and can collect the organic waste from participating commercial entities that source separate the food waste. The City will review its current garden spaces to see if community members and garden patrons will participate in dropping off food scraps at the garden space or City Yard for collection by Republic Services. The City appreciates learning about various nonprofits such as The Los Angeles County Food DROP program and will evaluate what free resources are available to improve food recovery efforts. Republic Services is also an active educator in the community, assisting with workshops and videos to help residents and businesses learn about the value of composting.

Recommendation 1.3 - County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card

to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

City's Response: The City of Hawthorne and Republic Services will facilitate the collection of organic waste by allowing the green bin container to be used for organic waste collection. The program allows residents to enroll in the services and modify their service level so that the program may remain cost neutral. Furthermore, the City will begin publicly acknowledging businesses for their exemplary environmental stewardship at council meetings with an award from the Council and promote their business through social media and newsletters.

Recommendation 1.8 - County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people¹⁴² for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite,¹⁴³ and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

City's Response: The City of Hawthorne will assess contracts with food vendors that work directly with the City to promote food waste separation and recycling. As part of the contract, we can ask vendors to promote organics recycling. The City can provide "food," "recycling," and "trash" bins with visible signage. The City can also use available part-time staff to stand by the bins and educate attendees.

Additionally, the City of Hawthorne passed Ordinance No 2120 August 23, 2016, which states the following:

8.17.030B Large Events and Large Venues.

Large Events and Large Venues shall be responsible for ensuring and demonstrating compliance with the requirements of this chapter. In addition to other requirements in this chapter and the Municipal Code, each Large Event and Large Venue shall:

- A. Segregate recyclable materials and ensure that employees, contractors, volunteers, customers, visitors, and other persons on site segregate recyclable materials.

B. Ensure the Large Event and Large Venue has access to an adequate number and type of containers needed for collecting and storing recyclable materials.

C. Provide or ensure the provision of adequate receptacles throughout the Large Event and Large Venue location to Intake the segregation of recyclable materials and organic materials convenient for employees, volunteers, contractors, vendors, exhibitors, presenters, visitors, attendees, customers, and other persons on site.

D. Ensure that all receptacles used for segregating and storing recyclable materials, organic materials, and garbage are affixed with signs or labels that display the appropriate information to enable users to accurately segregate solid waste and to clearly differentiate which receptacles are used for recyclable materials, organic materials, and garbage, to minimize the contamination of material placed in receptacles.

E. Ensure that the contents of the receptacles for recyclable materials and organic materials are not delivered to garbage containers unless they include unacceptable levels of contamination.

The City of Hawthorne also passed a recent Resolution in June of 2020 allowing for the fining of violators in the amount of \$250.00, and up to \$1,000.00, for noncompliance. Therefore, the City of Hawthorne has already enacted this recommendation.

Recommendation 1.14 - Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

City's Response: The City of Hawthorne is committed in adopting the 11 suggestions by January 2022. Below is a brief status update:

	Option Name	Status
1	Commercial Recycling Ordinance	Completed
2	Single Family Residence Recycling Ordinance	Scheduled to be presented to council by December 2021 as required in SB 1383
3	Self-haul standards	Completed
4	Flow Control	In Process
5	Contract Modification	Scheduled to be presented to council by December 2021 as required in SB 1383
6	Exclusive Commercial Hauling	Completed
7	Source Separated Organics	Completed
8	Wet/Dry Collection	Not needed, 3 bin system in place
9	Incentives	Currently planning giveaways
10	Education Only	Currently in place through newsletters, electronic social media outreach, Cable TV and in-person outreach
11	On-Site Management	Completed

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Erick B. Lee

City Manager
City of Hawthorne



"Our Youth - Our Future"

CITY OF HAWAIIAN GARDENS

September 22, 2020

Kevin Brazile, Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: City of Hawaiian Gardens' Response to the Grand Jury Report Entitled "A
DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

Honorable Judge Brazile:

On July 8, 2020, the Los Angeles County Grand Jury issued its report entitled "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste" (the "Report"). In the Report, the Civil Grand Jury recommends that cities and districts in Los Angeles County recommend a public education campaign around food waste that creates drop-off food waste centers in more areas of the County and provides financial incentives, as well as County-owned facilities "leading by example" in recycling food waste.

At the conclusion of the Report, the Grand Jury requested a response from the City of Hawaiian Gardens to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8 and 1.14. The City provides the following responses to these Recommendations in accordance with Penal Code §933.05.

Recommendations:

1.1 The Grand Jury recommends that each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

This recommendation will not be implemented. While the City agrees that food waste must be collected, the establishment of a drop-off center is not necessary at this time. Currently, the City's exclusive franchise agreement with Waste Resources, Inc. includes organic waste service for all residential and commercial customers. As part of the City's efforts to ensure compliance with the State organic waste mandates of AB1826, SB1383 and AB827, all customers will be

required to subscribe to organics service. Food waste recycling regulations as adopted by the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) requires cities to pass an ordinance mandating on-site separation and recycling of food waste for both the commercial and residential sectors under a specific timeline (enforcement is to begin January 1, 2022). Further, due to budgetary restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the City has neither the staff nor the funds to arrange for regular pickup and delivery of food waste as recommended. Thus, a separate drop-off location will be unnecessary and impractical.

However, the City will monitor resident demands and work with its waste hauler to gauge feasibility of a drop-off program. The City will also consider organics programs for inclusions in any future amendment to the franchise agreement.

1.3. The Grand Jury recommends that County and City officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on solid waste fee. For example, in the City of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program and can have several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

The recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be in the future. The City is currently reviewing its waste rates for potential changes. Rates for organics recycling would potentially include a discount for those who source separate rather than co-mingle which requires processing at material recovery facility (MRF). Incorporating such discounts will provide incentive to separate food waste. A tentative timeframe for any rate adjustment/ implementation is Q2 of 2021.

1.8. The Grand Jury recommends County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling, etc... implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

The recommendation requires further analysis as the City does not have food vendor companies that are on or inside City facilities or large permanent venues. However, the City occasionally hosts large events and has incorporated a sustainability plan requirement as part of the application process. Furthermore, the City will work in coordination with its franchised waste hauler to implement food waste separation opportunities, food waste recycling programs, and public education as part of and in accordance with SB1383 tiered regulations.

1.14 The Grand Jury recommends elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

- 1. Commercial Recycling Ordinance. Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. Although our current waste agreement incorporates aspects of organic waste recycling, we are working with CalRecycle to craft an Ordinance that will codify the mandatory organics recycling requirements of SB1383. This Ordinance will mandate organics recycling for all customers as well as monitoring and education activities to ensure compliance with CalRecycle's mandates. The City is anticipating model language for this Ordinance will be released by CalRecycle in Fall 2020.

- 2. SFR Recycling Ordinance. Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single-family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. As noted above, we are working with CalRecycle to craft an Ordinance that will codify the mandatory organics recycling requirements of SB1383 (as mentioned above). This Ordinance will include mandatory organics recycling programs for all commercial and residential customers. This will be made possible utilizing the City's existing disposal service which include a variety of container sizes and curbside pick-up for organics.

- 3. Self-Haul Standards. Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.*

The City is currently implementing the former part of this recommendation by including equivalent language in an Ordinance that will codify the mandatory organics recycling requirements of SB1383. This will utilize annual customer audits and reporting requirements implemented by the City's franchised waste hauler per the existing franchise agreement. However, establishing a system to regulate self-haul landscapers would be very challenging logistically and thus the latter part of this recommendation is impractical to implement. The sheer volume

of unlicensed gardening, and landscaping contractors in the greater Los Angeles area alone would make this very difficult. It would require a significant amount of staff effort to manage.

4. *Flow Control. Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City has language in its franchise agreement currently that ensures maximum diversion and composting of organic waste. The agreement requires the hauler to take green waste to a facility that ensures at least 50% diversion upon approval by the City. A future amendment to the agreement is planned for 2021 that will strengthen this language, in line with the requirements of SB1383, by extending this requirement indefinitely and requiring it adapt to any future changes in State or local laws

5. *Contract Modification. Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City has language in its franchise agreement currently that ensures diversion and composting of organic waste. Quarterly reports are required from the hauler which quantifies recovery to support reporting compliance. A future amendment to the agreement is planned for 2021 that will strengthen this language and enforcement actions in line with the requirements of SB1383 as mentioned above.

6. *Exclusive Commercial Hauling. Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City has language in its current franchise agreement that requires 50% diversion and composting of organic waste along with quarterly reports which quantify recovery from the franchise hauler. Annual reporting requirements also include detailed information on tonnage and facilities used for organic waste processing. A future amendment to the agreement will strengthen this language, in line with the requirements of SB1383, to include food donation education and reporting along with customer site audits to help monitor contamination and need of enforcement actions.

7. Source Separated Organics Collection. Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City is working with its franchised waste hauler to include a plan for adopting and implementing a source separated organics collection program across all customer sectors. It is anticipated that these new programs will be included when the franchise agreement is amended in 2021 along with the related ordinance that will codify said provisions.

8. Wet/Dry Collection. Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The Waste Hauler currently provides a separate container for organic waste to those Commercial businesses which fall under the SB1383 requirements and anticipate residential implementation in-line with SB1383 timelines. Ongoing monitoring of the service will help determine need and feasibility before considering implementation of any changes to this existing service and any inclusion within the forthcoming franchise amendment and ordinance.

9. Incentives. Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.

The recommendation has not yet been implemented but will in the future. The City is currently reviewing waste rates for potential changes, including rates for organics recycling that could potentially include a discount for those who source separate. Incorporating such discounts will provide incentive to separate food waste. Tentative timeframe for any rate adjustment/ implementation is Q2 of 2021.

10. Education Only. No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.

The City agrees with this recommendation and has begun implementation. Education and outreach are essential components of the City's waste program including site visits, distribution of education materials, and more. Site visits performed by the waste hauler monitor contamination levels and proper usage of containers as well as training for staff. These site visits are required annually for all organic's customers. Education materials are available in City facilities, distributed to customers by the waste hauler via mail and in-person, and provided to the public at special events and through digital media.

11. On-Site Management. Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies.

The City agrees with this and has implemented it. As mentioned above, the waste hauler is required to annually visit organics recycling customers to provide education and training. This includes contamination monitoring and offering a variety of container and service types.

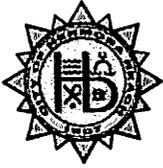
We thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Report. Should you have any further questions or desire any further information, please contact me or City Manager Ernie Hernandez.

Sincerely,



Jesse Alvarado, Mayor

cc: Hawaiian Gardens City Council
Ernie Hernandez, City Manager
Robert Salazar, Assistant Superintendent, Public Works
Ramie Torres, Administrative Technician, Public Works
Megan Garibaldi, City Attorney
Judith Krimmel, Foreperson



City of Hermosa Beach

Civic Center, 1315 Valley Drive, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254-3885

October 13, 2020

Kevin Brazile, Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: City of Hermosa Beach Response to Grand Jury Report entitled "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

Honorable Judge Brazile:

On July 8, 2020, the Los Angeles County Grand Jury issued its report entitled "**A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**" (the "Report"). In the Report, the Grand Jury identifies a number of challenges agencies face in their efforts to divert organic waste from landfills. At the conclusion of the Report, the Grand Jury requested a response from the City of Hermosa Beach ("City") to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14. The City provides the following responses to these Recommendations in accordance with Penal Code §933.05.

Recommendations:

1.1 *Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.*

The City's residents and businesses currently have a number of convenient organics recycling options that make a drop-off center unnecessary. The City's exclusive franchise agreement for Integrated Solid Waste Management Services includes organic waste service for all residential and commercial customers. This service is free for commercial customers and there is a nominal charge for residential customers. As part of the City's efforts to ensure compliance with the State organic waste mandates of AB1826, SB1383 and AB827, all customers will be required to



subscribe to organics service. In conjunction with requiring organic waste disposal options for customers of most food service establishments (per AB827), all residents, businesses and retail food customers will have convenient organic waste disposal options. These options include a variety of container types and sizes available for curbside pick-up of organics from both residential and commercial customers.

However, the City will monitor the behaviors of customers and the public in general to gauge feasibility of a drop-off program and will consider it to be included in any future amendment to the franchise agreement.

1.2 *County officials should initiate programs using composting technology (such as Compostology or Earth Cube) that can compact food waste and can be easily installed in offices and schools.*

Not applicable to City of Hermosa Beach

1.3 *County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.*

Implementation of this recommendation has taken the form of free organics service to all commercial customers. This eliminates any cost prohibitions customers may claim and additionally incentivizes utilization of organics service by allowing customers to use this service to reduce their solid waste services and associated costs. Hermosa Beach utilizes a "pay as you throw" rate structure that incentivizes customers to reduce waste generation to save money. The same incentivization is offered for residential customers. Though residential customers pay a nominal fee for organics service, this allows for reduction of solid waste service and the cost saving associated with that reduction. Residential customers also have the option of purchasing home compost bins at a discount to further reduce their organics disposal. Additionally, the City offers a number of recognition programs for sustainable businesses which are utilized to encourage organics recycling. These include participation in the California Green Business Network and the Clean Bay Restaurant certification program. The City annually recognizes businesses that have successfully been certified through these programs with public acknowledgement by City Council and by promoting them on the City's website and social media.

1.4 *County officials should work with community colleges and workforce training programs, to increase classes about food waste recycling and careers in waste management that focus on diversion and conversion technologies.*

Not applicable to City of Hermosa Beach.



1.5 County officials should create a garden/compost program at Pitchess Detention Center in Castaic and investigate the option of a garden at some or all of the juvenile detention facilities.

Not applicable to City of Hermosa Beach.

1.6 The County Department of Public Health should develop a program to train its 300 food inspectors as "ambassadors" when they are in the field. The inspectors need to be armed with the Food DROP brochure, as well as information about how that establishment can safely separate and recycle any food waste. (This recommendation is also for Long Beach and Pasadena, which have their own Public Health departments.)

Not applicable to City of Hermosa Beach.

1.7 The County Department of Public Health should take the lead in creating a food waste education component as part of its permit process required for all outdoor public events that will be serving food. Department officials can work with the event manager ahead of time to plan for excess edible food donation, and for how food waste will be collected and separated. (This recommendation is also for Long Beach and Pasadena, which have their own Public Health departments.)

Not applicable to City of Hermosa Beach.

1.8 County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picknicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

The City agrees with this recommendation's suggestion that food waste recycling at large events is important. The City hosts a variety of large events annually, including volleyball tournaments, craft fairs, and a summer concert series. The City actively adheres to the requirements of AB2176 (large venue and large event recycling) and reports its compliance annually to CalRecycle. Producers of large events in the City are required to detail their sustainability plans prior to acquiring required permits. These plans include a number of sustainability elements including coordination with the City's franchised waste hauler to ensure organic recycling service options are provided, as well as traditional recycling services. At events, food vendors must have separate containers for organic waste and the event as a whole provides larger central containers and regular service. Events may also utilize food donation programs, per their sustainability plans. The City has no permanent large venues.



1.9 *The County Board of Supervisors should require that the vendor operating the Hall of Administration cafeteria institute procedures to separate food waste, both in the food prep area, and in the dining room.*

Not applicable to City of Hermosa Beach.

1.10 *The City of Los Angeles should partner with LA Compost to expand that organization's footprint in the city to increase its capacity to collect and compost food waste.*

Not applicable to City of Hermosa Beach.

1.11 *The City of Los Angeles should work with its 99 Neighborhood Councils to increase public education around food waste separation/recycling programs.*

Not applicable to City of Hermosa Beach.

1.12 *All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school, and monitor edible food recovery efforts.*

Not applicable to City of Hermosa Beach.

1.13 *All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).*

Not applicable to City of Hermosa Beach.

1.14 *Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.*

- 1. Commercial Recycling Ordinance.** *Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. We are working with CalRecycle to craft an Ordinance that will codify the mandatory organics recycling requirements of AB1826 and SB1383. This was described in the City's Formal Plan submitted to CalRecycle in Spring 2020 which states that this ordinance will be finalized and approved before the end of 2020. This Ordinance will mandate organics recycling for all customers as well as monitoring and education activities to ensure compliance with CalRecycle's mandates. The City is anticipating model language for this Ordinance will be released by CalRecycle in Fall 2020.



2. *SFR Recycling Ordinance. Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single-family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. We are working with CalRecycle to craft an Ordinance that will codify mandatory organics recycling requirements (as mentioned above). This was described in the City's Formal Plan submitted to CalRecycle in Spring 2020. This Ordinance will include mandatory organics recycling programs for all commercial and residential customers. This will be made possible utilizing the City's existing disposal service which include a variety of container size options and curbside pick-up for organics.

3. *Self-Haul Standards. Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation by including equivalent language in an Ordinance that will codify the mandatory organics recycling requirements of SB1383. This was described in the City's Formal Plan submitted to CalRecycle in Spring 2020. This will utilize annual customer audits and reporting requirements implemented in cooperation with the City's franchised waste hauler per the existing franchise agreement.

4. *Flow Control. Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City has language in its franchise agreement currently that ensures maximum diversion and composting of organic waste. The agreement requires the hauler to take green waste to a facility that ensures maximum diversion upon approval by the City. A future amendment to the agreement is planned for 2021 that will strengthen this language, in line with the requirements of SB1383, by extending this requirement indefinitely and requiring it be adaptable for any future changes in State or local laws

5. *Contract Modification. Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*



The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City has language in its franchise agreement currently that ensures maximum diversion and composting of organic waste. A future amendment to the agreement is planned that will strengthen this language, in line with the requirements of SB1383 as mentioned above.

6. Exclusive Commercial Hauling. Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City has language in its franchise agreement currently that ensures maximum diversion and composting of organic waste. Annual reporting requirements also include detailed information on tonnage and facilities used for organic waste processing. A future amendment to the agreement will strengthen this language, in line with the requirements of SB1383, to include food donation education and reporting along with customer site audits to help monitor contamination.

7. Source Separated Organics Collection. Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City agrees with this recommendation and has implemented it. This is in the current franchise agreement and will be included in any amendments or new agreements.

8. Wet/Dry Collection. Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City currently offers all customers source-separate collection of organics using dedicated organics containers. The City does not see a need for wet/dry separation at this time. Ongoing monitoring of the service will help determine need and feasibility before considering implementation of any changes to this existing service.

9. Incentives. Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish



a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.

The City agrees with this recommendation and has implemented it. Commercial organics service is free and can help reduce solid waste costs for customers. Residential organics service is available for a nominal fee and also can offset solid waste service costs. Existing monitoring and reporting requirements will help gauge effectiveness of this program. These include tracking tonnage and audits of customers to determine contamination levels. The City's business recognition programs mentioned above provide additional incentives to customers for their organics recycling efforts.

10. Education Only. No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.

The City agrees with this recommendation and has implemented it. Education and outreach are essential components of the City's waste program including: site visits, distribution of education materials, recognition of sustainable businesses, and more. Site visits performed by the waste hauler monitor contamination levels and proper usage of containers as well as training for staff. These site visits are required annually for all organics customers. Education materials are available in City facilities, distributed to customers by the waste hauler via mail and in-person, and provided to the public at special events and through digital media.

11. On-Site Management. Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies.

The City agrees with this and has implemented it. As mentioned above, the waste hauler is required to annually visit each organics recycling customer to provide education and training. This includes contamination monitoring, offering a variety of container and service types, and training to customers and staff. Additionally, through the City's Clean Bay Restaurant program, every restaurant in the City is inspected annually and organics recycling education is a mandatory component of these inspections.

City of Hermosa Beach



Please feel free to contact the City's Environmental Programs Manger, Douglas Krauss, for additional information. He can be reached at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

Mary Campbell (Mayor)

09A821C62C88498...

Dr. Mary Campbell
Mayor

cc: City of Hermosa Beach City Council
Suja Lowenthal, City Manager
Michael Jenkins, City Attorney
Judith Kimmel, Foreperson



City of Hidden Hills

6165 Spring Valley Road * Hidden Hills, California 91302
(818) 888-9281 * Fax (818) 719-0083

October 25, 2021

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles County Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street
Eleventh Floor – Room 11-506
Los Angeles, California 90012

Re: City of Hidden Hills Response to the Los Angeles Grand Jury Report “A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste”

Honorable Presiding Judge:

On behalf of the City of Hidden Hills and the Mayor of the City of Hidden Hills (City), please accept this as our official response to the 2019-2020 County of Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury regarding the report entitled “A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste” (“Report”). At the conclusion of the Report, the Grand Jury requested a response from the City of Hidden Hills to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8 and 1.14. We appreciate the ability to submit this letter as we did not realize that our City did transmit its response. At the October 25, 2021 regular meeting, the Mayor and the City Council publicly reviewed and approved this letter and below are the responses as required by California Penal Code Sections 933(c), 933.05(a), and 933.05(b):

Grand Jury Recommendation 1.1: Each of the 88 cities, and the County’s unincorporated areas should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer’s market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

City’s Response to Recommendation 1.1: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted and is not reasonable. The City of Hidden Hills is a small city with approximately 560 households. A weekly food waste drop-off center is not warranted for a city of our size and implementation would likely result in minimal diversion and would be an expense and burden on a staff of four persons. In addition, the City is comprised of residential homes and no businesses (except for a small real estate office). Residents are provided a green

waste bin and can place food waste in that container. The City's waste hauler processes the bin for compost.

Grand Jury Recommendation 1.3: County and City officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

City's Response to Recommendation 1.3: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted and is not reasonable. The City of Hidden Hills is a small city with approximately 560 households. Residents are provided a green waste bin and can place food waste in that container. The City's waste hauler processes the bin for compost. In addition, the City is comprised of residential homes and no businesses (except for a small real estate office). Creating an incentive program is not warranted for a city of our size in addition to the fact that the City has no businesses in its jurisdiction. Furthermore, implementation would likely result in minimal diversion and would be an expense and burden on a staff of four persons.

Grand Jury Recommendation 1.8: County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implanting a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign

City's Response to Recommendation 1.8: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted since it pertains to County facilities.

Grand Jury Recommendation 1.14: Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

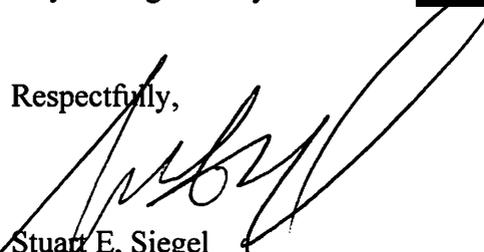
City's Response to Recommendation 1.14: The City partially agrees with this recommendation, however, the City will adopt what is required to be adopted by State Law. In addition, several of the suggestions from the Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan will not be implemented because it is not warranted or not reasonable as the City does not have any commercial facilities or businesses. The City's response to each of the suggestions is as follows:

1. The City has no commercial facilities or businesses therefore this is not applicable.

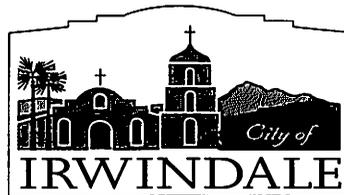
2. A Single-Family Residential Recycling Ordinance has already been adopted. All residents are provided with a green cart for their green waste and food waste. The franchise hauler is contracted to pick up and process for compost.
3. The City's solid waste ordinance contains self-haul provisions that require reporting of waste hauled to ensure diversion requirements are met.
4. The City's franchise hauler is contracted to process all the residential organic waste generated in the City.
5. The City's franchise hauler is contracted to process all the residential organic waste generated in the City and is required to submit monthly reports of all activities to ensure compliance with state solid waste regulations.
6. The City has no commercial facilities or businesses therefore this is not applicable.
7. All residents are provided with a green cart for their green waste and food waste. The franchise hauler is contracted to pick up and process for compost.
8. The City has no commercial facilities or businesses therefore this is not applicable.
9. The City only has only residential homes and no commercial facilities or businesses. There is no need to provide any incentives as residents can place their food waste in their green waste bin and the waste hauler will pick up and process for compost.
10. The City has no commercial facilities or businesses therefore this is not applicable.
11. The City has no commercial facilities or businesses therefore this is not applicable.

Thank you for providing the City of Hidden Hills with an opportunity to respond to the Report. Should you have any questions concerning the responses contained in this letter, please contact City Manager Kerry Kallman at [REDACTED].

Respectfully,



Stuart E. Siegel
Mayor



October 14, 2020

Kevin Brazile, Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: City of Irwindale's Response to County of Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury Report entitled "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

Dear Honorable Judge Brazile:

The City of Irwindale is in receipt of the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury letter and report dated July 8, 2020 and entitled "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down Food Waste." The report outlines findings and extensive recommendations for cities and districts located in and including Los Angeles County. Such recommendations include creating a food waste drop-off center; incentive programs for residents and businesses; modifying contracts with food vendors for large city-owned facilities; and the adoption of 11 Countywide Organics Waste Management suggestions. City Staff has thoroughly reviewed these recommendations to determine feasibility, locations, cost, and staff required to implement these recommendations. As such, the City's response is outlined below in accordance with Penal Code §933.05.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1.1: Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

The City of Irwindale disagrees with this recommendation. A weekly food waste drop-off center is not feasible for residents or businesses to transport to another location, would likely result in minimal diversion, and places a strain on City resources due to staffing requirements for determining a viable location, cleanup, and possible traffic control. While the City does not agree with this recommendation, we feel that there are other opportunities that are more practical than providing a drop off center. This opportunities include our comprehensive Organics Recycling Program for commercial businesses, the future Food Recovery Program required by SB 1383, and the possibility of creating a community garden with a composting feature for educational purposes only. Further information is included below on these programs.



Organics Recycling Program

On December 11, 2019, the City of Irwindale City Council approved the third amendment to the Exclusive Franchise Agreement for Waste Hauling Services between the City of Irwindale and Arakelian Enterprises, Inc. dba Athens Services. The amendment added a comprehensive Organics Recycling Program for all commercial businesses in the City of Irwindale that went into effect on January 1, 2020. Businesses are offered a separate organics bin(s) based on the level of solid waste collected weekly until December 31, 2021. The organics bin will also be collected on a weekly basis. Training and education on what entails organic waste and what goes into the organic waste bin will be provided by Athens Services' Recycling Coordinators. Beginning January 1, 2022, when Senate Bill 1383 enforcement goes into effect per CalRecycle regulations, a 75% discount will be provided to customers required to recycle their organic waste. Discounts will continue until January 1, 2025 when customers will be required to pay 100% of the cost to recycle organic waste.

Edible Food Recovery Program

Senate Bill 1383 requires cities and counties to establish an Edible Food Recovery Program. This program focuses on donating edible food to local food banks such as Shephard's Pantry, which is located in the City of Irwindale. As the City of Irwindale and Athens Services work on the City's Edible Food Recovery Program, we are currently providing businesses with Shepherd's Pantry and Foothill Unity Center's information to see if they can partner together to divert food from landfills and even recycling centers, especially restaurants, food distributors, and food manufacturers.

Potential City Garden

Another partnership the City of Irwindale is considering is with the Los Angeles Community Garden Council for one of the following:

- Educational gardens where staff/independent contractors can teach gardening, landscaping, composting, nutrition, and cooking.
- Urban farms where volunteers grow vegetables for local markets and people in need.

Staff has completed some research on this program and identified an area at the Jardin de Roca Skate Park, and an area at Irwindale Park.

The cost to start a garden can be up to \$30,000 with a \$2,500 annual maintenance cost. Due to COVID-19, we are unable to move forward with this project; however, it remains on the City's list of future projects.

Recommendation 1.3 County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and commercial businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscrap program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

The City of Irwindale agrees with this recommendation. As stated above and included in the City's Organics Recycling Program, Athens Services is providing organic waste outreach and education to Irwindale businesses. Part of that outreach includes setting up organic waste recycling and

referring businesses (restaurants, food distributors and food manufacturers) to food pantries such as Shepard’s Pantry and Foothill Unity Center to see if there is a viable partnership. Additionally, Athens Services is working with businesses by identifying their waste stream and the potential to reduce their trash services by opting into the organics recycling program, which is being offered as part of their waste hauling services until December 31, 2021. As a continued incentive, discounts on Separate Organic Waste Services will continue as follows:

Calendar Year	Discount
2022	75%
2023	50%
2024	25%
2025 and beyond	0% full cost implemented

Furthermore, the City of Irwindale Public Works Services (PWS) Department is working on providing other incentives such as indoor organics recycling bins for its businesses. Staff recently purchased three indoor triple recycling stations for bottles/cans, trash, and organic waste. Businesses who have set up an organics recycling bin with Athens Services will be entered into a raffle to win one of these bins. PWS staff is also working with the City’s Public Information Officer on a social media campaign that would allow for Irwindale businesses to enter a raffle through social media for another bin. Staff is working on a quarterly raffle where Athens Services nominates businesses that are recycling their organics and have not had any contamination. Each winner would receive an indoor triple recycling station for their facility. The goal is to have these stations available to businesses to help employees sort their organics indoors before they are taken outside to the organic waste containers. As the program progresses, the City could select other products and tools needed to have a sustainable and contamination-free organics recycling program in place for businesses and their employees.

During 2021, City Staff and Athens Services will be working together on residential organic waste recycling and incentives for residents to recycle their organics.

Recommendation 1.8 County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

The City of Irwindale disagrees with this recommendation as the City does not own any large facilities such as those listed under Section 1.8 of the Recommendations; thereby, making this recommendation not applicable. The City will, however, implement mandatory organics recycling for its Senior Center’s and Recreation Department’s lunch and summer lunch programs, respectively.

Recommendations 1.14 Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

The City of Irwindale partially agrees with this recommendation. The following is the City’s response to the 11 suggestions outlined in the LA County March 2018 Countywide Organics Management Plan and the City position on each suggestion.

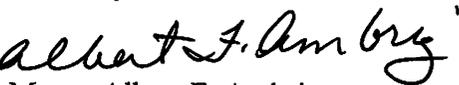
ID	POSITION	OPTION	OPTION DESCRIPTION/CITY OF IRWINDALE’S SUMMARY
1.	Agree	Commercial Recycling Ordinance	<p><i>Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Include system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.</i></p> <p>The City will be drafting an organic waste recycling and general recycling ordinance in 2021.</p>
2.	Agree	SFR Recycling Ordinance	<p><i>Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single-family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Include system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.</i></p> <p>Athens and the City will be meeting and conferring in 2021 to discuss the residential organic waste requirements. Once finalized, the City will outline these requirements in the organic waste recycling ordinance. To this end, the ordinance is set to go before city council in the latter part of 2021.</p>
3.	Disagree	Self-Haul Standards	<p><i>Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.</i></p> <p>This recommendation is not feasible due to insufficient staff available to implement, monitor and audit self-hauling reports from third party landscapers. The City is asking its businesses to submit Self-Hauling forms at the end of each year. At this time, businesses submitting their forms are not providing recycling data.</p>
4.	Agree Implemented	Flow Control	<p><i>Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.</i></p> <p>Flow control is currently being implemented through its Exclusive Franchise Agreement with Athens Services.</p>

5.	Agree Implemented	Contract Modification	<p>Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance, and enforcement actions.</p> <p>On December 11, 2019, the City of Irwindale City Council approved a third amendment to the Exclusive Franchise Agreement for Waste Hauling Services between the City of Irwindale and Arakelian Enterprises, Inc. dba Athens Services, which included a comprehensive Organics Recycling Program for businesses, which include education, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.</p>
6.	Agree Implemented	Exclusive Commercial Hauling	<p>Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement action.</p> <p>On April 13, 2011, the City of Irwindale entered into an exclusive commercial and residential waste hauling agreement with Arakelian Enterprises, Inc. dba Athens Services. The agreement is for mixed waste processing which allows trash and recyclables to be commingled into one bin and taken to a Materials Recovery Facility and Transfer Station. Businesses do have the option to source separate their recyclables and some businesses do request this service. Construction and debris material is also source separated. In 2020, organic waste is collected in a separate container with separate pick up.</p>
7.	Agree	Source Separated Organics Collection	<p>Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provision for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.</p> <p>On December 11, 2019, the City of Irwindale City Council approved a third amendment to the Exclusive Franchise Agreement for Waste Hauling Services between the City of Irwindale and Arakelian Enterprises, Inc. dba Athens Services, which included a comprehensive Organics Recycling Program for businesses. The City and Athens will meet and confer in 2021 to discuss requirements for Residential Organics Recycling.</p>
8.	Disagree	Wet/Dry Collection	<p>Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include</p>

			<p><i>provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.</i></p> <p>The City's current franchise agreement with Athens does specify collection, diversion, and reporting requirements, as well as enforcement actions. Organic material is collected separately from recycling and refuse. The City does not have a wet/dry collection program in place.</p>
9.	Agree	<i>Incentives</i>	<p><i>Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.</i></p> <p>The City and Athens have worked together to develop an incentive program whereby businesses can complete a waste stream audit to see how they are able to decrease their waste services by separating their organics from their waste stream. Organic recycling bins are included as part of the waste hauling fees until December 31, 2021. Discounts will be provided each year and until 2025 when the customer will be required to pay 100% of their organic services.</p>
10.	Agree Implemented	<u>Education Only</u>	<p><i>No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.</i></p> <p>The third amendment with Athens Services identifies the education and public outreach for both AB 1826 and SB 1383.</p>
11.	Agree Implemented	<i>On-site Management</i>	<p><i>Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies.</i></p> <p>On-site management has already been established through the third amendment with Athens Services. Athens has an outreach team committed to work with each business to discuss their solid waste, recycling, and organic recycling needs. Part of the outreach includes training employees on identifying organic waste by providing them with printed materials and offering recommendations on equipment that will assist with organics recycling.</p>

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this report. Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact our City Manager William Tam.

Sincerely,


 Mayor Albert F. Ambriz

cc: Irwindale City Council
William Tam, City Manager
Adrian Guerra, City Attorney
Elizabeth Rodriguez, Public Works Services Manager
Judith Krimmel, Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Foreperson



City Council
Michael T. Davitt, Mayor
Jonathan C. Curtis, Mayor Pro Tem
Keith Eich
Richard B. Gunter III
Terry Walker

Via Certified Mail: Return Receipt Requested

October 27, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Honorable Judge:

The purpose of this letter is to provide required responses to the four recommendations specified for cities in the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury report entitled A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste. In particular, each of the recommendations for cities numbered 1.1, 1.3, 1.8 and 1.14 are presented below in bold font followed by the City's response.

Recommendation 1.1: Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

The City of La Cañada Flintridge has already established food waste collection and composting services available to multi-family and commercial customers through the City's three contract haulers. The food waste collected is transported rather long distances to highly specialized processing and composting facilities that require specific types of permits to site and operate. The City is planning to extend the food waste collection service to single family residential customers as part of the SB 1383 programs no later than January 1, 2022. In the interim, a community garden or landscaping company is not expected to have the ability to process food waste, especially including non-vegetative types of food waste (e.g., meat, fish, seafood and milk products) in a local setting. These types of facilities require extensive permits and management.

Recommendation 1.3: County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

The City of La Cañada Flintridge has already established food waste collection and composting services available to multi-family and commercial customers through the City's three contract haulers. Commercial customers that generate two or more cubic yards of solid waste per week, including 0.5 cubic yard/week or more of organic waste (i.e., food waste, food soiled paper that is mixed with food waste, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, and untreated lumber) are required by AB 1826 to recycle their organic waste. The requirement also applies to green, landscape and pruning waste for multi-family housing. The City's three contract haulers set the rates for services, so there is no opportunity for the City to restructure the service fee schedules to subsidize the food waste collection costs with the refuse service fees. With the implementation of SB 1383, these requirements will be extended to single and multi-family housing, and the food waste recycling program will be made available to single family residences. The mandated fines associated with non-compliance with SB 1383 will incentivize residents and businesses to participate in the organics diversion programs.

Recommendation 1.8: County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

The Los Angeles County-owned Descanso Gardens facility, located in the City of La Cañada Flintridge, should modify its contracts with food vendor companies to implement a food waste recycling program.

Recommendation 1.14: Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan **and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.**

The 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan are listed in bold type below followed by the City's response to each.

1. Commercial Recycling Ordinance

Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

This has been completed and addressed in the La Cañada Flintridge Municipal Code Chapter 9.12 Solid Waste Management and Control; Chapter 9.14 Recycling and Diversion of Construction and Demolition Debris; Service Agreement for Residential Waste, Recyclables and Green Waste Collection, Disposal and Processing; and, Service Agreement for Commercial Solid Waste and Recyclables and/or C&D Debris Collection, Disposal and Processing.

2. SFR Recycling Ordinance

Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

With the implementation of the mandatory ordinance provisions of SB 1383, these requirements will be extended to single and multi-family housing, and the food waste recycling program will be made available to single family residences.

3. Self-Haul Standards

Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.

As provided in the City's current ordinances, self-haul is limited to special authorized circumstances. The City has an active program to monitor facility reports, although due to the lack of a statewide requirement for identifying haulers by traceable contact information (i.e., name and address) the City's ability to fully audit these reports is limited.

4. Flow Control

Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.

The City's authorized waste haulers are required by contract to deliver materials collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.

5. Contract Modification

Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City is planning to undertake a contract modification project to address the requirements of SB 1383 and other issues.

6. Exclusive Commercial Hauling

Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City limits hauling to the City's authorized waste haulers and occasionally to special authorized self-haulers.

7. Source Separated Organics Collection

Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City of La Cañada Flintridge has already established green waste collection and recycling/composting services for single family residences and organics waste collection and recycling/composting services available to multi-family and commercial customers through the City's three contract haulers. With the implementation of SB 1383, all service customers in the City will be provided with organics collection and recycling/composting services.

8. Wet/Dry Collection

Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

Each of the City's three contract haulers determine which collection system is best for their operations and receiving facilities.

9. Incentives

Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.

The City's three contract haulers set the rates for services, so there is no opportunity for the City to restructure the service fee schedules to subsidize the food waste collection costs with the refuse service fees. With the implementation of SB 1383, the food waste recycling program will be made available to single family residences and these requirements will be extended to single and multi-family housing. The mandated fines associated with non-compliance with SB 1383 will incentivize residents and businesses to participate in the organics diversion programs.

10. Education Only

No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.

The City and the City's three contract haulers have active outreach and monitoring programs to inform businesses about the AB 1826 requirements and organics services available and to monitor participation and compliance with these programs and AB 1826.

11. On-Site Management

Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies.

The City's three contract haulers have active outreach programs that provide assistance to businesses regarding organics management aggregation methods. Research and implementation of technologies, such as organics dehydrators are the responsibility of individual businesses.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please contact Public Works Management Analyst Jackson Dodd at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED].

Sincerely,



Michael T. Davitt
Mayor

cc: Mark R. Alexander, City Manager, La Cañada Flintridge
Patrick V. DeChellis, Director of Public Works, La Cañada Flintridge
Jackson Dodd, Management Analyst, Public Works Department, La Cañada Flintridge

Jeff Wood
Vice Mayor

Vicki L. Stuckey
Council Member

Steve Croft
Council Member

Ariel Pe
Council Member



Todd Rogers
Mayor

October 21, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shorridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Subject: Lakewood Response to Recommendations of 2019-2020 Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury Report on A Diet For Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste

Dear Presiding Judge:

The City of Lakewood has reviewed the Grand Jury Report on A Diet For Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste. In accordance with California Penal Code Sections 933(c) and 933.05, the following is the City's response to the report:

Recommendation 1.1 - Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

The City of Lakewood does not intend to implement this recommendation of providing weekly food waste drop-off centers. The City of Lakewood will implement the requirements of the State mandated SB 1383 for commercial and residential generators no later than January 1, 2022, which will be conveniently located at each generator's address.

Recommendation 1.3 - County and City officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the City of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the City's Foodscrap program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

The City of Lakewood does not intend to implement this recommendation of creating an incentive program for residential and businesses to separate food waste. The City is currently in a structural deficit and has had a loss of sales tax due to COVID-19. Additionally, the City will have to implement SB 1383, which is an unfunded mandate that will cost the City and ratepayers more money. Therefore, the City is not in a position to subsidize food waste services and therefore, cannot provide incentives.

Recommendation 1.8 - Modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling.

Lakewood

The City of Lakewood cannot comment on this recommendation of modifying contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities. This is not in the City's authority.

Recommendation 1.14 - Elected officials in the County and Cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

The City of Lakewood neither agrees nor disagrees with this recommendation of adopting all of the 11 suggestions in the Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan. Many of the 11 suggestions are required with the mandatory implementation of SB 1383 by January 1, 2022.

1. **Commercial Recycling Ordinance** – Required under SB 1383. ✓
2. **SFR Recycling Ordinance** - Required under SB 1383. ✓
3. **Self-Haul Standards** – Required under SB 1383. ✓
4. **Flow Control** – The City's hauler is responsible for flow control in order to meet all State requirements (i.e. AB 341, AB 1826, and SB 1383). ✓
5. **Contract Modification** – Contract between the City and hauler will be discussed as required, to meet all State requirements (i.e. AB 341, AB 1826, and SB 1383). ✓
6. **Exclusive Commercial Hauling** – City currently has an exclusive contract with one (1) hauler for both commercial and residential service.
7. **Source Separated Organics Collection** – Contract between the City and hauler will be discussed as required, to meet all State requirements (i.e. AB 341, AB 1826, and SB 1383). ✓
8. **Wet/Dry Collection** – Required under SB 1383. ✓
9. **Incentives** – The City does not support, as SB 1383 will mandate organic recycling. ~
10. **Education Only** – Required under SB 1383. ✓
11. **On-Site Management** – Required under SB 1383. ✓

The majority of the 11 suggestions will be a part of the implementation of the Mandatory SB 1383 requirements and schedule. If the schedule for SB 1383 should be legislatively delayed, so too will the City's implementation of those requirements.

We appreciate the opportunity to respond to the Civil Grand Jury's Report. Should you have any questions, please direct them to Konya Vivanti, Environmental Programs Manager [REDACTED] ext. [REDACTED] or via email at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,



Todd Rogers
Mayor



CITY OF LA MIRADA

DEDICATED TO SERVICE



13700 La Mirada Boulevard
La Mirada, California 90638
P.O. Box 828
La Mirada, California 90637-0828
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www.cityoflamirada.org

September 29, 2021

Honorable Thomas O'Shaughnessy
Foreperson
2021-22 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury
222 South Hill Street
Sixth Floor, Suite 670
Los Angeles, California 90012

**SUBJECT: RESPONSES TO CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS ON A
DIET FOR LANDFILLS: CUTTING DOWN ON FOOD WASTE**

Dear Hon. Foreperson O'Shaughnessy:

Thank you for your recent letter notifying that the 2021-22 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Continuity Committee has reviewed all responses regarding the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Final Report. As you mentioned, the 2019-2020 Civil Grand Jury issued a report regarding cutting down on food waste and reducing the impact on local landfills. Responses were required from all 88 cities in Los Angeles County regarding Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14. You noted the City of La Mirada did not provide the required responses.

Thank you for bringing this item to the City of La Mirada's attention and please accept our apologies for not providing timely responses. Staff has reviewed the Recommendations and the required responses are provided below.

- 1.1 Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.**

Beginning January 1, 2022, all residential refuse/recycling collection accounts in La Mirada must recycle organic waste in their existing green waste bins. Recycling organic material, including food waste, is already a requirement for most commercial businesses and will become a requirement for all businesses on January 1, 2022. As you might be aware, a similar requirement as the Grand Jury's recommendation is included in Senate Bill 1383, which was enacted during the 2015-16 legislative session. The City will continue to monitor the needs of the community and consider implementation of a food waste drop-off center. Potential partnerships regarding this endeavor are currently being explored.

- 1.3 County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's *Foodscraps* program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.**

This is an interesting idea; however, at this time, the City does not anticipate a need to create an incentive program. Organics recycling will very soon become mandatory for residential and commercial refuse/recycling collection accounts. Compliance will be ensured through education and enforcement, as needed. An incentive program might be considered as an additional tool if organics recycling is not being achieved at the required level.

- 1.8 County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people 142 for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, 143 and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.**

The City of La Mirada operates Splash! La Mirada Regional Aquatic Center and La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts. Both facilities use a combination of City staff and vendors to provide food services. Refuse disposal and recycling collection, including organics recycling, is handled by EDCO Disposal, the City's franchised waste hauler. This past summer, all pre-consumer food waste was collected and recycled from Splash!. A similar service is scheduled to be established at the Theatre in the near future.

- 1.14 #1 COMMERCIAL RECYCLING ORDINANCE**
Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

The City has developed a comprehensive Organics Recycling Ordinance based on the model ordinance provided by CALRecycle. The ordinance addresses the provisions of SB 1383, AB 341, and SB 1826 including collection, education, waivers, monitoring, reporting, and enforcement. A first reading of the ordinance is scheduled for the October 12, 2021 regular City Council meeting with a second

reading likely to follow at the regular City Council meeting to be held October 26, 2021. The effective date will be January 1, 2022.

#2 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE (SFR) RECYCLING ORDINANCE

Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to SFR dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

Requirements for properties not subject to AB 1826 are included in the City's proposed Organics Recycling Ordinance. All La Mirada properties will be required to participate in organics recycling.

#3 SELF-HAUL STANDARDS

Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.

Requirements for self-haulers are included in the City's proposed Organics Recycling Ordinance. The ordinance includes permitting requirements, record and reporting requirements, and recycling facility requirements.

#4 FLOW CONTROL

Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.

The City's franchised hauler, EDCO Disposal, has agreements with several composting facilities in Southern California. Additionally, EDCO is completing construction on a new Anaerobic Digestion Facility to ensure capacity for the City's organic waste stream.

#5 CONTRACT MODIFICATION

Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City Attorney is currently drafting an amendment to the franchise agreement to include recycling requirements for organics recycling. EDCO Disposal has presented a comprehensive organics recycling plan to the City documenting its responsibilities including collection, reporting, education, and enforcement.

#6 EXCLUSIVE COMMERCIAL HAULING

Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City currently has an exclusive franchise agreement for commercial collection, disposal, and recycling with EDCO Disposal including provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance, and enforcement actions. Any gaps in these areas will be addressed through the amendment process.

#7 SOURCE SEPARATED ORGANICS COLLECTION

Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential, and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

Mandatory source separated organics collection will be addressed in the previously mentioned amendment to the agreement with EDCO Disposal as well as the proposed ordinance.

#8 WET/DRY COLLECTION

Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

EDCO Disposal will be processing all separated commercial organics at a dedicated facility and will not need to sort by wet/dry condition of materials. The City has concerns with the amount of physical space needed to accommodate two separate bins within existing refuse enclosures at many commercial businesses in La Mirada.

#9 INCENTIVES

Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation, and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.

Currently, the City does not plan to offer incentive programs. The proposed ordinance will mandate all residential, multi-family, and commercial accounts to recycle organic waste in compliance with state law. The City and EDCO Disposal will provide a comprehensive education program to ensure all accounts are aware and in compliance with organics recycling requirements.

#10 EDUCATION ONLY

No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.

The City and EDCO Disposal have developed a comprehensive educational program to promote compliance. Information is provided through billing invoices and online on the City's and EDCO Disposal's websites.

#11 ON-SITE MANAGEMENT

Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies.

EDCO Disposal provides free waste stream audits and multiple service options including frequency of collection and bin size to help commercial accounts determine the correct service level for their needs.

On behalf of the City of La Mirada, I appreciate the opportunity to respond to these recommendations. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (562) 943-0131.

Sincerely,

CITY OF LA MIRADA



Jeff Boynton
City Manager



CITY OF LA MIRADA
DEDICATED TO SERVICE

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September 29, 2021

Honorable Thomas O'Shaughnessy
Foreperson
2021-22 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury
222 South Hill Street
Sixth Floor, Suite 670
Los Angeles, California 90012

**SUBJECT: RESPONSES TO CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS ON A
DIET FOR LANDFILLS: CUTTING DOWN ON FOOD WASTE**

Dear Hon. Foreperson O'Shaughnessy:

Thank you for your recent letter notifying that the 2021-22 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Continuity Committee has reviewed all responses regarding the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Final Report. As you mentioned, the 2019-2020 Civil Grand Jury issued a report regarding cutting down on food waste and reducing the impact on local landfills. Responses were required from all 88 cities in Los Angeles County regarding Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14. You noted the City of La Mirada did not provide the required responses.

Thank you for bringing this item to the City of La Mirada's attention and please accept our apologies for not providing timely responses. Staff has reviewed the Recommendations and the required responses are provided below.

- 1.1 Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.**

Beginning January 1, 2022, all residential refuse/recycling collection accounts in La Mirada must recycle organic waste in their existing green waste bins. Recycling organic material, including food waste, is already a requirement for most commercial businesses and will become a requirement for all businesses on January 1, 2022. As you might be aware, a similar requirement as the Grand Jury's recommendation is included in Senate Bill 1383, which was enacted during the 2015-16 legislative session. The City will continue to monitor the needs of the community and consider implementation of a food waste drop-off center. Potential partnerships regarding this endeavor are currently being explored.

- 1.3 County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's *Foodscraps* program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.**

This is an interesting idea; however, at this time, the City does not anticipate a need to create an incentive program. Organics recycling will very soon become mandatory for residential and commercial refuse/recycling collection accounts. Compliance will be ensured through education and enforcement, as needed. An incentive program might be considered as an additional tool if organics recycling is not being achieved at the required level.

- 1.8 County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people 142 for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, 143 and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.**

The City of La Mirada operates Splash! La Mirada Regional Aquatic Center and La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts. Both facilities use a combination of City staff and vendors to provide food services. Refuse disposal and recycling collection, including organics recycling, is handled by EDCO Disposal, the City's franchised waste hauler. This past summer, all pre-consumer food waste was collected and recycled from Splash!. A similar service is scheduled to be established at the Theatre in the near future.

- 1.14 #1 COMMERCIAL RECYCLING ORDINANCE**
Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

The City has developed a comprehensive Organics Recycling Ordinance based on the model ordinance provided by CALRecycle. The ordinance addresses the provisions of SB 1383, AB 341, and SB 1826 including collection, education, waivers, monitoring, reporting, and enforcement. A first reading of the ordinance is scheduled for the October 12, 2021 regular City Council meeting with a second

reading likely to follow at the regular City Council meeting to be held October 26, 2021. The effective date will be January 1, 2022.

#2 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE (SFR) RECYCLING ORDINANCE

Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to SFR dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

Requirements for properties not subject to AB 1826 are included in the City's proposed Organics Recycling Ordinance. All La Mirada properties will be required to participate in organics recycling.

#3 SELF-HAUL STANDARDS

Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.

Requirements for self-haulers are included in the City's proposed Organics Recycling Ordinance. The ordinance includes permitting requirements, record and reporting requirements, and recycling facility requirements.

#4 FLOW CONTROL

Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.

The City's franchised hauler, EDCO Disposal, has agreements with several composting facilities in Southern California. Additionally, EDCO is completing construction on a new Anaerobic Digestion Facility to ensure capacity for the City's organic waste stream.

#5 CONTRACT MODIFICATION

Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City Attorney is currently drafting an amendment to the franchise agreement to include recycling requirements for organics recycling. EDCO Disposal has presented a comprehensive organics recycling plan to the City documenting its responsibilities including collection, reporting, education, and enforcement.

#6 EXCLUSIVE COMMERCIAL HAULING

Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City currently has an exclusive franchise agreement for commercial collection, disposal, and recycling with EDCO Disposal including provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance, and enforcement actions. Any gaps in these areas will be addressed through the amendment process.

#7 SOURCE SEPARATED ORGANICS COLLECTION

Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential, and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

Mandatory source separated organics collection will be addressed in the previously mentioned amendment to the agreement with EDCO Disposal as well as the proposed ordinance.

#8 WET/DRY COLLECTION

Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

EDCO Disposal will be processing all separated commercial organics at a dedicated facility and will not need to sort by wet/dry condition of materials. The City has concerns with the amount of physical space needed to accommodate two separate bins within existing refuse enclosures at many commercial businesses in La Mirada.

#9 INCENTIVES

Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation, and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.

Currently, the City does not plan to offer incentive programs. The proposed ordinance will mandate all residential, multi-family, and commercial accounts to recycle organic waste in compliance with state law. The City and EDCO Disposal will provide a comprehensive education program to ensure all accounts are aware and in compliance with organics recycling requirements.

#10 EDUCATION ONLY

No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.

The City and EDCO Disposal have developed a comprehensive educational program to promote compliance. Information is provided through billing invoices and online on the City's and EDCO Disposal's websites.

#11 ON-SITE MANAGEMENT

Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies.

EDCO Disposal provides free waste stream audits and multiple service options including frequency of collection and bin size to help commercial accounts determine the correct service level for their needs.

On behalf of the City of La Mirada, I appreciate the opportunity to respond to these recommendations. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

CITY OF LA MIRADA



Jeff Boynton
City Manager



R. Rex Parris Mayor
 Marvin E. Crist Vice Mayor
 Ken Mann Council Member
 Raj Malhi Council Member
 Darrell Dorris Council Member
 Jason Caudle City Manager

October 22, 2020

Presiding Judge
 Los Angeles County Superior Court
 Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
 210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
 Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Response of City of Lancaster to Los Angeles County Grand Jury Report *A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste*

Dear Honorable Presiding Judge:

The City of Lancaster (“Lancaster”) hereby responds to the recommendations set forth in the Los Angeles County Grand Jury Report *A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste* (“Report”) pursuant to Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05 and the instructions contained in the Report. Lancaster responds as follows:

<p>Recommendation 1.1:</p>	<p>“Each of the 88 cities, and the County’s unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer’s market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.”</p>
<p>Response:</p>	<p>This recommendation will not be implemented because it is neither warranted nor reasonable. The definition of the term “Organic Waste” includes food waste. (Pub Resources Code § 42649.8.) Businesses and multifamily dwellings that generate four cubic yards of commercial solid waste per week are required to arrange for organic waste recycling. (Pub Resources Code § 42649.81.) Organic waste recycling services are currently offered by Waste Management – Lancaster’s franchise waste hauler. Establishing a weekly food waste drop-off center would result in unnecessarily increased costs to either Lancaster or those persons utilizing the drop-off center.</p>

<p>Recommendation 1.3:</p>	<p>“County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer’s market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops,</p>
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	etc.) have signed up for the city’s Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.”
Response:	This recommendation requires further analysis. Providing a discount on a business’s solid waste fee is not reasonable because it would require an amendment to the contract between Lancaster and Waste Management. Therefore, Lancaster is evaluating whether other methods to incentivize separation of food waste exist and whether such incentives would result in meaningful separation of food waste. Given the current economic uncertainty caused by the global COVID-19 pandemic, Lancaster’s focus is on incentives that would not require an expenditure of city funds. Lancaster will complete its evaluation within six months of the publication date of the Report.

Recommendation 1.8:	“County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.”
Response:	This recommendation requires further analysis. Once county officials have acted upon this recommendation, Lancaster will analyze such actions and determine whether the same or similar actions can be taken in Lancaster. Lancaster is also considering an ordinance establishing requirements for the collection and recycling of recyclable materials and collection and organics processing of organic material. If adopted in its current form, this ordinance would require special events, which is defined generally as events involving 50 or more people at which entertainment is provided or made available, to separate organic materials from garbage. Lancaster expects to act upon this proposed ordinance by the end of the year and will complete its investigation of the County’s actions within six months of the publication date of the Report.

Recommendation 1.14:	“Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.”
Response:	This recommendation has been implemented in part and will not be implemented in part. Of the 11 separate suggested actions set forth in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan, Lancaster has implemented suggested actions 10 and 11. Suggested

	actions 1 and 3 are likely to be addressed by the ordinance identified in response to recommendation 1.8 above. The remaining suggested actions will not be implemented at this time because SB 1383 addresses those suggested actions.
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Sincerely,



R. Rex Parris
Mayor of the City of Lancaster

cc: Allison E. Burns, City Attorney



CITY OF LA VERNE CITY HALL

3660 "D" Street, La Verne, California 91750-3599
www.cityoflaverne.org

October 5, 2021

County of Los Angeles
Civil Grand Jury
ATTN: Presiding Judge
222 South Hill Street, Sixth Floor, Suite 670
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**RE: RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 LOS ANGELES COUNTY CIVIL GRAND
JURY FINAL REPORT: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS**

Dear Presiding Judge,

The City of La Verne has received the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Final Report (Report) titled, "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste" and has prepared responses to the recommendations located on page 19, below.

Recommendations:

- 1.1 *Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.*

Despite the City's agreement that this is a great suggestion for many communities, it is not practical for the City of La Verne, so the City is choosing not to implement this suggestion. A weekly food drop off center would be very costly and not very effective after considering contamination and amount of anticipated use, due to inconvenience. In lieu of this suggestion, the City of La Verne has instead chosen to focus on establishing curbside recycling for food and other organic waste through our Waste Management collection services, which will officially begin January 1, 2022. Residents will be able to add food waste into their green carts, which will be picked up weekly for transportation to an anaerobic digestion facility that will turn it into compost. Therefore, a drop off center will not be necessary.



General Administration 909/596-8726 • Water Customer Service 909/596-8744 • Community Services 909/596-8700
Public Works 909/596-8741 • Finance 909/596-8716 • Community Development 909/596-8706 • Building 909/596-8713
Police Department 909/596-1913 • Fire Department 909/596-5991 • General Fax 909/596-8737

- 1.3 *County and City officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the City of Santa Barbara,, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.*

The City of La Verne understands the benefits of this suggestion for many communities, but is choosing not to implement this suggestion at this time. Since organic waste (primarily food) waste diversion is mandated by law, incentives aren't necessary. Leading up to January 1, 2022 and beyond, the community will be receiving education and outreach to ensure they understand that they're required to be adding food waste into their green/organics bins. Residential properties are already depositing landscape waste into the green bin, and will now transition into adding food and other organic waste.

The City will be reaching out to non-compliant multi-family and commercial customers to educate and encourage them to get organics bins before enforcing the City of La Verne Municipal Code reinforcing the requirements of SB 1383.

- 1.14 *Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.*

Most of the suggestions listed in the 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan are in process or are already being implemented within the City of La Verne. La Verne is committed to finding practical solutions and implementation for beneficial use of organic material. As program elements for SB 1383 are fully implemented, we are confident we will see the results come to fruition.

Should you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact Shawn Igoe, Director of Public Works at [REDACTED] or at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,



Tim Hepburn
Mayor
City of La Verne



CITY OF LAWDALE

Office of the Mayor

ROBERT PULLEN-MILES

Mayor

October 18, 2021

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, California 90012

**RE: CITY OF LAWDALE RESPONSES TO RECOMMENDATIONS -
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES' CIVIL GRAND JURY REPORT
"A DIET FOR LANDFILLS"**

The City of Lawndale has provided the following responses to the recommendation numbers 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, 1.14 included in the County of Los Angeles' Civil Grand Jury's "A Diet for Landfills" report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend:

- 1.1 Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

The City of Lawndale partially agrees with the recommendation. The City is planning to establish a farmer's market and is looking into the feasibility of having a food waste drop-off center at the same location.

- 1.3 County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's *Foodscraps* program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

The City of Lawndale disagrees partially with the recommendation. The City's exclusive solid waste franchised hauler provides food waste collection for businesses that meet the thresholds of AB 1826. Beginning January 1, 2022, all organics generators will be offered an organics collection program by the franchised hauler. All customer rates include refuse, recycling and organics collection, and therefore, there is not a discount for organics service.

- 1.8 County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people¹⁴² for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

The City of Lawndale agrees partially with this recommendation. While this is an important program, the City of Lawndale does not contract with any food vendors.

- 1.14 Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan¹⁴⁶ and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

Please see the City of Lawndale responses in blue font.

- 1 **Commercial Recycling Ordinance**

Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

The City of Lawndale's mandatory recycling and organics ordinance will go before the City Council on November 1, 2021. The ordinance includes mandatory recycling and organics collection for residential, multi-family, and commercial premises.

2 SFR Recycling Ordinance

Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single-family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

The City of Lawndale's mandatory recycling and organics ordinance will go before the City Council on November 1, 2021. The ordinance includes mandatory recycling and organics collection for residential, multi-family, and commercial premises.

3 Self-Haul Standards

Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.

Self-haul standards are incorporated in the ordinance referenced in items #1 and #2 above.

4 Flow Control

Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.

The City of Lawndale does not enforce flow control. The City's exclusive solid waste agreement includes the transfer and processing standards included in SB 1383.

5 Contract Modification

Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City of Lawndale entered into a new exclusive solid waste franchise agreement on January 1, 2020, to comply with the requirements of SB 1383. The exclusive agreement includes recycling and organic recycling services to residential, multi-family, and commercial premises throughout the City.

- 6 **Exclusive Commercial Hauling**
Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

Please see item #5 above. The exclusive agreement also includes reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

- 7 **Source Separated Organics Collection**
Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City of Lawndale’s exclusive solid waste franchise agreement requires source-separated organics collection.

- 8 **Wet/Dry Collection**
Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City of Lawndale’s exclusive franchised hauler only offers source-separated organics collections and does not offer wet/dry routing.

- 9 **Incentives**
Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.

The City of Lawndale’s rates for the collection and processing of organic waste were set through a competitive request for proposals process. As stated in response to Recommendation 1.3 above, all customer rates include refuse, recycling and organics collection, and therefore, there is not a discount for organics service.

10 Education Only

No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.

Both the City of Lawndale and its exclusive franchised hauler provide extensive education to all organics generators. The exclusive solid waste franchise agreement includes the SB 1383 requirements for compliance monitoring.

11 On-Site Management

Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies.

The exclusive solid waste franchise agreement includes requirements for site visits to assist businesses with implementation of organic programs and reduction in refuse collection.

Sincerely,



Robert Pullen-Miles
Mayor

cc: Kevin M. Chun, City Manager
Julian Lee, Public Works Director
File

CITY COUNCIL

JIM GAZELEY
MARK WARONEK
HENRY SANCHEZ JR
MICHAEL SAVIDAN
CINDY SEGAWA



CITY OF LOMITA

ADMINISTRATION

RYAN SMOOT
CITY MANAGER

September 15, 2020

Kevin Brazile, Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shorridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

**Re: City of Lomita Response to Grand Jury Report Entitled "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS:
Cutting Down on Food Waste"**

Honorable Judge Brazile:

On July 8, 2020, the Los Angeles County Grand Jury issued its report entitled "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste" (the "Report"). In the Report, the Civil Grand Jury recommends that cities and districts in Los Angeles County recommend a public education campaign around food waste that creates drop-off food waste centers in more areas of the County and provides financial incentives, as well as County-owned facilities "leading by example" in recycling food waste.

At the conclusion of the Report, the Grand Jury requested a response from the City of Lomita ("City") to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8 and 1.14. The City provides the following responses to these Recommendations in accordance with Penal Code §933.05.

Recommendations:

1.1 The Grand Jury recommends that each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

The City will not implement this recommendation. While the City agrees that food waste must be collected the establishment of a drop-off center is not necessary or feasible. Currently, the City's exclusive franchise agreement with CalMet Services, Inc. includes organic waste service for all residential and commercial customers for a nominal charge. As part of the City's efforts to ensure compliance with the State organic waste mandates (AB1826, SB1383 and AB827), all customers will be required to subscribe to organics waste service. Food waste recycling regulations as adopted by the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) require cities to pass an ordinance mandating on-site separation and recycling of food waste for both the commercial and residential sectors under a specific timeline (enforcement is to begin January 1, 2022). Further, due to budgetary restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the City has neither the staff nor the funds to arrange for regular pickup and delivery of food waste as recommended. Thus, a separate drop-off location will be unnecessary and impractical. However, the City will monitor resident demands and work with its waste hauler to gauge feasibility of a drop-off program and will require its inclusion in any future amendment to the franchise agreement.

1.3. The Grand Jury recommends that County and City officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on solid waste fee. For example, in the City of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program and can have several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

The recommendation has not yet been implemented but the City will work towards implementing it in any future rate adjustment/ amendment to the franchise agreement. The City will review potentially including a discount for those who source separate rather than co-mingle and require material recovery facility processing (MRF). Incorporating such discounts will provide incentive to separate food waste. However, as stated above, the City's exclusive franchise agreement already includes organic waste service for all residential and commercial customers.

1.8. The Grand Jury recommends County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling, etc... implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

The City will not implement this recommendation. This recommendation is not applicable to the City because the City has no permanent large venues and the City does not have food vendor companies that are inside City facilities. The City actively adheres to the requirements of AB2176 (large venue and large event recycling) and reports its compliance annually to CalRecycle. Producers of large events in the City are required to ensure that organic waste recycling service options separate from traditional recycling services are provided at food vendor establishments as well as larger central separated containers and regular service at the event as a whole. Events may also utilize food donation programs, per their sustainability plans.

1.14 The Grand Jury recommends elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

- 1. Commercial Recycling Ordinance. Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City is working with CalRecycle to craft an Ordinance that will codify the mandatory organics recycling requirements of SB1383. This Ordinance will mandate organics recycling for all customers as well as monitoring and education activities to ensure compliance with CalRecycle's mandates. The City is anticipating model language for this Ordinance will be released by CalRecycle in Fall 2020.

- 2. SFR Recycling Ordinance. Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single-family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. As previously mentioned, the City is working with CalRecycle to craft an Ordinance that will codify the mandatory organics recycling requirements of SB1383 (as mentioned above). This Ordinance will include mandatory organics recycling programs for all commercial and residential customers.

- 3. Self-Haul Standards. Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.*

The City is currently implementing the former part of this recommendation by including equivalent language in an Ordinance that will codify the mandatory organics recycling requirements of SB1383. This will utilize annual customer audits and reporting requirements implemented by the City's franchised waste hauler per the existing franchise agreement.

However, establishing a system to regulate self-haul landscapers would be very challenging logistically and thus the latter part of this recommendation is impractical to implement. The sheer volume of unlicensed gardening, and landscaping contractors in the greater Los Angeles area alone would make this very difficult. It would require a significant amount of staff effort to manage. This would impose a regulatory staffing and fiscal burden on the City. Further, due to budgetary restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the City has neither the staff nor the funds to implement the latter part of this recommendation at this time.

4. *Flow Control. Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City has language in its franchise agreement currently that ensures maximum diversion and composting of organic waste. A future amendment to the franchise agreement is planned for 2021 that will strengthen language related to this recommendation in line with the requirements of SB1383.

5. *Contract Modification. Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City has language in its franchise agreement currently that ensures maximum diversion and composting of organic waste. As previously mentioned, a future amendment to the franchise agreement is planned for 2021 that will strengthen this language related to this recommendation in line with the requirements of SB1383.

6. *Exclusive Commercial Hauling. Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City has language in its franchise agreement currently that ensures maximum diversion and composting of organic waste. Annual reporting requirements also include detailed information on tonnage and facilities used for organic waste processing. As previously mentioned, a future amendment to the franchise agreement is planned for 2021 that will strengthen this language related to this recommendation in line with the requirements of SB1383.

7. *Source Separated Organics Collection. Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City has language in its franchise agreement currently that ensures maximum diversion and composting of organic waste. Annual reporting requirements also include detailed information on tonnage and facilities used for organic waste processing. As previously mentioned, a future amendment to the franchise agreement is planned for 2021 that will strengthen this language related to this recommendation in line with the requirements of SB1383.

8. Wet/Dry Collection. Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City currently offers all customers source-separate collection of organics using dedicated organics containers. The City does not see a need for wet/dry separation at this time. City will monitor commercial needs and work with its waste hauler to gauge feasibility of this recommendation and will consider it to be included in any future amendment to the franchise agreement.

9. Incentives. Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.

The recommendation has not yet been implemented but the City will consider it to be included in any future rate adjustment/ amendment to the franchise agreement. The City will review potentially including a discount for those who source separate rather than co-mingle and require material recovery facility processing (MRF). Incorporating such discounts will provide incentive to separate food waste. However, as stated above, the City's exclusive franchise agreement already includes organic waste service for all residential and commercial customers.

10. Education Only. No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.

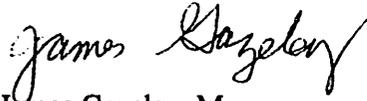
The City agrees with this recommendation and has implemented it. Education and outreach are essential components of the City's waste program. The waste hauler per the franchise agreement performs annual visits for subject organics generators, offering a variety of container and service types, ongoing monitoring, inspections, training to customers and staff, distribution of education materials, recognition of sustainable businesses, and more. Education materials are available in City facilities, distributed to customers by the waste hauler via mail and in-person, and provided to the public at special events and through digital media.

11. On-Site Management. Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies.

The City agrees with this recommendation and has implemented it. Education and outreach are essential components of the City's waste program. The waste hauler per the franchise agreement performs annual visits for subject organics generators, offering a variety of container and service types, ongoing monitoring, inspections, training to customers and staff, distribution of education materials, recognition of sustainable businesses, and more. Education materials are available in City facilities, distributed to customers by the waste hauler via mail and in-person, and provided to the public at special events and through digital media.

We thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Report. Should you have any further questions or desire any further information, please contact me or City Manager Ryan Smoot.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Gazeley".

James Gazeley, Mayor

cc: Lomita City Council
Ryan Smoot, City Manager
Christi Hogin, City Attorney
Judith Krimmel, Foreperson

October 29, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Response to "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

To Whom It May Concern,

Please see the City of Long Beach's (City) responses to the County of Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury's recommendations regarding "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste."

Recommendation 1.1

Grand Jury Recommendation: Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

City Response: The City believes there are more effective methods to achieve this goal. The City's Public Works Department is focused on establishing comprehensive organics recycling systems to maximize organics diversion and participation as required by SB 1383. The City, as mandated by state law, must establish residential and commercial organics recycling programs by January 1, 2022.

Recommendation 1.3

Grand Jury Recommendation: County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the City of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.



City Response: This work is already underway through the City's efforts to encourage composting. The City has been teaching backyard composting to our residents for more than 20 years and offers compost bins to residents at reduced prices. These well-attended workshops are available in English and in Spanish.

Recommendation 1.8

Grand Jury Recommendation: County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

City Response: The City cannot comment on practices within County facilities. Under SB 1383, there are specific food waste and edible food recovery requirements for events and venues. The City intends to adopt these requirements.

Recommendation 1.14

Grand Jury Recommendation: Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

City Response: The 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan outlines 11 suggestions/strategies that are necessary to ensure a successful organics waste recycling program. The City is researching these strategies to see which ones are compatible and will work best for the City. Once this research is completed, the City will take the steps necessary to implement these strategies.

Should you have any follow-up questions regarding the City's responses, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,



THOMAS B. MODICA
City Manager



October 8, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

RE: A Diet for Landfills, Cutting Down on Food Waste

The City of Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services (Health Department) appreciates the Grand Jury's responsibilities and commitment to public service. Pursuant to Penal Code Section Code 933.05, the following acknowledgments and information are respectfully submitted relating to matters under the jurisdiction of the Board of Supervisors.

Mandated Report – 1.6 Training Food Inspectors

Recommendations:

The Grand Jury report suggests that the Department of Long Beach Health and Human Services develop a program to train its food inspectors as "ambassadors" when they are in the field. The inspectors need to be armed with the Food Drop brochure, as well as information about how that establishment can safely separate and recycle any food waste.

Response:

The Health Department's Bureau of Environmental Health will adopt and modify the Los Angeles County's brochure on safe separation and recycling of food waste. Designated environmental health district inspectors will be trained to distribute the brochure and educate food facility operators during on-site inspections and final plan check for new food facilities.

Mandated Report – 1.7 Permit Process as Educational Component

Recommendation:

The Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services should take the lead in creating a food waste education component as part of its permit process required for all outdoor public events that will be serving food. Department officials can work with the event manager ahead of time to plan for excess edible food donation, and for how food waste will be collected and separated.

Response:

The Health Department's Bureau of Environmental Health Bureau has a designated environmental health specialist who works with food vendor organizers and City officials managing outdoor public events. The environmental health specialist will include

RE: A Diet for Landfills, Cutting Down on Food Waste
October 8, 2020
Page 2

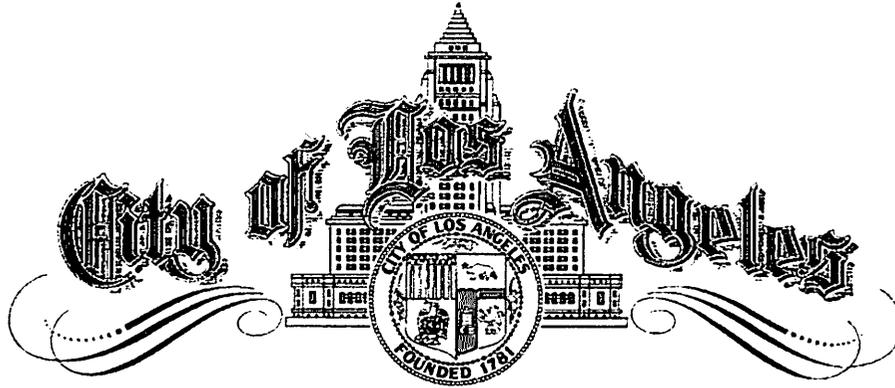
education on waste reduction through food donation and waste management with certified market and special event organizers prior to health permit approval.

We are committed to reducing organic waste sent to landfills and hope to begin the development, and implementation of this program in the next six to twelve months. We will also work closely with the Los Angeles County Public Health Department to ensure that the timeframe, and educational materials for these specific areas are aligned and consistent.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelly Colopy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kelly Colopy
Director of Health and Human Services



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

VIA EMAIL ONLY [REDACTED]

October 29, 2020

The Honorable Kevin C. Brazile, Presiding Judge
The Honorable Eric C. Taylor, Assistant Presiding Judge
Los Angeles County Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, Eleventh Floor – Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Responses

Dear Presiding Judge Brazile and Assistant Presiding Judge Taylor,

On behalf of Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, please find enclosed the following responses to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury:

- Responses from the City of Los Angeles Office of the Mayor to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report, entitled "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

Sincerely,

Skyler Gray
Deputy Legal Counsel
Mayor Eric Garcetti



RESPONSE FROM THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

**SUBJECT: 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste**

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, CITY OF LOS ANGELES

For the 2019-2020 term, the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury issued a report titled "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste." The required responses are provided below. The Office of the Mayor concurs with the overall findings for the need for infrastructure investment to expand access to food waste processing and for extensive education to residents on the options currently available to them.

RECOMMENDATION 1.1- Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contacts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 1.1:

Agree. This recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.

The 2019 Sustainable City Plan, called the Green New Deal, established the target to eliminate organic waste going to landfill by 2028. We will achieve this goal by expanding access city-wide to food waste recycling and food rescue options. We set the goal of expanding food scraps drop-off collections to city farmers markets by 2021 and by launching city-wide residential food scrap collection, also by 2021.

At the start of 2020, the Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN) was in discussions with LA Compost to expand food waste drop off at three farmers markets as a pilot before a city-wide expansion. Timing of this launch and future expansion is subject to budgetary priorities and the availability of funding in future budgets.

RECOMMENDATION 1.3 - County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's *Foodscraps* program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 1.3:

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented.

While there is a need to encourage residents and businesses to separate food waste, a one-off incentive program is not the best use of available funds. SB 1826 already requires all businesses and multi-family dwellings of five or more units to recycle their organic waste. Additionally, SB 1383 requires a 50 percent reduction in organic waste going to landfill from the 2014 level. As noted in the report, achieving these targets will depend on expanding capacity at local material recovery facilities to process food waste and to teach residents how to properly separate their waste. Therefore, the City is instead focusing on incorporating food waste collection into existing solid waste services, and accompanying the roll out with educational materials. As noted above, this is targeted for 2021, however timing of this launch and future expansion is subject to budgetary priorities and the availability of funding in future budgets.

RECOMMENDATION 1.8 - County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concerts, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 1.8:

Agree. Although the Civil Grand Jury's recommendation is directed to the County, not the City, we can say that, within the City of Los Angeles, this recommendation has partially been implemented.

This recommendation has been partially implemented at City facilities with a plan for expansion to other qualified City facilities. In October 2017, LASAN began a food waste collection pilot at City Hall in coordination with Homeboy Diner. This consisted of a public-facing green bin for food scraps, and a back of house collection system with the diner in City Hall. Contamination was high for the public facing bin. The contamination from food waste collected from Homeboy Diner's back of house operations is low overall. The total monthly average collected at City Hall was 0.17 tons in 2019 and 0.23 tons in 2018. In July 2019, LASAN expanded the back of house collection efforts to the restaurants at the Los Angeles Mall food court.

As part of Executive Directive 25 - City Departments were directed to:

- 1) "[D]evelop and submit to the Mayor's Office a plan by December 31st, 2020 to achieve a zero waste City Hall by 2025. The plan shall emphasize waste reduction, include strategies for employee and stakeholder outreach, and include the development of a zero waste policy for City-sponsored and permitted events," and**
- 2) "Submit plans by December 31st, 2020 for their departments to achieve the City's zero waste 2025 target, with an emphasis on waste reduction, including plans for employee and visitor engagement, where applicable."**

These deadlines were postponed to 2021 due to the COVID-19 disruption to work flows.

LASAN will support these efforts with the formation of "Road to Zero Waste" reference guides. Key to these targets will be reduction in food waste at all facilities.

RECOMMENDATION 1.10 - The City of Los Angeles should partner with LA Compost to expand the organization's footprint in the city to increase its capacity to collect and compost food waste.

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 1.10:

Agree. This recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.

LASAN is in discussion with LA Compost to launch a pilot program at three farmers markets. As noted above, timing and funding is subject to budgetary priorities and the availability of funding in future budgets.

Additionally, LA Compost has already connected with the Los Angeles Recreation and Parks Department to build a compost hub at Griffith Park, which is expected to launch early 2021. This site will have the ability to process over 15,000 lbs of organics weekly.

RECOMMENDATION 1.11 - The City of Los Angeles should work with its 99 Neighborhood Councils to increase public education around food waste separation/recycling programs.

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 1.11:

Agree. This recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.

This outreach will accompany the roll-out of City-wide collection of food waste.

RECOMMENDATION 1.14 - Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 1.14:

Agree, this recommendation has been implemented.

The City of Los Angeles has enacted options 1, 2, 4, 6, and 7 through the City's franchise hauling contracts, which went into effect 2017. These options refer to the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan, page 39, located here: <https://pw.lacounty.gov/epd/swims/News/swims-more-links.aspx?id=4>



City of LYNWOOD

A City Meeting Challenges

11330 BULLIS ROAD
LYNWOOD, CALIFORNIA 90262
(310) 603-0220



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

October 20, 2020

Kevin Brazile, Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: City of Lynwood's Response to the Civil Grand Jury Report entitled "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

Dear Judge Brazile,

On July 8, 2020, the County of Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury issued its report entitled "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste" (the "Report") to all 88 cities in the County. The Report analyzes the challenges and opportunities for cities in the county to divert organic waste from landfills. In accordance with Cal. Pen Code § 933.05-06, the City has prepared a response to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14 as requested.

Recommendation 1.1

Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The Center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

The City disagrees partially with the recommendation. Although a weekly food waste drop-off program is a viable method of diversion, the City does not currently have an outlet available for implementation of this type of collection, such as a farmer's market, or permanent food waste collection station. The City is built out. A weekly drop-off center would have to be developed. The City does not have the resources to fund such an endeavor. Logistical constraints associated with implementation of this kind of program such as land, staffing, collection and transfer would have to be considered.

Currently, all entities subject to AB 1826 are receiving organics waste collection services from the City's hauler, Waste Resources Inc. based on fee for services.

The requirements under AB1826 and SB1383 for organics recycling requires significant collection of organics waste requiring a larger market for the end product. We feel that given the requirements under the current legislation, small contracts would be insufficient to process and receive the anticipated organics to be collected.

Recommendation 1.3

County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

The City agrees with the recommendation. Incentivizing residents and commercial entities to separate their food waste can stimulate participation and ultimately waste reduction. This will allow the City to create education and outreach prior to the implementation of SB 1383, which will require all entities to have an organics recycling program regardless of incentives. Currently the City offers discounted bin rates for recycling bins to commercial accounts.

The City is exploring different potential incentive programs such as a pilot composting program for neighborhoods interested in participating.

Currently, the City launched a "Lynwood Eco-Leader" outreach program that recognizes locals who are engaging in eco-friendly practices and featuring their stories on the quarterly recycling newsletter, providing them with free SWAG thereafter.

Recommendation 1.8

County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

The City agrees with the recommendation. The City of Lynwood does not have jurisdiction over County's contracts at County owned facilities. In Lynwood, there are County owned facilities such as the County Library and the County Sheriff Station/Jail. The City would be in

support of the County modifying contracts with food vendor companies to include food waste separation and recycling.

Recommendation 1.14

Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

The City responds to each of the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan as follows:

1. Commercial Recycling Ordinance. Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

The City is currently implementing the recommendation. The City is reviewing a draft model ordinance released by CalRecycle to draft an ordinance that will codify the mandatory organics recycling requirements of SB 1383. The City plans to use the draft model ordinance as a basis for its regulatory overhaul to include compliance and enforcement programs as required under SB 1383. The City is anticipating the final model ordinance to be released by CalRecycle no later than November 2020.

2. SFR Recycling Ordinance. Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

The City is currently implementing the recommendation. The City is reviewing a draft model ordinance that will codify the mandatory organics recycling requirements of AB 1826 and SB 1383. The ordinance will include mandatory organics recycling programs for both commercial and residential entities in the City. State regulations for implementing SB 1383 are presently being finalized after which the State will release final drafts of model ordinance language for consideration by jurisdictions.

3. Self-Haul Standards. Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.

The City's waste hauler, Waste Resources, currently identifies self-haulers amongst the entities that are subject to AB 1826. However, establishing a system to regulate self-haulers would be very challenging logistically. Auditing and reporting would be difficult in tracking the amount of unlicensed gardening and landscaping contractors operating in the City.

Implementation of regulatory requirements for self-haulers would impose regulatory staffing and fiscal burden on the City at a time that is already difficult.

4. Flow Control. Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.

The City has implemented the recommendation. The City's waste hauler currently transports all organic waste generated by commercial entities to the Puente Hills Materials Recovery Facility for processing where it is then turned into either compost or taken to an anaerobic digester to be transformed into renewable energy. The City's agreement with the waste hauler also indicates a requirement to implement programs that result in diversion in order to meet state requirements. The City feels that there is self-hauling that is occurring since the City receives reports from other landfills. This self-hauling has been very difficult to track and control.

5. Contract Modification. Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City has implemented the recommendation in part. The City's agreement with its waste hauler already warrants recycling and diversion requirements. Renegotiating the contract with our franchise hauler is needed to incorporate compliance with SB 1383. Final draft model regulatory language is anticipated to be released by CalRecycle in 2020. This should provide the City with new terms to include in the contract.

6. Exclusive Commercial Hauling. Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City has implemented the recommendation in part. The City's waste hauler currently provides recycling and organics recycling collection services to all commercial entities subject to AB 1826. Additionally, the waste hauler provides quarterly reports to the City quantifying waste generated by the City and diversion rates. The waste hauler also assists with annual reporting to CalRecycle in conjunction with LARA. SB 1383 model regulatory language is anticipated to be released by CalRecycle in late 2020, including jurisdictional reporting, compliance, and enforcement requirements that the City intends to implement.

7. Source Separated Organics Collection. Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics

recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City is currently implementing the recommendation in part. The City's waste hauler currently provides separate collection of organic waste to entities subject to AB 1826 and transporting the material to qualified organics recycling/composting facility. The waste hauler reports tonnage diverted to the facility in their quarterly recycling reports. However, a modification of the agreement to include SB 1383 must be made.

8. Wet/Dry Collection. Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City's waste hauler currently provides separate collection to entities subject to AB 1826 and transporting the material to qualified organics recycling/composting facility. The waste hauler reports tonnage diverted to the facility in their quarterly recycling reports.

9. Incentives. Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.

The City is currently implementing the recommendation in part. All commercial entities subject to AB 1826 receive organics commercial services. An incentive program to increase participating by both commercial and residential entities would be an excellent tool to increase recycling and organics diversion. Currently, the City offers a discounted rate for a recycling bin to encourage recycling.

10. Education Only. No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.

The City has implemented the recommendation. The City provides educational material via outreach outlets (social media, City website, direct mailers, recycling application, flyers, and booths at special events pre-covid) about state requirements for AB 341, AB 1826, AB 827, and SB 1383. Additionally, the City's waste hauler provides comprehensive educational material on their media outlets as well. The hauler also educates businesses during site visits by providing information on the acceptable contents into the organics and recyclable bins, provides recycling brochures, and decals for the bins to label the respective waste stream. Even with the educational outreach in place, some businesses are still not complying with the recycling mandates or refusing

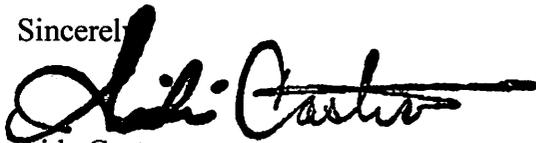
to utilize their recycling bins. Education should be supplemented at the County or State level using multimedia.

11. On-Site Management. Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies.

The City is currently implementing the recommendation. The City's waste hauler provides on-site assistance to businesses for their organics programs. Additionally, the hauler provides educational material and recommendations for waste collection services whenever requested. With the forthcoming SB 1383 requirements, the City will augment this effort whenever possible to ensure ease of transition into compliance.

We thank you for the opportunity to respond to this Report. Given the Covid-19 pandemic, our face to face public outreach effort to encourage organics recycling has been halted. Should you have any additional questions about the recycling programs in the City of Lynwood, please contact City Engineer Thomas Thornton at [REDACTED] ext. [REDACTED] or via email at [REDACTED]. You can also contact Jennifer Hernandez at [REDACTED] ext. [REDACTED] or via email at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,



Aide Castro
Mayor

cc: Michelle Ramirez, Acting City Manager
Noel Tapia, City Attorney



City of Malibu

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Phone (310) 456-2489 · Fax (310) 456-3356 · www.malibucity.org

October 1, 2020

Kevin Brazile, Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

RE: City of Malibu Response to the Los Angeles County Grand Jury Report "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

Honorable Judge Brazile:

On July 31, 2020, the Los Angeles County Grand Jury issued its report entitled "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste" ("Report"). In the Report, the Grand Jury identified several opportunities for supportive public policies that can incentivize and create avenues to increase food waste recycling and organic waste diversion rates.

At the conclusion of the Report, the Grand Jury requested a response from the City of Malibu ("City") to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14. The City provides the following responses to these Recommendations in accordance with Penal Code §933 and 933.05.

Recommendations:

1.1. Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

This recommendation will not be implemented. The City is working with CalRecycle and its permitted solid waste haulers to meet the requirements of AB 1826, AB 827, and SB 1383, which will bring organic service to all residents and businesses. Directly providing customers with organic waste service will be a more practical and efficient solution to food waste than a weekly food drop off. While a weekly food waste drop-off center is a good idea, implementing such a program would not be practical in the City. There are no nearby permitted composting facilities and local landscapers are not permitted composters, thus the cost of implementing such a program would likely be cost

prohibitive. The City already requires commercial organic recycling reporting for city-permitted haulers in compliance with AB 341 and AB 1826.

The City's waste management is unique in that the eastern portion of the City is a part of the County's Malibu Garbage Disposal District ("MGDD") and thus the City does not manage the MGDD, and due to topographical issues in the City, there is no franchised waste hauler to service areas outside of the MGDD. In the western portion of the City, there is a permit system where residents directly contract with approved haulers; however, the City is not a party to those contracts. Thus, implementing such a program also poses logistical challenges. Further, due to budgetary restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the City has neither the staff nor the funds to arrange for regular pickup and delivery of food waste over long distances.

1.3. County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

This recommendation will not be implemented. As discussed in the response to Recommendation 1.1, the City is working with CalRecycle and its permitted haulers to bring organic service to residents and businesses in accordance with SB 1383 so an incentive program will not be necessary for participation in organic collection. Since incorporation in 1991, the City has never had a franchise agreement with any hauler, in part due to the difficulties discussed in response to Recommendation 1.1.

Although the City collects a small portion of fees from permitted haulers, it only covers the management of the City's current solid waste program. Outside of the MGDD, solid waste services are provided by City-permitted haulers; the minimal revenue generated from the solid waste hauler permits would be insufficient to operate an incentive program for food waste separation. Thus, implementing such a program also poses logistical challenges. Further, due to the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent significant impacts to the economy, and with the higher cost of processing organics in comparison with trash and recycling, an incentive program is not feasible at this time.

1.8. County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people⁴² for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite,⁴³ and traditionally draws large pre-concert picknicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

Recommendation 1.8 will be implemented. While the City does not have contracts with food vendor companies for its facilities, all large events ($\geq 2,000$) at non-residential properties must obtain a City issued temporary use permit. The City requires recycling and disposal reporting as a condition of the

permit. City staff will modify the existing permit conditions to align with the goals of SB 1383 by requiring landfill diversion and edible food recovery to commence by January 2024.

1.14 Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan' and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

The City will express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste. Below are the responses to the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan:

Suggestions:

1. **Commercial Recycling Ordinance:** Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place) Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

Without formally adopting an ordinance, the City has implemented mandatory commercial recycling and green waste programs since 1995 based on City Council approved resolutions. Commercial and residential green waste service has been required and provided by the City's permitted solid waste haulers or landscaping companies. The City is currently implementing this recommendation by working with CalRecycle to prepare an ordinance for organic recycling. This Ordinance will mandate organics recycling for all customers as well as monitoring and education activities to ensure compliance with CalRecycle's mandates.

The City is anticipating model language for this Ordinance will be released by CalRecycle in Fall 2020. Staff will continue to work with CalRecycle and anticipates City Council will adopt an organic recycling ordinance by January 2022.

2. **Single Family Residence Recycling Ordinance:** Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single-family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

Suggestion 2 will be implemented in accordance with SB 1383's timeline. The City is working with CalRecycle to prepare an ordinance for organic recycling and expects CalRecycle will soon release a sample ordinance for SB 1383 that will establish organic collection requirements for single and multi-family residential dwellings. With SB 1383 in place, City staff will evaluate monitoring and enforcement options to include in the ordinance. Staff will continue to work with CalRecycle and anticipates City Council will adopt an organic recycling ordinance by January 2022.

3. **Self-Haul Standards:** Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.

There are many landscapers that work within city limits and dispose of material without reporting to the City, despite the fact that it is required by all City-permitted haulers. Thus implementing this requirement is impractical and the cost to audit every self-hauler is cost prohibitive. Further, the City currently has no inventory or reasonable method to audit the procedures of all self-haulers since the City does not operate a business license office; Los Angeles County is responsible for administering licenses.

4. **Flow Control:** Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.

The City does not have any solid waste processing and transferring facilities within its jurisdiction or local certified organic processing facilities to reasonably institute flow control options. Further, the City operates under a permit system and does not have any franchise agreements for solid waste collection that would allow the City to direct materials to specific facilities. Thus, implementing this recommendation is impractical. However, as part of the City's solid waste permit system, haulers are required to submit quarterly reports that detail tonnage and facilities.

5. **Contract Modification:** Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

Suggestion 5 will be implemented. Although the City does not have a franchise agreement, City-issued permits require haulers to comply with recycling mandates. The City requires recycling and disposal reporting as a condition of the permit. City staff will modify the existing permit conditions to align with the goals of SB 1383.

6. **Exclusive Commercial Hauling:** Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

The City does not have a franchise agreement and there are systems in place that satisfy this suggestion, thus implementing this recommendation is impractical. However, City-issued permits currently require haulers to submit reports and comply with recycling mandates. Additionally, the City is working on updating its permit language to include the requirements of SB 1383. The City does not have direct control over the agreement for services provided in the MGDD, where a majority of the commercial businesses are located; Los Angeles County is responsible for this agreement.

7. **Source Separated Organics Collection:** Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

Suggestion 7 will be implemented. As discussed in response to Recommendation 1.1, the City's waste management is unique and poses exceptional challenges in the collection of the City's solid waste. Additionally, as stated previously, the City is working with CalRecycle and its permitted solid waste haulers to meet the requirements of AB 1826, AB 827, and SB 1383, which will bring organic service to all residents and businesses. Since the City has never had a franchise agreement with any hauler and there is no need to establish one to ensure source separate organic collection—it is already taking place. Organic waste has always been collected and processed separately by City-permitted haulers. There is a greater need for local and qualified organic recycling facilities since there are none currently operating within 100 miles of Malibu.

8. **Wet/Dry Collection:** Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

There is no need for the suggested modification of separate wet/dry organic collection unless local haulers' facilities operate with organics extraction technology and thus, the implementation of this suggestion is impractical. The City will continue to work with its permitted solid waste haulers on what works best for their processing facilities. Organic green waste has always been collected separately from trash and recyclables. Again, there is a greater need for local and qualified organic recycling facilities since there are none currently operating nearby.

9. **Incentives:** Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.

As discussed in the response to Recommendation 1.3, the City is working with CalRecycle and its permitted haulers to bring organic service to all residents and businesses in accordance with SB 1383 so an incentive program will not be necessary for participation in organic collection. Although the City collects a small portion of fees from permitted haulers it only covers the management of the City's current solid waste program, outside of the MGDD, solid waste services are provided by City-permitted haulers. The minimal revenue generated from the solid waste hauler permits would be insufficient to operate an incentive program for food waste separation. Thus, implementing such a program also poses logistical challenge.

10. Education Only: No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.

Suggestion 10 will be implemented. The City has already developed a proactive education program for the commercial sector which includes participation in the Bay Foundation's Clean Bay Program, plastic cutlery and straw bans, bi-annual visits, physical and virtual educational materials for waste management best practices and requirements. City staff conducts bi-annual business site visits to distribute information and ensure compliance with solid waste, recycling, and organics programs.

11. On-Site Management: Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and technologies.

Due to budgetary restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the City has neither the staff nor the funds to provide on-site management to businesses. However, City staff will continue to provide information on organic recycling during bi-annual business site visits. Since multiple City-permitted haulers operate within city limits, staff connects businesses and commercial property owners with the appropriate hauler for on-site assistance and training.

We thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Report. Should you have any further questions or desire any further information, please contact me or City Manager Reva Feldman.

Sincerely,



Mikke Pierson
Mayor

cc: Malibu City Council
Reva Feldman, City Manager
Yolanda Bundy, Environmental Sustainability Director
Christi Hogin, City Attorney



CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
1400 Highland Avenue, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
(310) 802-5000 | www.citymb.info

September 24, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: Response to Recommendations in LA County Civil Grand Jury Report Entitled
"A Diet for Landfills"

Dear Presiding Judge,

The City of Manhattan Beach (City) is in receipt of the County of Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury Report entitled, A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste. As required by California Penal Code Sections 933(c), 933.05(a), and 933.05(b), contained herein is the City's response to the recommendations outlined in the Grand Jury report.

The City of Manhattan Beach recognizes the negative impact of organic waste upon our region's landfills, and supports activities that beneficially reuse this material and divert it from disposal. The City also recognizes the unfortunate loss of edible food that is currently disposed of, and fully encourages local food recovery efforts.

In accordance with the aforementioned Grand Jury report, mayors of the 88 cities within Los Angeles County must respond to recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14, which are presented on pages 19 through 21 of the report. Responses presented on behalf of the City of Manhattan Beach are outlined in the following pages.

If you require further information regarding this response, please feel free to contact City Manager Bruce Moe, at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,



Richard Montgomery
Mayor, City of Manhattan Beach

Enclosures:

1. Letter from Civil Grand Jury to Mayor Richard Montgomery and A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste (Civil Grand Jury Report)
2. Table 7-1 (11 suggestions) of the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan, attached for reference.

cc: City of Manhattan Beach City Council
Bruce Moe, City Manager
Quinn Barrow, City Attorney
Stephanie Katsouleas, Director of Public Works
Judith Krimmel, Foreperson

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH:
RESPONSES TO CIVIL GRAND JURY REPORT**

Report recommendation 1.1

Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

City of Manhattan Beach Response:

- (a) The City of Manhattan Beach agrees with the finding.
- (b) The City of Manhattan Beach is already complying with recommendation 1.1 - to make food recycling available on a weekly basis, convenient and accessible to everyone in the community. In 2015, the City of Manhattan Beach established a citywide (residents and commercial businesses - which includes the school district MBUSD) weekly curbside food waste collection program following a three year pilot program in the residential and commercial sector. After City Council adopted the program citywide, access to weekly food waste recycling became available to every parcel in the City. There was a one-time increase to the trash cart and trash bin rates to adopt the program. Residents utilize their green organics curbside cart for the program and commercial customers receive a green cart with yellow lid from the City's franchised hauler for their food waste.

Report Recommendation 1.3

County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Food Scrap Recycling program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

City of Manhattan Beach Response:

- (a) The City of Manhattan Beach agrees with the finding.
- (b) The City of Manhattan Beach is already complying with recommendation 1.3 – providing a financial incentive to recycle food waste.

As mentioned in the response for recommendation 1.1, the City established a citywide food waste program in 2015. A one-time rate increase of 3% for residents and 3.6% for commercial businesses was added to the trash cart/bin rates to establish the program. While other cities may also charge an additional monthly charge for organics/food waste recycling, the City of Manhattan Beach has continued to offer the program citywide at no additional charge. Additionally, utilizing food waste containers may help reduce the need for larger solid waste carts, which also saves customers money due to the tiered pricing structure of solid waste carts.

Also, there's an annual program performed as part of the City's Franchise Agreement with its hauler, Waste Management, since 2011. It's called the "Clean Cart Challenge." It is performed among residential neighborhoods on each of the five residential collection days. Waste Management staff trains teen volunteers from the local high school, Mira Costa, on how to perform a recycling waste audit (regular recycling and organics). Then, with safety vests and hats, they walk a section of each of the five route days. Along the route, they flip lids of residential recycling and organics carts to look for proper recycling and "super-recyclers" (those who have no contamination, less landfill trash than recycling, and are following best management practices regarding materials management). The hauler staff and volunteers keep a list of the addresses that are the best recyclers. After all five routes are completed, the 20 best recycling households receive one month's free refuse service!

Recommendation 1.8

County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

City of Manhattan Beach Response:

- (a) The City of Manhattan Beach agrees with the finding.

- (b) The City of Manhattan Beach does not have contracts with any food vendor companies inside City facilities.

Recommendation 1.14

Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan 146 and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

City of Manhattan Beach Response:

- (a) The City of Manhattan Beach agrees with the finding.
- (b) A copy of the table with the 11 suggestions listed in Table 7-1 of the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan is attached to this letter as Enclosure No. 2 for reference.
- (c) The City's response to each of the 11 suggestions are as follows:
 - a. 1.14.1 Commercial Recycling Ordinance
 - i. The City will adopt an ordinance by December 31, 2021 which will reflect the requirements of AB 341, AB 1826 and SB 1383.
 - b. 1.14.2 Single Family Resident Recycling Ordinance
 - i. The City will adopt an ordinance by December 31, 2021 which will reflect the requirements of AB 341, AB 1826 and SB 1383.
 - c. 1.14.3 Self-haul Standards (recycling)
 - i. The City will adopt an ordinance by December 31, 2021 which will reflect the requirements of AB 341, AB 1826 and SB 1383.
 - d. 1.14.4 Flow Control
 - i. The City's franchise agreement with its hauler already indicates which facilities each material type will be delivered to.
 - e. 1.14.5 Contract Modifications
 - i. The City has a new franchise agreement which began July 1, 2020, which includes specifics for tonnage reporting (monthly, quarterly and annually), compliance and liquidated damages.
 - f. 1.14.6 Exclusive Commercial Hauling
 - i. The City's franchise agreement with its hauler includes exclusive residential and commercial hauling. The agreement includes specifics for tonnage reporting (monthly, quarterly and annually), compliance and liquidated damages.
 - g. 1.14.7 Source Separated Organics Collection
 - i. The City established permanent citywide organics collection in 2015 for residents and businesses with its franchised hauler.
 - h. 1.14.8 Wet/Dry Collection

- i. The City's commercial collection program includes landfill trash cart/bin, (dry) recycling cart/bin, (dry) green waste cart(s) and (wet) food waste cart(s). The contents of the recycling cart/bin are transported to a Material Recovery Facility (MRF). The food waste cart(s) are transported to the CORE facility in Orange, CA. The scraps are converted to an Engineered BioSlurry (EBS). The EBS is transported to LA County's Wastewater Treatment Plant in Carson, CA where it is converted to energy in their Anaerobic Digesters (AD).
 - ii. The City's residential collection program includes landfill trash cart(s), (dry) recycling cart(s), (wet/dry) organics cart(s) which includes a mix of yard and food waste. The contents of the recycling cart/bin are transported to a Material Recovery Facility (MRF). The organics material is transported to a commercial composting facility in Lancaster, CA.
- i. 1.14.9 Incentives (organics, specifically)
 - i. The City's commercial and residential food waste/organics programs were established in 2015 with a one-time trash cart/bin rate increase of 3% to residents and 3.6% to commercial businesses. Because of this, every resident and every commercial business can participate at any time - there is no need to "subscribe" to the service. The program is part of "base services" paid for through the trash cart/bin rate. There is no additional charge to obtain food waste/organics carts. There is no additional charge to businesses to receive on-site staff training for organics recycling. The simplicity of this structure allows the community to participate without negative financial influence. However, savings can be achieved by participating in the organic waste program and reducing solid waste disposal due to tiered solid waste hauling rates for landfill trash.
- j. 1.14.10 Education Only
 - i. The City's franchise agreement requires the hauler to perform 600 hours of outreach to commercial businesses, 500 hours of outreach to the schools in Manhattan Beach and 400 hours of outreach to the multi-family dwellings each calendar year.
 - ii. The franchise agreement requires the hauler to provide ongoing outreach to the community regarding food waste including requirements set forth by Cal Recycle, what is accepted in the

- organics/food waste cart and helpful tips for a successful program.
- iii. The hauler will provide organics/food waste in-house staff training for all commercial customers.
 - iv. The hauler performs/hosts five composting classes annually, three of which are at the Manhattan Beach Botanical Garden amphitheater and open to all residents. Community members learn about backyard composting and all about the City's curbside organics program. Individual backyard composters are available for resident purchase year-round for \$35.
 - v. The City's franchise agreement also requires the hauler to perform/create/distribute 12 outreach pieces annually.
 - vi. The City's franchise hauler canvasses each business for AB 341 and AB 1826 compliance, helping the businesses determine service levels appropriate for their business.
- k. 1.14.11 On-Site Management
- i. The hauler will provide organics/food waste in-house staff training for all commercial customers – repeatedly if needed (i.e.: staff turnover).
 - ii. The hauler provides program materials including posters and handouts for employee prep areas and employee noticing areas.
 - iii. The hauler provides an in-house audit to help the business determine best placement for internal organics containers in prep and bussing areas.
 - iv. At any time, businesses can contact the hauler for a site visit to establish/review/update organics best management practices in-house and with the curbside cart.



City of Maywood

4319 East Slauson Avenue • Maywood, California 90270
Tel: (323) 562-5700 • Fax (323) 773-2806

October 1st, 2021

Thomas O' Shaughnessy, Foreperson
222 South Hill Street
Sixth Fl Suite 670
Los Angeles, CA 90012

SUBJECT: Civil Grand Jury- A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: CUTTING DOWN ON FOOD WASTE

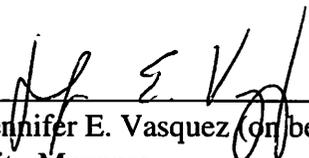
Dear Foreperson Shaughnessy,

The City of Maywood is in receipt of the Civil Grand Jury- "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: CUTTING DOWN ON FOOD WASTE" dated September 17, 2021.

The city of Maywood has responded to Recommendations: 1.1, 1.3, 1.8 and 1.14 adopted from the March 2018 Countrywide Waste Management Plan.

Please see responses on attached document.

Sincerely,



Jennifer E. Vasquez (on behalf of Ricardo Lara)
City Manager

CC: Ricardo Lara
Mayor

MARCH 2018 ORGANIC WASTE MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

#1 COMMERCIAL RECYCLING ORDINANCE-

The city of Maywood adopted Ordinance 6-2.401 Mandatory Commercial Recycling. The Ordinance promotes recycling and diversion of solid waste from landfill by requiring businesses, non-residential properties, and commercial buildings to source separate recyclable materials from all other solid waste for recycling and diversion from landfill and provide for the collection of recyclable materials.

#2 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE (SFR) RECYCLING ORDINANCE-

The city of Maywood adopted Ordinance 6-2.406 which establishes requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to SFR dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units.

#3 SELF- HAUL STANDARDS-

The city of Maywood adopted Ordinance 6-2.408, which establishes standards and requirements for self-haul to meet recycling requirements in the city which states a generator may transport recyclable materials generated at its business or property to a recycling facility (rather than hiring a collector or authorized recycler) only if the generator completes its activity by utilizing a vehicle owned by either the generator or generator's employee. This self-haul exemption does not include contracting for or hiring a third party to transport the recyclable materials. A self-hauler must retain on site a self-hauling form certifying that all self-hauling activities will be completed in accordance with this article or any other applicable law or regulation. The self-hauling form shall be made available to the Agency Director or designee upon request.

#4 FLOW CONTROL-

Under the current contract between the City of Maywood and Universal Waste Services, Section 3.10 complies with the performance requirements and regulations included in SB 1383, which transports all solid waste collected pursuant to the agreement to an Approved Facility (transfer station, MRF, processing facility, transformation facility or Approved Disposal Facilities).

#5 CONTRACT MODIFICATION-

The Agreement between the City of Maywood and Universal Waste Services includes the needed recycling requirements. No modification needed

#6 EXCLUSIVE COMMERCIAL HAULING

The city of Maywood adopted Ordinance 6-2.102 for Business and commercial establishments. The occupants and/or owners of business and commercial establishments shall provide their own disposal service, which disposal service shall be performed by a commercial collector licensed by the City.

#7 SOURCE SEPARATED ORGANICS COLLECTION-

Under the current contract between the City of Maywood and Universal Waste Services, Section 3.3.2, Commercial Organic Materials Collection, mentions how the hauler collects, educates, processes, records, etc., organic waste to entities that generate organic waste.

#8 WET/DRY COLLECTION-

Section 3.3 Organic Materials Programs in the current contract between city of Maywood and Universal Waste Systems further explains the separations of bins.

#9 INCENTIVES-

Incentives are currently being explored in draft Organics Waste Ordinance.

#10 EDUCATION ONLY-

Contract Article 4.3- Contract section 4.3.3, Waste Reduction Community Events, Contract Section 4.3.5, Commercial Outreach Program, 4.3.6, Mandatory Compliance and Outreach for State Regulations

#11 ON-SITE MANAGEMENT-

The city of Maywood's franchise agreement requires the hauler to provide education to businesses and the City contracts with Municipal Waste Services to also assist with education.



October 27, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste

Dear Presiding Judge,

We are in receipt of the Grand Jury's report "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste." Pursuant to your request for response, the City of Monrovia and Athens conferred and approved this response. The City of Monrovia responds to the Grand Jury's findings, conclusions and recommendations as follows:

1.1 Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

Section 933.05. Responses to findings:

- a. (1) *The respondent agrees with the finding*
- b. (3) *The recommendation requires further analysis. The City of Monrovia, in partnership with Athens Services, will investigate the need and feasibility of such a program by January 2021.*

1.3 County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in

the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's *Foodscrap*s program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

Section 933.05. Responses to findings:

- c. *(1) The respondent agrees with the finding*
- d. *(1) The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action.*

An element of the City's solid waste programs includes a robust customer outreach and education program, where City staff and Athens Services representatives make contact with customers related to programs and services offerings. Beginning in 2016, the City began implementing an organics recycling program, the cost of which is borne within the standard solid waste service rates. Under this program, customers are provided with access to as many organics waste bins as needed while their service rate is based upon the service levels of their standard solid waste bin. The incentive is generated with the idea that if customers can move more waste to the organics bins, they can lower their solid waste service levels resulting in decreased costs for services.

1.8 County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

Section 933.05. Responses to findings:

- a. *(1) The respondent agrees with the finding*
- b. *(4) The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted*

While the respondent agrees with this finding, the City of Monrovia not have any applicable contracts for food service provision. As Athens Services is the exclusive solid waste provider for the City of Monrovia, both the City and Athens will look for opportunities to implement food waste separation and recycling at City facilities and City sponsored events. Information about food waste recycling and any pertinent programs can be incorporated into the City's public education campaign.

1.14 Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

Section 933.05. Responses to findings:

- a. (1) The respondent agrees with the finding
- b. (1) The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action below:

The City of Monrovia has implemented the 11 suggestions as it relates to handling organic waste. This implementation has been successful due to the partnership with Athens Services and the initial implementation of an organics recycling program as far back as 2016. The City of Monrovia will continue to review our Ordinances regarding Commercial and Single Family Residential Recycling to ensure that they are fully inclusive of the requirements of AB 1826; however, the programmatic recommendations are in place. Athens Services and the City of Monrovia have the infrastructure and capacity to provide organic waste collection and processing to meet the needs of our waste and recycling goals.

RESPONSES TO LA COUNTY ORGANIC WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

AS SHOWN PAGE 22 OF THE REPORT, (TABLE 7-1 ORGANIC WASTE MANAGEMENT OPTIONS)

ID	Option Name	Option Description
1	Commercial Recycling Ordinance	<p>Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.</p> <p>Comments: The City of Monrovia has implemented the recommendations regarding commercial recycling.</p>
2	SFR Recycling Ordinance	<p>Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single-family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.</p> <p>Comments: The City of Monrovia will look to update the ordinance with the recommended organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 by January 2021.</p>
3	Self-Haul Standards	<p>Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling</p>

		<p>requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.</p> <p>Comments: The City of Monrovia has established standards or requirements for self-haul standards.</p>
4	Flow Control	<p>Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.</p> <p>Comments: Through Athens Services, the City of Monrovia directs all organic material collected to their composting facility, American Organics.</p>
5	Contract Modification	<p>Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.</p> <p>Comments: The City of Monrovia maintains a current agreement which includes specific collection, diversion and reporting requirements, and enforcement actions.</p>
6	Exclusive Commercial Hauling	<p>Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.</p> <p>Comments: The City's current agreement with Athens is exclusive to commercial hauling, including C&D. The current agreement does specify collection, diversion, and reporting requirements, as well as enforcement actions.</p>
7	Source Separated Organics Collection	<p>Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.</p> <p>Comments: The City of Monrovia currently has an</p>

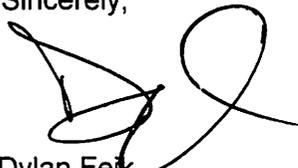
		<p>organics program in place for commercial and multifamily customers. The City will work with Athens to look into methods to expand the scope of the organics program to single-family customers as required under SB 1383.</p>
8	Wet/Dry Collection	<p>Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.</p> <p>Comments: The City currently has a source separated recycling program in place. Organics are collected separately from recycling and refuse. The City does not have a wet/dry collection in place. The current agreement does specify collection, diversion, and reporting requirements, as well as enforcement actions.</p>
9	Incentives	<p>Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.</p> <p>Comments: As part of City outreach and education programs, customers are encouraged to participate in food recovery programs. The incentive is to participating businesses and residents who separate their food waste from refuse. Less refuse results in lower service levels which reduces cost to their bill.</p>
10	Education Only	<p>No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.</p> <p>Comments: Through the City's contract services provide, a comprehensive outreach and education program is in place for our organics customers. This includes site visits, waste assessments and ongoing training for customer staff. Athens gathers and</p>

		<i>maintains business information (types of programs in place, 3rd party recycling, etc) for each customer. In addition, Athens periodically distributes legislative information in customer invoices and partners with local community groups (ie, Chamber of Commerce) to disseminate information.</i>
11	On-Site Management	<p>Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies</p> <p><i>Comments: Through Athens Services, an outreach team works with individual businesses to assist in establishing their organics program. Supports provided include onsite training (bilingual support), printed materials, and recommendations for equipment (when applicable).</i></p>

The City of Monrovia appreciates the opportunity to provide written responses to the County of Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury Report "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste."

Should the Grand Jury require any additional information, please contact me directly at [REDACTED] 909-5505.

Sincerely,



Dylan Ferk
City Manager

cc: City Council
Alice D. Atkins, MMC, City Clerk
Craig Steele, City Attorney

CITY OF MONTEREY PARK

320 West Newmark Avenue • Monterey Park • California 91754-2896
www.montereypark.ca.gov



City Council
Peter Chan
Hans Liang
Henry Lo
Fred Sornoso
Yvonne Yiu

City Clerk
Vincent D. Chang

City Treasurer
Joseph Leon

October 29, 2021

Kevin Brazile, Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Honorable Kevin Brazile:

Please find enclosed a copy of Resolution 12275, which was adopted at the Monterey Park City Council regular meeting of October 20, 2021, ratifying a response to the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury regarding its report on food waste.

The City Council has directed that a copy of Resolution 12275 be sent to Presiding Judge. Should you have any questions, please contact the City Clerk's office at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cindy H. Trang".

Cindy H. Trang, CMC
Deputy City Clerk

cc: Joaquin Vazquez, Deputy City Attorney

Encl.

RESOLUTION NO. 12275

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING A RESPONSE TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY REGARDING ITS REPORT ON FOOD WASTE

The City Council of the city of Monterey Park does resolve as follows:

SECTION 1: The City Council finds and declares as follows:

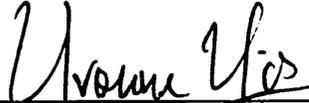
- A. On July 31, 2020, the Los Angeles County Grand Jury ("County Grand Jury") issued a report entitled, "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting down on Food Waste," (the "Report") which outlined several recommendations to increase food waste recycling and organic waste diversion rates;
- B. California Penal Code § 933(c) requires the legislative bodies of applicable public agencies to provide written responses to recommendations contained County Grand Jury reports
- C. By correspondence dated September 17, 2021, the Foreperson for the County Grand Jury requested written City responses to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14;
- D. City staff reviewed the Report, drafted written responses, and transmitted the responses to the presiding judge for the superior court in the form attached to this Resolution as Exhibit "A," subject to City Council ratification; and
- E. The City Council ratifies and approves the written response to the Report in Exhibit "A."

SECTION 2: The Mayor, or presiding officer, is authorized to sign this Resolution signifying its adoption by the City Council of the City of Monterey Park and the City Clerk, or her duly appointed deputy, may attest thereto.

SECTION 3: This Resolution may be executed with electronic signatures in accordance with Government Code §16.5. Such electronic signatures will be treated in all respects as having the same effect as an original signature.

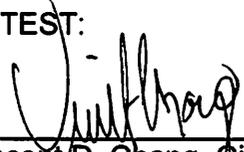
SECTION 4: This Resolution will become effective immediately upon adoption and will remain effective unless repealed or superseded.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF MONTEREY PARK ON THIS 20th DAY OF OCTOBER 2021.



Yvonne Yiu, Mayor

ATTEST:



Vincent D. Chang, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
KARL H. BERGER, City Attorney

By: 

Joaquin Vazquez, Deputy City Attorney

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES) SS
CITY OF MONTEREY PARK)

I, Vincent D. Chang, City Clerk of the City of Monterey Park, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 12275 was duly adopted and passed at a regular meeting of the Monterey Park City Council on the 20th day of October, 2021 by the following vote:

Ayes:	Council Members:	Chan, Liang, Sornoso, Lo, Yiu
Noes:	Council Members:	None
Abstain:	Council Members:	None
Absent:	Council Members:	None

Dated this 20th day of October, 2021.



Vincent D. Chang, City Clerk
Monterey Park, California

EXHIBIT "A"
WRITTEN RESPONSES TO REPORT

CITY OF MONTEREY PARK

320 West Newmark Avenue • Monterey Park • California 91754-2896
www.montereypark.ca.gov



City Council
Peter Chan
Hans Liang
Henry Lo
Fred Sornoso
Yvonne Yiu

City Clerk
Vincent D. Chang

City Treasurer
Joseph Leon

October 8, 2021

Kevin Brazile, Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: City of Monterey Park Response to Grand Jury Report Entitled "A DIET
FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

Honorable Judge Brazile:

On July 8, 2020, the County of Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury issued its report entitled "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste" (the "Report") to all 88 cities in the County. The Report analyzes the challenges and opportunities for cities in the county to divert organic waste from landfills. In accordance with Cal. Pen Code § 933.05-06, the City of Monterey Park has prepared a response to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14 as requested. This response is subject to Monterey Park City Council ratification scheduled for its regular meeting on October 20, 2021.

Recommendation 1.1

Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The Center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

The recommendation requires further analysis. The City would have to evaluate the start-up and maintenance costs of establishing such a program as well as the logistics of the collection and transfer. However, the City intends to focus its resources on implementing SB 1383 food waste diversion requirements by January 2022 and is currently negotiating an amendment of its solid waste franchise agreement with Athens Services to include organic waste service for all residential and commercial customers.

Recommendation 1.3

County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

The recommendation requires further analysis. The City would have to evaluate the cost and benefit of such a program and best way to fund such a program. However, since food waste diversion is mandated by law, an incentive program may be moot.

Additionally, as stated above, the City is currently negotiating an amendment of its solid waste franchise agreement to include organic waste service for all residential and commercial customers.

Recommendation 1.8

County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picknicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

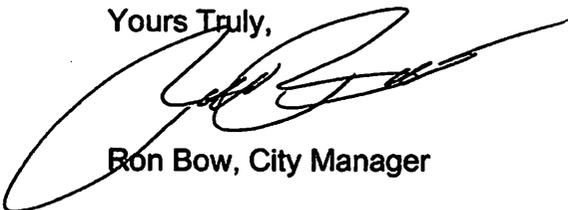
The City of Monterey Park does not have jurisdiction over county facilities and no relevant Los Angeles County facilities lie within its boundaries.

Recommendation 1.14

Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

The City intends to continue to implement suggestions from the Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan, especially in the context of state law mandating organics recycling as the City moves forward to comply with SB 1383's complementary goals. The City supports the establishment of new facilities to increase capacity and handle organic waste.

Yours Truly,



Ron Bow, City Manager

VIA MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

October 23, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste- Response to County of Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury Report 2019-2020 Recommendations

Dear Presiding Judge:

I write this in response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Pre-release report letter received on July 8, 2020.

The following are the City of Norwalk's responses to the listed recommendations in the report:

1. **RECOMMENDATION 1.1:** Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.
 - o **RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 1.1: Disagree;** The City of Norwalk intends to focus its resources on implementing SB 1383 food waste diversion requirements by January 2022; namely that collection of food waste diversion will be required of all residences, multi-family properties, and covered commercial generators. Collecting from commercial and residential generators is more likely to be more effective than regional drop-off centers.
2. **RECOMMENDATION 1.3** - County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Food scraps program and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
October 23, 2020
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- **RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 1.3: Disagree;** Starting in January 2022, food waste collection will be required of all residences, multi-family properties, and covered commercial generators under SB 1383. Since food waste diversion is mandated by law, no incentives are necessary.
3. **RECOMMENDATION 1.8** - Modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling.
- **RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 1.8: N/A;** We prefer to not comment on practices within County facilities.
4. **RECOMMENDATION 1.14** - Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.
- **RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 1.8: Agree;** The suggestions will be mostly implemented as part of the AB1826 and SB1383 requirements. We support the need for more capacity and look forward to private enterprise to handle the organic waste.

The City of Norwalk appreciates and values the review by the Grand Jury regarding this important issue. The City looks forward to working with our County and city partners to address reducing the waste stream that all Los Angeles County residents currently experience. Thank you again to the Grand Jury for their efforts.

Sincerely,

CITY OF NORWALK

Jennifer Perez
Mayor



cc: Norwalk City Council Members
Jesus Gomez, City Manager
Richard Rojas, Deputy City Manager



PALMDALE
a place to call home

October 6, 2020

STEVEN D. HOFBAUER
Mayor

RICHARD J. LOA
Mayor Pro Tem

LAURA BETTENCOURT
Councilmember

AUSTIN BISHOP
Councilmember

JUAN CARRILLO
Councilmember

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Subject: Response to "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste" Report

On behalf of the City of Palmdale, please view the following responses to the Civil Grand Jury Report, "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste." We have provided responses to the sections requiring a response from each of the 88 cities in Los Angeles County.

Please note that the City of Palmdale recently completed and submitted its Mandatory Organics Recycling (MORe) Action Plan to the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle). In it, the City outlined 26 measures that are currently in use, or will be put into use, to comply with SB 1383 and other organics and/or commercial waste diversion requirements. The Plan was presented to and approved by CalRecycle's Governing Board on June 16, 2020. The proactive measures outlined in the Plan have been attached for your review.

1.1 *Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.*

Response: The City of Palmdale has concerns with the logistics of having a food waste drop-off center. Liability and vector concerns

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Auxiliary aids provided for

communication accessibility

upon 72 hours notice and request.

would be very difficult to overcome. Additionally, the service would have to be negotiated with the City's franchised hauler. The City already has a robust edible food rescue program through the South Antelope Valley Emergency Services (SAVES) and has a commercial food waste program.

- 1.3 *County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.*

Response: Currently, there is no budget to incentivize food waste recovery. Through SAVES, which is considered a non-profit organization, businesses that contribute edible food can discuss with their tax professionals what considerations they will receive for donating the food. Additionally, at the current time residents receive free organics collections, so if the City is able to rollout food waste services as part of their organics program, residents would be able to reduce the amount of trash they produce and may be able to decrease their levels of service, which will translate to savings.

If the County were to roll out an incentive program, the City would be cooperative with the County efforts and would gladly work with its residents and businesses to contribute to the success of the program.

- 1.8 *County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws*

large pre-concert picknicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

Response: In City venues, food that can be rescued is directed to SAVES. As for food waste, the City is working with its franchised hauler to enhance its organics program. Once the program has been fully implemented, staff will work with its large venues to see how food waste can be recovered in those locations.

- 1.14 *Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.*

Response: Please view the following table outlining the 11 suggestion. As for support with capacity efforts, the City has worked with entities interested in addressing capacity efforts. The is demonstrated with the City's Franchise Agreement, where the hauler was required to site and construct an organics processing facility (see attached Plan for more details). Additionally, someone on City staff is a member of the Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee (ATAS) of the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force. The purpose of ATAS is to evaluate and promote the development of conversion technologies to reduce dependence on landfills and incinerators. Conversion technologies will be a vital part of addressing organic and food waste.

11 Organic Waste Management Suggestions

Suggestion	Description	City of Palmdale Plan
Commercial Recycling Ordinance	Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.	The City currently has a solid waste ordinance in place and an exclusive franchise agreement with its hauler. The franchise agreement has requirements and thresholds pertaining to the diversion of waste, including organics. The hauler could also be charged penalties for non-compliance. The City is currently working on new

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 Letter Response to "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste"
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Suggestion	Description	City of Palmdale Plan
		ordinances to further address diversion efforts and coincide with organics diversion requirements, the planned ordinances were approved by CalRecycle. See attached Plan for further details.
SFR Recycling Ordinance	Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single-family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.	Currently, the City is not looking to exceed the existing and future requirements of AB 1826 and other applicable legislation. The City is working with CalRecycle to monitor the City's performance and whether the City is diverting sufficient organics.
Self-Haul Standards	Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.	The City is working with its franchised hauler to capture the information. Additionally, one of the City's proposed ordinances addresses organics generated from self-hauled construction and demolition projects. See attached Plan for further details.
Flow Control	Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.	The City has the option to exercise flow control with its franchised hauler if deemed necessary.
Contract Modification	Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.	The City approved a new franchise agreement in 2017 which went into effect in 2018. At the time, the agreement had proactive measures to address organics. The City is working with its franchised hauler to determine what further modifications may be warranted.

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 Letter Response to "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste"
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Suggestion	Description	City of Palmdale Plan
Exclusive Commercial Hauling	Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.	The City has an exclusive franchise agreement that covers commercial waste. See attached Plan for more information.
Source Separated Organics Collection	Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.	The City is working with its franchised hauler and local businesses to capture the data. See attached Plan for more details.
Wet/Dry Collection	Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.	Currently this policy has not been identified by staff to be necessary to meet its State mandated organic waste diversion needs.
Incentives	Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation, and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.	By working with the City and its franchised hauler, parties can potentially realize cost savings through diverting waste. The City currently has no ability provide incentives to encourage further diversion.

Suggestion	Description	City of Palmdale Plan
Education Only	No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.	The City in conjunction with its hauler has an education and outreach program in place. See attached Plan for more details.
On-Site Management	Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies.	The City's franchised hauler has employees dedicated to providing on-site management assistance. The City supports the employees and assists them with their efforts.

Thank you for sharing your observations and recommendations with us. Please contact Benjamin Lucha, Environmental & Technology Manager, at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] if you would like more information about our efforts to address food and organic waste.

Sincerely,



Steven D. Hofbauer
Mayor

Attachment: MORE (Organics) Action Plan 2020

cc: JJ Murphy, ICMA-CM, City Manager
Marie Ricci, Assistant City Manager
Chuck Heffernan, ENV SP, Director of Public Works
Environmental & Technology Division


CITY OF PALMDALE
MORe (Organics) Action Plan 2020

NEW/MODIFIED EDUCATION PROGRAMS	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	FREQUENCY	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	NOTES
<p>City website with MORe information and services</p> <p>Waste Management Website with information on MORe and services.</p>	<p>City</p> <p>WM</p>	<p>Website is reviewed on a monthly basis and updated as needed</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>https://cityofpalmdale.org/173/Environmental-Technology and https://cityofpalmdale.org/DocumentCenter/View/4508/Business-and-Multifamily-Mandatory-Organics-Recycling-PDF</p> <p>business.wm.com/Palmdale</p> <p>SB 13873 Requirement: Section 18995.1.a.4</p>
<p>Promotion of MORe requirements using all available City mediums (video, TV channel 27, YouTube channel, social media, phone app, etc.)</p>	<p>City</p>	<p>Monthly</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Food rescue information (http://palmdale.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=ea74e582-12df-11e6-8170-f04da2064c47), video series "Backdrop Palmdale" and "Did You Know?" also air on local TV station Ch. 27, links on City website and all social media.</p>
<p>Palmdale Magazine AD</p>	<p>WM</p>	<p>Three times a year: summer, fall/ winter and spring</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>WM placed a MORe ad in the Palmdale Magazine which is available also on the City's website, and social media platforms, and mailed to 47,000 households, available at the Chamber of Commerce and City facilities.</p>
<p>AV Pride Month Insert Ads</p>	<p>City/LA County</p>	<p>April Annually</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Next target April 2020</p>	<p>Ads regarding organics advertising assistance to businesses to help start a organics program. Insert is placed in the Sunday edition of AV Press with almost 50,000 subscribers and over 15,000 in circulation each Sunday. In 2020 Insert City will be focusing more on AB 1826 education and the mandatory requirements with larger ads.</p>
<p>MORe Flyer Bill Insert</p>	<p>WM</p>	<p>June and Dec. Annually</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>MORe flyers were distributed as a bill insert to all commercial customers.</p>
<p>Commercial / Multi-family Outreach Workshop for Commercial Organics Services</p> <p>-Target those businesses who do not have commercial organics on premises.</p>	<p>City/WM</p>	<p>Annually</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Business and Multifamily customers encouraged to attend. Commercial Franchise Hauler to do presentation on state of commercial organics and tips to more effectively recycle.</p> <p>September 18, 2019 Presentation held for AV Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on MCR and MORe. September 26, 2019 Organics workshop held at City facility. October 16, 2019 Presentation held for Palmdale Chamber of Commerce on MCR and MORe.</p>


CITY OF PALMDALE
MORe (Organics) Action Plan 2020

City Council Public Workshop	City	March 2020	One-Time	Staff has been scheduled to present at a City Council workshop to discuss MCR and MORe with the City Council and the public. CalRecycle and Waste Management staff have been invited to participate in the workshop.
ENFORCEMENT/ORDINANCE PROGRAMS	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	FREQUENCY	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	NOTES
Direct mailer to businesses/multi-family not in compliance with AB 1826 and notification that they must comply. Letter describes the requirements of AB 1826 and provides assistance to connect them with services.	City	Annually	January each year	Letters sent in January/February 2020 City branded letter targeting 377 commercial accounts and 69 multi-family units for a total of 446 letters to customers without organics recycling service.
Site visits and outreach to non-compliant customers	WM	Weekly	Ongoing	334 sites visits were conducted and 247 phone calls were made to commercial customers regarding MORe requirements. 472 emails were sent to commercial customers regarding MORe. City has arrangements for a City representative to join Waste Management for some visits.
AB 341/AB 1826 Ordinance to require regulated businesses to have and participate in recycling/organics collection services Draft ordinance that includes program requirements, enforcement, diversion requirements detailed by SB 1383	City	One-time event	Start 1/15/2020 Completion 9/1/2020	City is currently working with the City Attorney to draft and adopt an enforcement ordinance to address AB 341 and AB 1826. SB 1383 Requirement due January 2022 for implementation and January 2024 for progressive enforcement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval by City Council 	City	One-time event	11/3/2020	Ordinance to go to City on or before 11/3/2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ordinance goes into effect 	City	Ongoing	1/21/21	Ordinance goes into effect with businesses that dispose of 4 yds of waste per week and multi-family complexes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enforcement activities begin 	City	Ongoing	7/1/2021	Businesses and multifamily complexes not in compliance with the ordinance.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain records of enforcement actions 	City	Ongoing	7/2/2021	Businesses and multifamily complexes not in compliance with the ordinance.
Ordinance 5.52 Solid Waste Handling and Recycling Services	City	Regular review	Adopted in January 1992	To actively ensure proper diversion of waste materials, including organics, the City has an ordinance requiring all Commercial and Industrial customers to have their waste collected by the City's franchised hauler. The only exception is


CITY OF PALMDALE
MORE (Organics) Action Plan 2020

				for those who are receiving free or are being paid for their recyclable material by an entity that will properly divert the materials.
SERVICE PROGRAMS	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	FREQUENCY	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	NOTES
Waste Management Mandatory Organics Recycling Program per Solid Waste Franchise Agreement	WM	Weekly service	Completed	<p>Solid Waste Franchise Agreement Section 4.72 Organic Waste Collection Services</p> <p>Waste Management provides Organic Waste Collection to Multi-family, Commercial and Industrial accounts to comply with AB 1826. Waste Management is required to identify those customers required to comply with AB 1826 and offer service and notify the City in the event of refusal to subscribe to such service.</p> <p>Containers: Collection is done utilizing bins or carts depending on the amount of material generated and/or space constraints on the customer's property. Organics carts are properly labeled on what they are to be used for. Additional carts can be ordered as needed.</p> <p>SB 1383 Requirement: Due January 2022</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service Provided Automatically 	WM/City	N/A	6/01/2020	Determine if service can be provided automatically under existing authority, or if an ordinance may be required and/or changes to the hauler service agreement are needed
FOOD RECOVERY PROGRAM	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	FREQUENCY	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	NOTES
Edible Food Recovery Program: Palmdale South Antelope Valley Emergency Service's (SAVES)	City Partnership	Daily	Completed/Ongoing	<p>SAVES currently partners with 25 Palmdale businesses/restaurants and diverts on average 71,414 pounds of food monthly and a total of 856,969.8 pounds in 2019. The food is distributed through collaboration with the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, and federal programs. SAVES also donates extra food to local senior centers, sober living homes, and other food assistance programs. Food not appropriate for human consumption is diverted to local farms as feed. See attached reports.</p> <p>SAVES is looking to increase the amount of food they rescue by about 350,000</p>


CITY OF PALMDALE
MORE (Organics) Action Plan 2020

				<p>pounds. This will include increasing their number of active participants by three stores and three to four high schools, which will start the next school year.</p> <p>The City will continue to partner with SAVES and market this program with appropriate businesses as an option for complying with AB 1826.</p> <p>SB 1383 Requirement: Section 18991.1 and 18985.2 a due Feb. 2022</p>
TRACKING PROGRAMS	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	FREQUENCY	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	NOTES
Monthly Site Visit and Outreach Reports	WM	Monthly	March 2020	<p>Report provides a monthly recap of business and multi-family customer site visits, the purpose of the visit and the outcome.</p> <p>SB 1383 Requirement due February 2022</p>
Self-Hauling Notification	WM	Monthly	March 2020	<p>If during the site visit it is determined that the customer is self-hauling, WM will notify them that they must apply for a hauler service organics program exemption with the City in order to be considered in compliance.</p>
Hauler Service Exemptions for Organics Program	City	Annually	March 2020	<p>Upon notification from the hauler or the customer that organics are being recycled in accordance of AB 1826 the City will request hauler program exemption form to be completed and submitted to the City for approval and tracking. The form will require a diversion plan from the customer. Once approved it will be valid for one year and customers will need to resubmit annually and approval will be given upon inspection and confirmation of diversion plan. The City will provide an updated report monthly of service program exempted customers to Waste Management. (See attached form)</p> <p>SB 1383 Requirement: Section 18988.3, 18985.1.a7</p>
Reporting from Franchise Hauler Waste Management	WM	Monthly	Ongoing	<p>Per the Solid Waste Franchise Agreement with Waste Management Section 8.3.2, monthly tonnage reports</p>

 **CITY OF PALMDALE**
MORE (Organics) Action Plan 2020

“ “		Quarterly	Ongoing	<p>are submitted to the City listing total tonnage collected by type collected and diverted (refuse, recycling, organic waste). In addition the facilities where tons were processed must be listed.</p> <p>Section 8.3.3, Quarterly reports include material recovers with a statement showing types or recycled materials collected (in tons). Summary of all diversion efforts such as outreach efforts, events planned and public education activities.</p> <p>Section 8.3.4 Annual Reports, Annual diversion summary documenting tons collected to determine whether WM achieved the minimum diversion goal for hauler collected solid waste. Annual update on accounts participating in Mandatory Organics Recycling Program including the number and the listing of accounts not in compliance. Copies of all public education materials sent out during the year.</p>
		Annual	Ongoing	
Monthly Reporting from Edible Food Recovery Program SAVES	SAVES	Monthly	Ongoing	Monthly reports listing commercial businesses participating in food recovery program with total tons of diverted food for each business. SAVES will be bringing in a new part-time employee who will assist with reporting efforts.

I. Compliance Monitoring

Total number of Commercial/ Multi-family customers required to comply with AB 1826 and of that number, how many were not recycling organics (businesses and multifamily) for 2019.

Businesses	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 GOAL	2021 GOAL
Total Number Subject to AB 1826	23	83	532	494*		
Total Number Not Recycling Organics	20	69	505	380		
Percent Recycling Organics	14%	17%	5%	23%	50%	55%
Percent Increase from previous	N/A	367%	93%	322%		


CITY OF PALMDALE
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year						
Multi-family						
Total Number Subject to AB 1826	30	66	144	141 **		
Total Number Not Recycling Organics	11	21	121	95		
Percent Recycling Organics	64%	68%	16%	33%	50%	55%
Percent Increase from previous year	N/A	137%	-45%	100%		

*It should be noted that the number of participants in the program has increased 38 times the number participating in 2016.

** It should be noted that the number of participants in the program has increased almost 2½ the number participating in 2016.

CITY OF PALOS VERDES ESTATES



September 22, 2020

Kevin Brazile, Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: City of Palos Verdes Estates' Response to the Grand Jury Report entitled "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

Dear Judge Brazile:

On July 8, 2020, the Los Angeles County Grand Jury issued its report entitled "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste" (the "Report"). In the Report, the Grand Jury identifies a number of challenges agencies face in their efforts to divert organic waste from landfills. At the conclusion of the Report, the Grand Jury requested a response from the City to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14. The City of Palos Verdes Estates ("City") provides the following responses to these Recommendations in accordance with Penal Code §933.05.

Recommendations:

1.1 *Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.*

This recommendation requires further analysis. Chapter 8.18 of Title 8 of the City's Municipal Code already requires commercial facilities and various special events to participate in an organics program, including requiring the separation of organic materials from other garbage. The City contracts with Athens Services for the collection, processing and disposal of solid waste. Currently, the City is taking steps to work with Athens Services to begin incorporating organic waste services to ensure compliance with the State organic waste mandates outlined in AB1826, SB1383 and AB827 (which will require all customers to subscribe to organics service). Thus, all residents, businesses and retail food customers will have organic waste disposal options. The City believes this would make a weekly food waste drop-off center unnecessary and is in the process of amending the

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operative agreement to comply with the organic waste mandates.

We note, however, that a weekly food waste drop-off center is likely not plausible due to the associated costs and logistical issues. Nevertheless, the City will look into contracting with various organizations that may be able to provide a weekly organic waste drop-off and compost site at low or no cost.

1.3 *County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.*

The recommendation requires further analysis. Palos Verdes Estates is unique in that it is primarily a residential community and contains very few businesses generating food waste. Hence, while programs like Santa Barbara's commercial incentive program are commendable, it is likely not reasonable to implement due to the lack of organic waste-generating businesses in Palos Verdes Estates. Moreover, the City already requires that commercial facilities participate in separating and disposing of organic materials from the waste stream. A residential incentive program, however, would be an excellent tool to increase recycling and organics diversion and decrease organic waste. At the staff level, the City will explore funding sources and will work with Athens Services to develop and implement such an incentive program.

1.8 *County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.*

The City understands the need to ensure large events and venues do not produce large amounts of food waste that is ultimately directed to landfills. Chapter 8.18 of Title 8 of the City's Municipal Code imposes various conditions related to organic waste on special events, including the requirement to separate organic materials from garbage, to provide numbers and types of containers for collecting and storing organic material, to provide signage and appropriate information to ensure participants are able to accurately separate solid waste, and to distribute information regarding organic waste collection to vendors, exhibitors, and other commercial generators during the event. However, the City does not have any large venues that would generate large amounts of food waste from a single event.

We note also that the City actively adheres to the requirements of AB2176 and reports its compliance annually to CalRecycle. Any events which may be considered large by the City are required to detail their sustainability plans and coordinate with Athens Services to ensure organic recycling service options are provided.

1.14 *Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.*

The City responds to each of the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan as follows:

1. *Commercial Recycling Ordinance. Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.*

The City has implemented this recommendation. The City already requires that commercial facilities participate in the separating and recycling of organic materials. The City is also working with CalRecycle to craft an Ordinance that will codify the mandatory organics recycling requirements of SB1383. This Ordinance will mandate organics recycling for all customers as well as monitoring and education activities to ensure compliance with CalRecycle's mandates. The City is anticipating model language for this Ordinance will be released by CalRecycle in late 2020 or early 2021.

2. *SFR Recycling Ordinance. Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single-family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City is working with CalRecycle to craft an Ordinance that will codify the mandatory organics recycling requirements of AB1826 and SB1383 (as mentioned above). This Ordinance will include mandatory organics recycling programs for all commercial and residential customers.

3. *Self-Haul Standards. Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.*

Chapter 8.18 of the Palos Verdes Estates Municipal Code provides that self-haulers of organic materials must comply with the provision of the Municipal Code (including those related to organic materials) and provide proof of compliance to the City. Establishing a system to regulate self-haul landscapers would be very challenging logistically and thus the latter part of this recommendation is impractical to implement. The sheer volume of unlicensed gardening and landscaping contractors operating in the City would make this very difficult, particularly for audit and reporting. It would require a significant amount of staff effort to manage. This would impose a regulatory staffing and fiscal burden on the City at a time when we are already struggling to afford basic police and fire services. The City finds the latter part of this recommendation to be unreasonably burdensome and costly to implement.

4. *Flow Control. Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City has language in its franchise agreement currently that ensures maximum diversion and composting of organic waste. A future amendment to the franchise agreement is planned for 2021 that will strengthen language related to this recommendation in line with the requirements of

SB1383.

5. *Contract Modification. Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City already requires that commercial facilities participate in separating and recycling organic materials. The City has language in its franchise agreement currently that ensures maximum diversion and composting of organic waste. A future amendment to the franchise agreement is planned for 2021 that will strengthen this language related to this recommendation in line with the requirements of SB1383.

6. *Exclusive Commercial Hauling. Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City's solid waste ordinance and the operative franchise agreement currently contains provisions to ensure maximum diversion and composting of organic waste. Annual reporting requirements also include detailed information on tonnage and facilities used for organic waste processing. A future amendment to the franchise agreement is planned for 2021 that will strengthen this language related to diversion and composting of organic waste and reporting of compliance as required by SB1383.

7. *Source Separated Organics Collection. Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City already requires that commercial facilities participate in the separation and recycling of organic materials. Future amendments to the franchise agreement are planned for 2021 and will implement a source separated organics collection programs across all customer sectors. It is anticipated that these new programs will be included when the franchise agreement is amended in 2021 along with the related ordinance that will codify the provisions.

8. *Wet/Dry Collection. Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

Given the City's unique makeup, it does not see a need for wet/dry separation at this time. The City will monitor commercial needs and work with its waste hauler to gauge feasibility

of this recommendation before considering implementation of any changes to this existing service and any inclusion within the forthcoming franchise amendment and ordinance.

9. *Incentives. Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.*

The recommendation requires further analysis. The City already requires that commercial facilities participate in separating and disposing of organic materials from the waste stream. A residential incentive program, however, would be an excellent tool to increase recycling and organics diversion and decrease organic waste. At the staff level, the City will explore funding sources and will work with Athens Services to develop and implement such an incentive program.

10. *Education Only. No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.*

The City agrees with this recommendation and has implemented it. The City recognizes that education and outreach are essential components of the City's waste program. Athens Services currently provides a comprehensive outreach and education program to commercial customers, which includes site visits and waste assessments. Moreover, educational materials are available in City facilities, distributed to customers by the waste hauler via mail and in-person.

11. *On-Site Management. Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies.*

The City agrees with this recommendation and has implemented it. Athens Services has an outreach team that works with individual businesses to assist in establishing their organics program. Support provided includes onsite training (bilingual support), printed materials, and recommendations for equipment (when applicable).

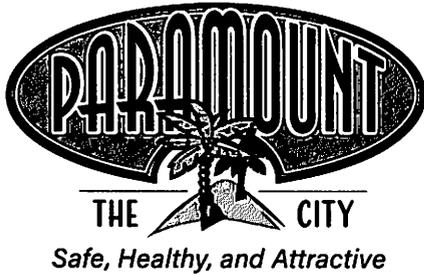
We thank you for the opportunity to respond to this Report. Should you have any additional questions, do not hesitate to contact City Manager Laura Guglielmo at [REDACTED] or via email at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,



David McGowan,
Mayor

cc: Laura Guglielmo, City Manager
Christi Hogin, City Attorney
Judith Krimmel, Foreperson



PEGGY LEMONS
Mayor

BRENDA OLMOS
Vice Mayor

ISABEL AGUAYO
Councilmember

LAURIE GUILLEN
Councilmember

VILMA CUELLAR STALLINGS
Councilmember

October 27, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shorridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

VIA MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Re: A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste- Response to County of Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury Report 2019-2020 Recommendations

Dear Presiding Judge:

I write this in response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Pre-release report letter received on July 8, 2020. All of the responses were reviewed and approved by City Council at its October 20, 2020 meeting.

The following are the City of Paramount's responses to the listed recommendations in the report:

1. **RECOMMENDATION 1.1:** Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.
 - **RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 1.1: Disagree;** The City disagrees with this recommendation. A weekly food waste drop off center would likely result in minimal diversion, possible contamination, hazardous inputs and expenditure of City resources that are already designated for more effective programs. The City's Public Works Department will focus on establishing comprehensive organics recycling systems to maximize organics diversion and participation. The City is mandated by State law SB 1383 to establish residential and

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f [facebook.com/CityofParamount](https://www.facebook.com/CityofParamount) | i [instagram.com/paramount_posts](https://www.instagram.com/paramount_posts) | y [youtube.com/CityofParamount](https://www.youtube.com/CityofParamount)

commercial organics recycling programs that must be in place by January 1, 2022. The City will be working closely with its hauler to comply with SB 1383 and have residential and commercial organics recycling systems in place and ready to commence by January 1, 2022.

2. **RECOMMENDATION 1.3** - County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Food scraps program and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.
 - **RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 1.3: Disagree;** The City does not support creating incentive programs for recycling organics and other materials due to limited funding. The City's Public Works Department will focus on establishing comprehensive organics recycling systems to maximize organics diversion and participation as mandated by State law SB 1383 by January 1, 2022. The City is required by the State to have the organic waste recycling systems in place by January 1, 2022. The final rule for SB 1383 is still in development, the City's systems will be in place to meet the deadlines set by the State.
3. **RECOMMENDATION 1.8** - Modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling.
 - **RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 1.8: Disagree;** This requirement is not feasible for the City of Paramount. The City of Paramount does not have large facilities such as the ones listed under Section 1.8 of the Recommendations, nor does it have jurisdiction over county facilities.
4. **RECOMMENDATION 1.14** - Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.
 - **RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 1.8: Disagree;** The 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan outlines 11 suggestions/strategies that are necessary to ensure a successful organics waste recycling program (see attached). The City of Paramount is researching these strategies to see which ones are compatible and will work best for the city although several will be mostly implemented as a part of AB 1826 and SB 1383 requirements..

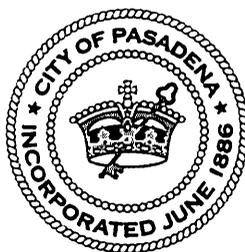
The City of Paramount appreciates and values the review by the Grand Jury regarding this important issue. The City looks forward to working with our County and city partners to address reducing the waste stream that all Los Angeles County residents currently experience. Thank you again to the Grand Jury for their efforts.

CITY OF PARAMOUNT

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peggy Lemons", written over the printed name.

Peggy Lemons
Mayor

cc: Paramount City Council Members
John Moreno, City Manager



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

October 7, 2020

Presiding Judge
c/o Judith Krimmel, Foreperson
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

VIA EMAIL: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: City of Pasadena's response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury A DIET FOR LANDFILLS, Cutting Down on Food Waste Report

Dear Ms. Krimmel:

The City of Pasadena (City) has been requested to respond to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury report, A DIET FOR LANDFILLS, Cutting Down on Food Waste. Our response to each of the recommendations affecting the City of Pasadena is detailed below.

Grand Jury Recommendation 1.1 - Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

City Response – The City disagrees with this recommendation. A weekly food waste drop off center would likely result in minimal diversion, possible contamination, hazardous inputs and expenditure of City resources that are already designated for more effective programs. The City's Public Works Department will focus on establishing comprehensive organics recycling systems to maximize organics diversion and participation. The City is mandated by state law SB 1383 to establish residential and commercial organics recycling programs that must be in place by January 1, 2022. The final rules for SB 1383 have not yet been finalized. The City's residential and commercial organics recycling systems will be in place and ready to commence no later than January 1, 2022.

Grand Jury Recommendation 1.3 - County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift

card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's *Foodscraps* program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

City Response – The City does not support creating incentives programs for recycling organics and other materials. Organics processing/recycling in the Los Angeles region is approximately 30 percent more costly than landfilling. The City of Santa Barbra example is not applicable to the Los Angeles region as the landfill tipping fees in Santa Barbra are significantly more costly than their organics processing fee. The City's Public Works Department will focus on establishing comprehensive organics recycling systems to maximize organics diversion and participation as mandated by state law SB 1383 by January 1, 2022. The City is required by the State to have the organic waste recycling systems in place by January 1, 2022 and begin enforcement actions of the systems beginning January 1, 2024. The final rules for SB1383 are still in development, the City's systems will be in place to meet the deadlines set by the State.

Grand Jury Recommendation 1.6 - The County Department of Public Health should develop a program to train its 300 food inspectors as "ambassadors" when they are in the field. The inspectors need to be armed with the Food DROP brochure, as well as information about how that establishment can safely separate and recycle any food waste. (This recommendation is also for Long Beach and Pasadena, which have their own Public Health departments.)

City Response – The City agrees with the recommendation. The City's Environmental Health Services Division will train the city's food inspectors to be ambassadors for food waste reduction. The inspectors will provide an electronic version of the Food DROP brochure, and information on safely separating and recycling food waste, by email to each food facility at the time of their routine inspection. To ensure a robust and standardized program, staff training and document development will align with the Los Angeles County and City of Long Beach Environmental Health Programs.

Grand Jury Recommendation 1.7 - The County Department of Public Health should take the lead in creating a food waste education component as part of its permit process required for all outdoor public events that will be serving food. Department officials can work with the event manager ahead of time to plan for excess edible food donation, and for how food waste will be collected and separated. (This recommendation is also for Long Beach and Pasadena, which have their own Public Health departments.)

City Response – The City agrees with the recommendation. The City's Environmental Health staff will distribute information on food donation, and food waste separation and recycling, to food vendors approved to operate at outdoor public events, and will work with the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department to distribute the information to event organizers as part of the special events permitting process.

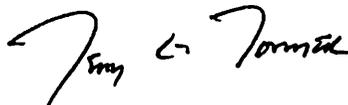
Grand Jury Recommendation 1.8 - County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, 143 and traditionally draws large pre-concert picknicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

City Response – The City does not have contracts with food vendors or caterers. The Rose Bowl Stadium has had a successful food waste/composting program in place for all large events for over three years. The City's Public Works Department will provide technical assistance to the Pasadena Convention Center so that they have a food waste recycling program in place by January 1, 2022.

Grand Jury Recommendation 1.14 - Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

City Response – The City will adopt, as required by state law, many of the suggestions from the Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan if they align with recent State legislation that mandates organics recycling.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terry Tornek". The signature is stylized with a large initial "T" and a cursive "Tornek".

TERRY TORNEK
Mayor

October 6, 2020

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE
ADMINISTRATION

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Subject: Response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury-
"A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste"**

Honorable Presiding Judge and Grand Jury,

The City of Rancho Palos Verdes understands the concerns expressed in the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury *A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste*. On behalf of the City of Rancho Palos Verdes, please accept this as our official response to the Report.

Below please find Findings 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14, and the City's Response (in blue):

1.1 *Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.*

Response to 1.1: The City supports this Recommendation. However, the City does not have a farmer's market or a community garden within its jurisdiction. As such, the City recently adopted an organic waste recycling ordinance that considers AB 1826 and AB 341. The ordinance goes into effect on January 1, 2021. Furthermore, in compliance with SB 1383, the City plans to implement residential and commercial food waste recycling programs by January 1, 2022. Once established, instead of taking the material to a food waste drop-off center in a neighboring city, the new City program would create a more convenient recycling opportunity for residents and businesses. Furthermore, the City has two Trader Joe's grocery stores. They donate their food waste to *Food Finders*, a non-profit organization that distributes the eatable food items to missions, shelters and to people with food insecurity.

1.3 *County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee*

shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

Response to 1.3: The City supports this Recommendation. As such, the City recently adopted an organic waste recycling ordinance that considers AB 1826 and AB 341. The ordinance goes into effect on January 1, 2021. Currently, the City offers commercial haulers and haulers servicing businesses, a discount on solid waste (AB 939) fees when they recycle. That discount also applies to food waste recycling. Currently, the City does not have a residential food waste recycling program. However, in compliance with SB 1383, the City plans to implement a citywide residential and commercial food waste recycling programs by January 1, 2022. The City will continue to explore other incentive opportunities to promote organic waste collection. Meanwhile, the City has an incentive/reward program for residents who recycle. Every month, four residents who recycle, receive a check for \$250 as a "Thank You" for their recycling efforts. There is a total of 48 winners a year. Once food waste recycling is added to the recycling program, those customers will also be eligible for the monetary incentive.

1.8 County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picknicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

Response to 1.8: The City supports this Recommendation. However, this particular Recommendation requires direct action from the County and is not a City actionable item.

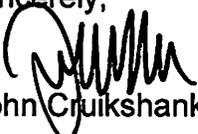
1.14 Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste."

Response to 1.14: The City supports this Recommendation and the need to increase capacity and site, and build new facilities to handle organic waste. As such, the City recently adopted an organic waste recycling ordinance that considers AB 1826 and AB 341. The ordinance goes into effect on January 1, 2021. Furthermore, in mid/late 2021, the City is planning to further update the ordinance to consider all other upcoming regulatory requirements, specifically AB 1594, AB 876, and SB 1383. Adopting SB 1383 will result in implementing citywide residential and commercial food waste recycling programs by January 1, 2022. This will include providing education and guidance in program implementation, working closely with the residential and commercial haulers, including revisions to current contracts or entering into new contracts with haulers that include provisions for reporting, self-haul standards, and/or enforcement, where

needed. As mentioned earlier, the City has an incentive/reward program for residents who recycle. Once food waste recycling is added to the recycling City's program, those customers would also be eligible for the monetary incentive.

This response letter by the City of Rancho Palos Verdes, has been reviewed, commented upon, and approved by the Mayor and City Council at its October 6, 2020 meeting.

Sincerely,


John Cruikshank
Mayor

cc: Members of City of Rancho Palos Verdes City Council
Ara Mihranian, City Manager
Ramzi Awwad, Deputy Director of Public Works
Ron Dragoo, City Engineer



Bill Brand
Mayor

415 Diamond Street, P.O. BOX 270
Redondo Beach, California 90277-0270
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tel 310 372-1171
ext. 2260
fax 310 374-2039

October 20, 2020

Kevin Brazile, Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: City of Redondo Beach Response to Grand Jury Report entitled "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

Honorable Judge Brazile:

On July 8, 2020, the Los Angeles County Grand Jury issued its report entitled "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste" (the "Report"). In the Report, the Grand Jury identifies a number of challenges agencies face in their efforts to divert organic waste from landfills. At the conclusion of the Report, the Grand Jury requested a response from the City of Hermosa Beach ("City") to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14. The City of Redondo Beach provides the following responses to these Recommendations in accordance with Penal Code §933.05.

Recommendations:

1.1 Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

The City disagrees with this recommendation, as there are other avenues that aim at food waste reduction within the City. The City's residents and businesses currently have a number of convenient organics recycling options that make a drop-off center unnecessary. The City amended its solid waste franchise agreement with Athens Services on July 1, 2019 and included an option for organic waste service to the commercial customers. Furthermore, the City established a residential organics program in 2011 that allows residential customers to place food waste in their green organics cart. This service is

included in the overall cost for residential customers and there is a \$25 charge per cart/per month for commercial customers. As part of the City's efforts to ensure compliance with the State organic waste mandates of AB1826, SB1383 and AB827, all customers will be required to subscribe to organics service. Currently the City is working in conjunction with Athens Services to subscribe City businesses, as well as providing outreach and education on the various State organic waste mandates. Therefore, all residential and commercial customers have a viable organic waste disposal option that the City believes makes a weekly food waste drop-off center unnecessary. Nevertheless, the City will monitor the behavior of customers; and, if need be, look into the feasibility of including a food waste drop off center into the franchise agreement.

1.3 County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

This recommendation requires further analysis. Residential customers receive free organics recycling, which is an incentive in itself to separate food waste. Furthermore, the City along with Athens Services sends out educational material that speaks to the importance of separating food waste, and the City offers free compost countertop bins for residents to utilize. With regards to the Commercial customers, the City's organics recycling fee is one of the lowest in the region. Furthermore, Athens Services visits all commercial customers and recommends "right fitting" their bins based on their waste characterization. This could include downsizing the disposal bin for a larger recycling bin, which is included at no cost, and adding organics recycling for a small cost. Athens Services also offers educational training on best practices in order to best utilize the organics recycling receptacles. The City's Public Works Department will focus on implementing comprehensive organics recycling systems to maximize organics diversion and participation as mandated by state laws AB 1826 and SB 1383. However, the City staff will explore potential incentive programs and analyze their implementation feasibility.

1.8 County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picknicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

The City agrees with the recommendation's suggestion that food waste recycling at large events is important, however, the City has no authority over County facilities. The City hosts a variety of large events annually, including a music festival, fairs, and other special events. The City actively adheres to the requirements of AB2176 (large venue and large event recycling) and reports its compliance annually to CalRecycle. Any events which may be considered large by the City are required to detail their sustainability plans and coordinate with Athens Services to ensure organic recycling service options are provided. The City has no permanent large venues.

1.14 Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

- 1. Commercial Recycling Ordinance. Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.**

The City has not yet implemented this recommendation but will do so in the near future. The City is working with CalRecycle to craft an Ordinance that will codify the mandatory organics recycling requirements of AB1826 and SB1383. This ordinance will be adopted before January 1, 2022, the effective date of SB 1383. City Staff is currently working on an informal plan that will be submitted to CalRecycle and the commercial recycling ordinance will be a part of the plan. This Ordinance will mandate organics recycling for all customers as well as monitoring and education activities to ensure compliance with CalRecycle's mandates.

- 2. SFR Recycling Ordinance. Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single-family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.**

The City has not yet implemented this recommendation but will also do so in the near future. The City is working to craft an ordinance that will codify mandatory organics recycling requirements. This Ordinance will include mandatory organics recycling programs for all commercial and residential customers.

- 3. Self-Haul Standards. Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.**

The City has not yet implemented this recommendation but will in the near future by including equivalent language in an Ordinance that will codify the mandatory organics recycling requirements of SB1383. Currently, anyone who claims to self-haul must obtain an exemption from the City through Athens Services and provide details on the self-hauling material and location that it is self-hauled. With regards to regulating self-haul landscapers the City would find that requirement burdensome with limited staff to manage the logistics of establishing such a system.

- 4. Flow Control. Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.**

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City already has language in its franchise agreement that ensures maximum diversion and composting of organic waste.

The agreement requires the hauler to take green waste to a facility that ensures maximum diversion and is compliant with all state mandates including future requirements of SB 1383.

- 5. Contract Modification. Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.***

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City has language in its franchise agreement currently that ensures maximum diversion and composting of organic waste. The City approved an amendment to the franchise agreement in July 2019 that strengthened the language on organic recycling in line with the requirements of SB1383 as mentioned above.

- 6. Exclusive Commercial Hauling. Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.***

The City is currently implementing this recommendation. The City's franchise agreement operates as an exclusive agreement for both residential and commercial customers. This assists in ensuring maximum diversion and composting of organic waste. Moreover, annual reporting requirements also include detailed information on tonnage and facilities used for organic waste processing. This was codified in July 2019 with an amendment to the City's solid waste franchise agreement with Athens Services.

- 7. Source Separated Organics Collection. Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.***

The City agrees with this recommendation and has implemented it in its current franchise agreement; and will be included in any amendments or new agreements.

- 8. Wet/Dry Collection. Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.***

The City currently offers all customers source-separate collection of organics using dedicated organics containers. The City does not see a need for wet/dry separation at this time. Furthermore, all commercial trash bins are sorted at a materials recovery facility. The City will monitor commercial needs and work with its waste hauler to gauge feasibility of this recommendation before considering implementation of any changes to this existing service.

9. Incentives. Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.

This recommendation requires further analysis. Residential customers receive free organics recycling, which is an incentive in itself to separate food waste. Furthermore, the City and Athens Services send out educational material that speaks to the importance of separating food waste, and the City offers free compost countertop bins for residents to utilize. With regards to the Commercial customers, the City's organics recycling fee is one of the lowest in the region. Furthermore, Athens Services visits all commercial customers and recommends "right fitting" their bins based on their waste characterization. This could include downsizing the disposal bin for a larger recycling bin, which is included at no cost, and adding organics recycling for a small cost. Since customers only pay for disposal bins, the downsizing could net a decrease in cost while improving recycling of all materials.

10. Education Only. No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.

The City agrees with this recommendation and has implemented it. Education and outreach are essential components of the City's waste program. This program includes: site visits, distribution of education materials, and more. Site visits performed by the waste hauler monitor contamination levels and proper usage of containers as well as training for staff. These site visits are required annually for all organics customers. Educational materials are available in City facilities, distributed to customers by the waste hauler via mail and in-person, and provided to the public at special events and through digital media.

11. On-Site Management. Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies.

The City agrees with this and has implemented it. As mentioned above, the waste hauler is required to annually visit each organics recycling customer to provide education and training. This includes contamination monitoring, offering a variety of container and service types, and training to customers and staff.

Please feel free to contact the City's Senior Management Analyst, Jesse Reyes, for additional information. He can be reached at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED].

Sincerely, 11/18/2020 | 2:51 PM PST

DocuSigned by:

E8413C7231DF4E1...

William C. Brand
Mayor

**cc: City of Redondo Beach City Council
Joe Hoefgen, City Manager
Michael W. Webb, City Attorney
Judith Krimmel, Foreperson**



City of Rolling Hills

INCORPORATED JANUARY 24, 1957

NO. 2 PORTUGUESE BEND ROAD
ROLLING HILLS, CA 90274
(310) 377-1521
FAX (310) 377-7288

October 11, 2021

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles County Superior Court
222 South Hill Street, Sixth Floor, Suite 670
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Subject: Response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury - "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

Dear Honorable Presiding Judge and Grand Jury,

The City understands the concerns expressed in the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury report, *A diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste*, released on July 31, 2020. On behalf of the City of Rolling Hills, please accept this letter as the official response to recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8 and 1.14 to the Report.

Recommendation 1.1

Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

Response to 1.1

The City of Rolling Hills has no public infrastructure (roads, sidewalks, storm drains). Aside from the City Hall campus, the homeowners association manages access into the City and maintains roadways, city perimeters and trails. The City of Rolling Hills is entirely zoned for residential only. While the City does not have the physical space to establish a weekly food waste drop-off center, the City will educate the community on nearby food-waste drop-off centers to support this recommendation.

Recommendations 1.3

County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee.

Response to 1.3

Under the City's existing exclusive franchise agreement, Republic Services will deploy community outreach and education on organic waste separation. The City will explore incentive opportunities to promote organic waste separation through Republic Services' educational program.

Recommendation 1.8

County officials should modify contracts with food vendors companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling.

Response to 1.8

This recommendation requires direct action from the County and is not a City actionable item.

Recommendation 1.14

Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

Response to 1.14

As a residential-only City of fewer than 2,000 residents, Rolling Hills has applied for an SB 1383 waiver/exemption and is awaiting decision regarding this application. The City will explore initiatives relating to organic waste as expressed in its exclusive franchise agreement with Republic Services.

This response letter has been reviewed, commented upon, and approved by the City of Rolling Hills Mayor and City Council at the October 11, 2021 City Council meeting.

Sincerely,



Bea Dieringer
Mayor



**City of
Rolling Hills Estates**

Velveth Schmitz
Mayor

Steven Zuckerman
Mayor Pro Tem

Britt Huff
Council Member

Judith Mitchell
Council Member

Frank V. Zerunyan
Council Member

September 23, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles County Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 W. Temple Street 11th Floor – Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Subject: Response to the 2019-20 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

Honorable Presiding Judge and Grand Jury:

Pursuant to California Penal Code Sections 933(c) and 933.05, attached is the written response of the City of Rolling Hills Estates (“City”) to the Recommendations pertaining to the City contained in the Grand Jury report entitled “A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste” (“Report”). The City understands the concerns expressed in the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury report related to the reduction of food waste released on July 31, 2020 Report. On behalf of the City of Rolling Hills Estates, please accept this as our official response to the Report.

FINDINGS 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, 1.14 AND CITY RESPONSE.

As noted by the Report, the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury (“Grand Jury”) studied how Los Angeles County (County), and the 88 cities within the County, dispose of waste. More specifically, the Grand Jury studied how to address the diversion goal of reducing waste sent to landfills by 80% by the year 2025, with a 75% reduction in the organic waste sent to landfills.

The City is not in the position to verify the facts underlining every finding without undertaking the same research conducted by the Grand Jury, which would be labor intensive. Accordingly, the City will assume the findings to be true and on such basis agrees with the findings made by the Grand Jury.

Recommendation 1.1 – Each of the 88 cities, and the County’s unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer’s market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

RESPONSE TO 1.1 – The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be further researched and brought to the City Council for possible future implementation by March 2021. The City does not have its own farmer’s market, however, the local independent farmer’s market serving the greater Palos Verdes Peninsula has expressed interest in receiving edible food donations and to act as a food waste drop-off center. The City will continue to explore its role in the facilitation of the market acting as a food waste drop-off center and will continue to review a food waste drop off program. One limitation to the use of this farmer’s market as a drop off center is that the farmer’s market only operates on a single day each week. Currently, the City contracts with Waste Management for food waste disposal. The waste is taken to the company’s CORE food waste recycling facility in Orange and turned into “slurry.” The material is then transported to the wastewater treatment plant in Carson thus meeting the Grand Jury’s desire to enhance the diversion of organic waste from landfills. In addition, these services will be available to all City residents in accordance with SB 1383.

The City has just two grocers. One grocer has established an organic waste collection program through the City’s franchised hauler with edible food waste collected by non-profits and food banks. The other grocer packages all of its non-edible food waste and sends it to their parent company for composting. The company’s edible food waste is donated through a program called “Fresh Rescue”, which provides food to local non-profits and food banks.

Recommendation 1.3 – County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer’s market, or a discount on a solid waste fee.

RESPONSE TO 1.3 – The City agrees with the finding and the Recommendation has already been implemented. Under the City’s existing exclusive Franchise Agreement, organic waste collection has been rolled out to commercial businesses in the City and will be available to residents in accordance with SB 1383 by 2023. The City’s franchised waste hauler provides free training for commercial customers to help bring them into compliance with the organic waste disposal. The franchisee also works with restaurants to design, develop and implement a wide range of customized, cost-saving solutions to limiting organic waste. In addition, and in the spirit of encouraging healthy environmental practices, the City has incentivized conventional recycling through its waste hauler via a quarterly incentive program in which identified “Recycling Heroes” receive one year of free service credited to their account. This takes place for one commercial and one residential customer per quarter. The City will continue to explore other incentive opportunities to promote organic waste collection and diversion.

Recommendation 1.8 – County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling.

RESPONSE TO 1.8 – The Recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable. While the City supports this Recommendation, this particular

Recommendation requires direct action from the County and is not a City actionable item. Moreover, the City does not operate any facilities that provide food to the public.

Recommendation 1.14 – Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

RESPONSE TO 1.14 – The City agrees with the finding and the Recommendation has already begun implementation. Many of the 11 suggestions outlined in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management plan are considered in both the City’s 10-year exclusive solid waste franchise agreement approved in 2018, as well as its solid waste ordinance which was revised and adopted in May of 2020. The Agreement and Ordinance consider all of the current and upcoming regulatory requirements, specifically, AB 1826, AB 876, AB 1594 and SB 1383. In addition, the City Council is very supportive of actions that will increase the capacity to handle organic waste and reduce the reliance on the primary waste stream.

In conclusion, this completes the response of the City of Rolling Hills Estates, which have been reviewed, commented upon, and approved by the Mayor and City Council at the September 22, 2020 City Council meeting.

Sincerely,


Velveth Schmitz
Mayor

MAYOR:
SANDRA ARMENTA

MAYOR PRO TEM:
POLLY LOW

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
MARGARET CLARK
SEAN DANG
STEVEN LY



City of Rosemead

8838 E. VALLEY BOULEVARD P.O BOX 399
ROSEMEAD, CALIFORNIA 91770
TELEPHONE (626) 569-2100
FAX (626) 307-9218

October 14, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Subject: A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste (Responses to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14)

Dear Presiding Judge,

The City of Rosemead is committed to diverting organic waste from landfills by promoting programs as outlined in the EPA's Food Recovery Hierarchy. The City of Rosemead was one of the first municipalities to implement a successful food waste recycling program as required under AB 1826: Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling. On September 12, 2017, the City Council approved a solid waste rate increase to the City's commercial and industrial accounts in order to implement an organic waste recycling program through the City's waste hauler Republic Services.

City staff and Republic Services are working together on a plan which focuses on the following:

- AB 1826 Education and Outreach: Electronic, print, and in-person contact
- Organic waste notices to non-participating businesses
- Tracking third party organics diversion programs, monitoring and follow-up
- Tracking exemptions from AB 1826 for businesses that generate less than ½ cubic yard of organic waste, and less than 20 gallons per week as outlined in SB 1383
- Developing a residential food waste program as required by SB 1383 by 2022
- Presenting an ordinance that mandates organics recycling to Council in late 2021
- Presenting a recognition award to exemplary businesses for their environmental stewardship

- Encourage food waste generators that dispose of edible food to donate the food to recovery agencies and local faith-based churches

As you are aware, the current pandemic and statewide emergency quarantine orders became a significant barrier in advancing programs and conducting in-person outreach. The quarantine prohibited interactions and shifted municipal priorities to keep the public safe. Throughout the pandemic Republic Services continued to collect and divert organic waste from landfills, ensuring the City maintained its commitment to diversion.

The City of Rosemead will continue to demonstrate good-faith efforts such as promoting the mandates through our hauler's quarterly newsletters, educating businesses through the City website and social media pages, and working with our hauler to contact businesses that are still operating, once businesses are in a better position to participate in engagement.

Below are our responses to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14:

Recommendation 1.1 - Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

City's Response: The City of Rosemead will research the logistics of establishing a weekly food waste drop-off center and arrange for the food waste to be taken to a compost facility. The City's waste hauler, Republic Services has a weekly organic waste collection route and can collect the organic waste from participating commercial entities that source separate the food waste. A food-waste drop off center requires heavy supervision to ensure the collection of organic waste is not contaminated, and containers need to be rolled out, and pulled back into storage when not in use during the week. In addition, a food-waste drop off center may not be needed by 2022, as all residents will have access to food scrap collection services per SB 1383 (unless the SB 1383 implementation date is delayed). The City appreciates learning about various nonprofits such as the LA Community Garden Council and will evaluate what free resources are available to improve local garden spaces and on-site composting programs. Republic Services is also an active educator in the community, assisting with workshops and videos to help residents and businesses learn about the value of composting.

Recommendation 1.3 - County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card

to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

City's Response: The City of Rosemead and Republic Services currently offer businesses access to food waste recycling services at the same rate as trash collection. The program allows residents to enroll in the services and modify their service level so that the program remains cost neutral. Furthermore, the City will begin publicly recognizing businesses for their exemplary environmental stewardship at council meetings and promote their business through social media and newsletters.

Recommendation 1.8 - County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people 142 for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite,143 and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

City's Response: The City of Rosemead will assess contracts with food vendors that work directly with the City to promote food waste separation and recycling. For example, every August the City offers free Concerts to residents and hires food vendors for the event. As part of the contract, we can ask vendors to promote and participate in organics recycling. The City can provide "food," "recycling," and "trash" bins with visible signage.

Recommendation 1.14 - Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

City's Response: The City of Rosemead is committed in adopting the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan. Below is a brief status update:

	Option Name	Status
1	Commercial Recycling Ordinance	Scheduled to be presented to council by December 2021 as required in SB 1383, or at a delayed date as determined by the legislature.
2	Single Family Residence Recycling Ordinance	Scheduled to be presented to council by December 2021 as required in SB 1383, or at a delayed date as determined by the legislature.
3	Self-haul standards	To be developed in accordance with the above ordinances.
4	Flow Control	Completed, all organic waste currently diverted at permitted food waste recycling facilities.
5	Contract Modification	Commercial organics recycling provision exists in current franchise agreement. Developing contract modification for new residential organics recycling programs, as well as food recovery, reporting and enforcement provisions as required in SB 1383.
6	Exclusive Commercial Hauling	Commercial food waste program completed. Residential food waste program being developed for the SB 1383 2022 implementation date, or at a delayed date as determined by the legislature.

7	Source Separated Organics	Completed, the City has a 3-bin system. Trash, recyclables, and organic waste are separated at the source with customer participation.
8	Wet/Dry Collection	Not needed, 3 bin system in place
9	Incentives	Completed, City has a cost-neutral program where organics cost the same as trash. The City will proudly recognize outstanding businesses for their environmental achievements in diversion.
10	Education Only	Currently in place through newsletters, electronic social media outreach, and in-person outreach.
11	On-Site Management	Currently in effect and ongoing.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Sandra Armenta
Mayor

City Council
EMMETT BADAR, Mayor
DENIS BERTONE, Mayor Pro Tem
JOHN EBINER
RYAN A. VIENNA
ERIC WEBER

Interim City Manager
BRAD Mc KINNEY



Director of
Community Development
HENRY NOH

Director of Public Works
SHARI GARWICK

Director of Parks and
Recreation
HECTOR M. KISTEMANN

City Attorney
JEFF MALAWY

Ms. Fesia Davenport, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office
500 West Temple Street, Room 358
Los Angeles, CA, 90012

October 27, 2020

Dear Ms. Davenport:

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-20 LOS ANGELES COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS

The City of San Dimas would like to express our concerns regarding the recommendations made in the 2019-20 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Final Report (Report) titled "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste," located on page 11.

We are concerned about recommendation 1.1 in the Report that suggests each of the 88 cities establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The City of San Dimas would like to offer the following comments regarding our concerns with this recommendation:

- A weekly food waste drop-off center would likely result in minimal diversion, possible contamination, and expenditure of City resources that are already designated for more effective programs. The City's Public Works Department will focus on establishing a comprehensive organics recycling system to maximize organics diversion and participation with the City's hauler Waste Management. The City is mandated by state law SB 1383 to establish residential and commercial organics recycling programs by January 1, 2022. The City's residential and commercial organics recycling systems will be in place and ready to commence by the time mandated in SB 1383.
- LA Compost's website states that the community hubs are intended for composting of certain types of food scraps, but without continuous monitoring, the compost bins may be contaminated with unwanted food waste (i.e. dairy, meat, animal waste, fats and greasy foods), non-compostable materials such as bioplastics, and trash. Contamination in the compost bins may result in a contaminated compost product being land applied, which may have adverse impacts on the environment such as soil, water, and agriculture.
- Community composting hubs may also produce strong odors that affect neighbors. We are concerned that the development of more composting hubs throughout the

County will also result in an increase in odor complaints, especially if the community composting hubs are not continuously managed and inspected.

In terms of recommendation 1.3, at this time the City of San Dimas does not support creating incentive programs for recycling organics and other materials. Organics processing/recycling in the Los Angeles region is costlier than landfilling. As stated above, the Public Works Department will focus on establishing comprehensive organics recycling programs as mandated by SB 1383. The City is required by the State to have the organic waste recycling programs in place by January 1, 2022 and begin enforcement actions no later than January 1, 2024.

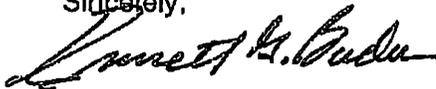
And finally, the Grand Jury requested a response from LA County cities to recommendation 1.14. The 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan outlines 11 suggestions/strategies that are necessary to ensure a successful organics waste recycling program. The City of San Dimas is researching these strategies to see which ones are compatible to the implementation of SB 1383. Once these strategies have been evaluated, the city will take the steps necessary to implement strategies relevant.

The City of San Dimas agrees with many of the points of concern voiced by 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.

We respectfully request the Chief Executive Office take these concerns into account, when considering implementation of the recommendations in the Civil Grand Jury Final Report.

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact Lauren Marshall, Administrative Analyst, at [REDACTED] or at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,



Emmett G. Badar
Mayor

THE CITY OF
SAN FERNANDO

CITY COUNCIL

October 30, 2020

MAYOR
JOEL FAJARDO

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles County Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street
Eleventh Floor – Room 11-506
Los Angeles CA, 90012

VICE MAYOR
HECTOR A. PACHECO

COUNCILMEMBER
SYLVIA BALLIN

COUNCILMEMBER
ROBERT C. GONZALES

Subject: City of San Fernando Response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury – A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste Report

COUNCILMEMBER
MARY MENDOZA

The City of San Fernando understands the concerns expressed in the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury report related to food waste diversion from landfills released on July 31, 2020 (Report). On behalf of the City of San Fernando, please accept this as our official response to the Report.

RECOMMENDATIONS 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, AND 1.14 AND CITY RESPONSE.

As noted by the Report, the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury (Grand Jury) studied how the County of Los Angeles (County) disposes of food and organic waste. Based on its research the Grand Jury made fourteen findings ranging from very specific factual findings (i.e., two cities, Bell and Westlake Village, have no commissions) to findings that are quite general (i.e., some cities publish agendas for commission meetings but not the minutes.). The 88 cities in the County were asked to respond specifically to *Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14.*

RECOMMENDATION 1.1 – Each of the 88 cities, and the County’s unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer’s market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

CITY RESPONSE TO 1.1

The City of San Fernando agrees with the recommendation but believes that better infrastructure will need to be in place for the processing of food waste at off-site facilities. At this time, there appear to be limited options around the County for accepting food waste for processing.

**PUBLIC WORKS
DEPARTMENT**

117 MACNEIL STREET
SAN FERNANDO
CALIFORNIA
91340

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but the City will explore options with community gardening associations or composting facilities. We believe that this timeframe will be in the next 12 months, but depends on factors related to COVID-19.

(818) 898-1222

WWW.SFCITY.ORG

PRESIDING JUDGE

City of San Fernando Response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury
A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste Report
Page 2 of 3

RECOMMENDATION 1.3 – County and City officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer’s market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the City of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the City’s *Foodscraps* program, and can save several hundred dollars a month on their trash collection fee.

CITY RESPONSE TO 1.3

The City of San Fernando agrees with the recommendation and will explore the option of offering discounts on solid waste fees to its residential and commercial customers that do not currently fall under the mandatory organic recycling regulations from CalRecycle. We believe it is a worthwhile effort to encourage food waste diversion by segments of our community that are not currently under a regulatory mandate. Providing special bins for curbside pick-up on a weekly basis may be a more successful way to handle this level of food waste diversion participation than the drop-off centers suggested in *Recommendation 1.1*.

The recommendation has not been implemented. The City is working with its contracted solid waste hauler and will look to provide incentive discounts on solid waste fees over the next 12 months.

RECOMMENDATION 1.8 – County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picknicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

CITY RESPONSE TO 1.8

The City of San Fernando agrees with the recommendation and supports the idea of requiring food vendors with large contracts at the County to have a mandatory food separation and recycling program. However, it will be equally as important to have enforcement of this program if it is to be successful. Consideration and planning will be necessary to identify who will be responsible for this and the necessary funding to ensure there is adequate staffing to carry out these enforcement measures.

The recommendation will not be implemented by the City because it is not warranted. The finding is focused on County-level events.

RECOMMENDATION 1.14 – Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

PRESIDING JUDGE

City of San Fernando Response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury
A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste Report
Page 3 of 3

CITY RESPONSE TO 1.14

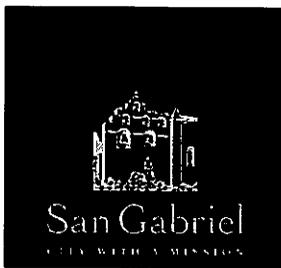
The City of San Fernando agrees with the recommendation and staff will prepare a report and presentation that reviews the Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan with our City Council and provides a resolution to adopt the suggestions of the plan and expresses support for the need to increase capacity to handle organic waste processing.

The recommendation has not yet been implemented. The City will adopt the suggestions of the Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity to handle organic waste by June 2021.

In conclusion, this completes the response of the City of San Fernando.

Sincerely,

Matt Baumgardner, PE
Director of Public Works



City of San Gabriel

Phone: 626.308.2800

City Hall: 425 South Mission Drive, San Gabriel, California 91776

Web: SanGabrielCity.com

October 28, 2020

Mr. Kevin Brazile, Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Response to the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury's Report (Landfills and Public Detention Facility)

Honorable Judge Brazile:

On July 31, 2020, the Los Angeles County Grand Jury issued a public report entitled "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste" (Report). In the Report, the Grand Jury identifies a number of challenges agencies face in their efforts to divert organic waste from landfills. The Report also included findings of the public detention facilities within Los Angeles County. These include jails of varied sizes, courthouse-holding cells, juvenile camps and detention facilities, prisons and other penal institutions.

At the conclusion of the Report, the Grand Jury requested a response from the City of San Gabriel ("City") to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, 1.14 in the Landfills section, and to the detention findings. The City provides the following responses to these Recommendations in accordance with Penal Code §933.05.

Landfills

1.1 *Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting (Report page 29).*

Response

The City's residents and businesses currently have a number of convenient organics recycling options that make a drop-off center unnecessary. The City's exclusive franchise agreement includes organic waste service for all residential and commercial customers. As

part of the City's efforts to ensure compliance with the State organic waste mandates of AB1826, SB1383 and AB1594, all customers will be required to subscribe to organics service. In conjunction with requiring organic waste disposal, options for customers of most food service establishments (per AB827), all residents, businesses and retail food customers will have convenient organic waste disposal options. These options include a variety of container types and sizes available for curbside pick-up of organics from both residential and commercial customers. However, the City will monitor the behaviors of customers and the public in general to gauge feasibility of a drop-off program and will consider it to be included in any future amendment to the franchise agreement.

1.3 *County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee (Report page 30).*

Response

Implementation of this recommendation has taken the form of organics service to all commercial customers. This eliminates any cost prohibitions customers may claim and additionally incentivizes utilization of organics service by allowing customers to use this service to reduce their solid waste services and associated costs. San Gabriel utilizes a "pay as you throw" rate structure that incentivizes customers to reduce waste generation to save money. The same incentive is offered for residential customers. Though residential customers pay a nominal fee for organics service, this allows for reduction of solid waste service and the cost saving associated with that reduction. Residential customers also have the option of purchasing home compost bins at a discount to further reduce their organics disposal.

1.8 *County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign (Report Page 30)..*

Response

The City of San Gabriel supports the recommendation to require food waste recycling at large scale, highly attended events, such as those held at the Hollywood Bowl. The few community events held in San Gabriel in pre-COVID times do not compare or qualify or merit a comparable local requirement.

1.14 Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste (Report page 31).

1. Commercial Recycling Ordinance. Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

Response

The City appreciates this recommendation and agrees that managing our organic solid waste using the options listed would be beneficial in reducing food waste in our landfills. City staff will consider if it is feasible to incorporate one or more of these suggestions into the City's FY2021-22 municipal operating budget.

Public Detention Facility

California Penal Code section 919, subdivision (b),1 requires the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury (Jury) to inquire into the condition and management of the public detention facilities within Los Angeles County (County). These include jails of varied sizes, courthouse-holding cells, juvenile camps and detention facilities, prisons and other penal institutions.

During the months of August, September and October of 2019, all 23 jurors participated in unannounced inspections of 142 detention facilities. In the performance of this assignment, the Jury gained a unique perspective of the criminal justice system and an appreciation of the duties and hazards of the various law enforcement agencies of the County. The City provides the following responses to these Recommendations.

San Gabriel Police Department (Report page 345)

Category: City Police

Inspection Results: Unsatisfactory

Comments: Currently, arrestees are taken to the Alhambra Police Department for detention. A new facility, planned for the City of San Gabriel has now been delayed due to budget constraints. San Gabriel's existing jail facility is in need of paint and the quarters are cramped.

Recommendations: San Gabriel's jail facility should be upgraded or cease operations as an active jail.

Response

San Gabriel's jail facility is not currently operating as a jail and the City contracts with the City of Alhambra for jail detention services. San Gabriel is considering either upgrading the existing jail facility or constructing a new jail facility, along with the construction of a new Police station project.

Required Response No. 6 (Report page 358)

Station/Facility: San Gabriel Police Department

Findings: Two existing cameras have been offline for the past nine months, creating safety issues in transporting detainees. There are also trash accumulation issues, as trash is only picked up once a day.

Recommendations: The security cameras need to be repaired and the trash needs to be collected twice a day or as needed.

Response

The City appreciates this recommendation and will repair the cameras as soon as practical. The referenced trash deficiencies are not a normal occurrence. Going forward, the Department will monitor the trash situation and will have trash receptacles emptied as often as necessary to ensure that trash does not accumulate.

For additional information or questions, please feel free to contact Mark Lazzaretto, City Manager, at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED].

Sincerely,



Chin Ho Liao
Vice Mayor

cc: City of San Gabriel City Council
Mark Lazzaretto, City Manager
Keith Lemieux, City Attorney
Eugene Harris, Police Chief
Greg de Vinck, Public Works Director
Christian Warner, Vice President of Government Affairs, Athens Services



City of San Marino

October 14, 2020

Presiding Judge

Los Angeles Superior Court Kevin C. Brazile
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
201 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, California 90012

Subject: Responses from City of San Marino Related to Grand Jury Report Regarding "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

Dear Presiding Judge Brazile,

On behalf of the City of San Marino, please accept the following responses from the City Council to the findings made by the 2019-2020 LA County Civil Grand Jury related to the above-referenced report.

Recommendation 1.1: Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

City of San Marino Response: The City Council appreciates this recommendation and agrees that it would be beneficial in reducing food waste in our landfills. The Council will consider if it is feasible to incorporate such a program into the City's FY 2021-22 municipal operating budget.

Recommendation 1.3: County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's *Foodscraps* program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

City of San Marino Response: The City Council appreciates this recommendation and agrees that it would be beneficial in reducing food waste in our landfills. The Council will consider if it is economically feasible to incorporate such a program into the City's FY 2021-22 municipal operating budget.

Recommendation 1.8: County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picknicking [sic] crowd, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

City of San Marino Response: This recommendation may have been made to the City in error as the City does not have any jurisdiction or involvement with County of Los Angeles facilities or operations, and no County-owned facilities of the type described in the recommendation are located in the City. The City Council supports the implementation by the County of this recommendation from the Grand Jury.

Recommendation 1.14: Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the eleven suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

City of San Marino Response: The City Council appreciates this recommendation and agrees that managing our organic solid waste using the options listed would be beneficial in reducing food waste in our landfills. The Council will consider if it is feasible to incorporate one or more of these options into the City's FY 2021-22 municipal operating budget.

If need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Marcella Marlowe, City Manager, at 626 300-0700 or [REDACTED].

Sincerely,



Gretchen Shepherd Romey, Mayor

cc: Vice Mayor Ken Ude
Councilmember Steven Huang, DDS
Councilmember Susan Jakubowski
Councilmember Steve Talt
Marcella Marlowe, Ph.D., City Manager
Michael Throne, PE, Director of Parks and Public Works/City Engineer



City of
SANTA CLARITA

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October 21, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Presiding Judge:

Subject: Response to 2019-20 Grand Jury Report, "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

This letter is the formal response of the City of Santa Clarita (City) to the July 31, 2020, Los Angeles County Grand Jury Report entitled "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste." The current Grand Jury has done an admirable job profiling the solid waste status in Los Angeles County. Since the passage of AB1826 and SB1383, City staff have been working towards compliance with these laws despite not having the finalized regulations or model tools approved by the State Office of Administrative Law from CalRecycle.

As requested by the Grand Jury, the City respectfully submits the following responses to the Findings and Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14 identified for a response in the "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste" report.

Recommendation 1.1:

Partially Disagree. In compliance with the requirements for the above-mentioned laws passed by the California State Legislature, all organics generators will be required to obtain recycling services, compost on site, or donate food waste to charity. A drop-off center would not only be redundant, but would potentially be susceptible to contamination and release more greenhouse gases in transportation to the drop-off center.

In terms of composting, there are concerns about the duration of time that the food waste and/or compost sits in the LA Compost community hubs. There are also concerns that the composting



process may not be properly managed to reduce bacterial contamination, such as E. coli. Compost created from contaminated food waste may still contain bacteria after the composting process is complete. If contaminated food waste is applied to land used to grow food, the harvested food may contain bacteria that will in turn harm consumers.

There are more environmentally safe, financially feasible methods than composting. Jurisdictions that have denser populations, with limited budgets and limited open land may not be able to dedicate their efforts to composting. There are other more effective and efficient technologies to handle organic waste such as anaerobic digestion and biomass conversion. These methods produce marketable products, such as renewable natural gas, transportation fuel, or electricity.

Should a community entity wish to provide a drop-off center to the residents of Santa Clarita and provide protections from contamination, staff would be available to aid with planning and logistics of siting such a center.

Recommendation 1.3:

Agree. Currently, the City, in cooperation with the Residential Franchise Hauler Waste Management, offers an incentive program to residents for reduced volumes of waste disposal. The "Super Saver" program offers a 20 percent discount for residents who use a cart that is one third the size of a standard waste cart. Since a significant portion of waste stream that goes to the landfill from residential sources is organic, the organic waste will then be recycled in a different cart, thus reducing the need for a large cart to dispose of trash. City staff will provide extensive outreach to promote the incentive program. Commercial customers that are required to have organics recycling services, would see an offset in their trash rate as the organic materials would be shifted to the recycling services. The reduction in the frequency of trash pick-ups would then lower trash rates.

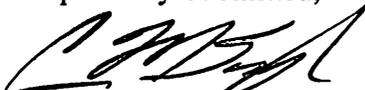
Recommendation 1.8:

Agree. The County of Los Angeles should modify contracts with the food vendors companies that are inside County facilities. The City of Santa Clarita at this time has a single, newly acquired facility, that will employ a food vendor company. A contract with the food vendor can address food waste separation and recycling. In addition, City staff expect to require food waste recycling at public events such as the Cowboy Poetry Festival and Concerts in the Park, as well as privately run festivals operated on City property that provide onsite food services. For City facilities that have kitchens where catering or cooking takes place, it is anticipated that the Commercial Franchise Hauler will provide recycling services for the food waste.

Recommendation 1.14:

Agree. The City submitted a formal plan to CalRecycle in February 2020 that addresses many of the suggestions/options in the 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan. The State of California recently released draft model franchise amendments and ordinances as guidance for municipalities to adopt. These regulations and model amendments have not yet been approved by the Office of Administrative Law. City staff are working with our Franchised Haulers to address the suggestions provided by the 2018 County Plan. I support the need to increase capacity, site and build new facilities to handle organic waste in the County of Los Angeles.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cameron Smyth
Mayor

CS:CW:sj

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cc: City Council
Ken Striplin, City Manager
Joseph Montes, City Attorney



Mayor Kevin McKeown
Mayor Pro Tempore Terry O'Day

Councilmembers
Gleam Davis
Sue Himmelrich
Ana Maria Jara
Kristin McCowan
Ted Winterer

October 26, 2020

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL TO [REDACTED]

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: City of Santa Monica's Response to 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report: "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

Dear Presiding Judge:

The Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury issued a report entitled "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste" on July 31, 2020. The report investigates Los Angeles County's waste disposal system, identifies various challenges local agencies face in their efforts to divert organic waste from landfills, and provides policy framework recommendations to incentivize organics diversion.

The Civil Grand Jury requests a response from each of the 88 cities in Los Angeles County to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14 in the report. The City of Santa Monica ("City") provides the following responses to those recommendations in accordance with California Penal Code 933.05(b).

Recommendation 1.1

Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

This recommendation has been partially implemented and staff will analyze the possibility of expanding the program. The City hosts four weekly farmers' markets in various locations: Downtown Santa Monica on Wednesdays and Saturdays; Virginia Avenue Park on Saturdays; and Main Street on Sundays. Additionally, the City has three community garden locations as well as a community learning garden. Currently, the City's Resource Recovery and Recycling Division collects food waste from the farmers weekly at the Wednesday downtown Santa Monica farmers' market. The food waste is collected and

sent to an organics facility in Simi Valley for further processing into compost. Three times per year, the City receives some of the compost back from the facility and hosts free compost giveaway events for residents and Santa Monica Community Garden participants for their gardening and landscaping needs.

The City will explore the possibility of expanding the food waste collection to the other three farmers' markets at other locations and on the weekends. Furthermore, the City will analyze the logistical, operational, and budgetary feasibility of placing larger organics containers at each farmers' market and open the food waste drop-off to residents.

It is worth noting the City already provides an organics curbside collection program to all residential and commercial customers. All single-family customers in the City are offered an organics container at their residence. Food waste drop-off centers at the farmers' markets may be beneficial to residents living in multi-family apartments and condominiums who do not have on-site organics containers due to space constraints or other AB 1826 qualifying exemptions. Additionally, the City also sells compost bins and worm bins to residents at a 50% subsidy to encourage backyard/in-home composting.

Beyond offering a citywide organics collection program and heavily subsidized compost/worm bins, the City is also piloting a food waste prevention and rescue program as another organic waste diversion strategy. With the aid of a CalRecycle grant award, staff has identified numerous food establishments in the City who are willing to donate edible foods that would otherwise end up in landfills and two non-profit organizations that are interested in accepting food donations benefitting their clients who are experiencing food insecurity. This pilot program is still in its infancy and efforts to expand it are currently underway.

Recommendation 1.3

County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

This recommendation has been implemented. The City is already offering refuse, recycling, and organics curbside collection services to all residential and commercial customers. The City incentivizes landfill diversion by adopting a "pay as you throw" solid waste rate structure: If a customer separates and places recyclables and food/green waste into the recycling and organics containers instead of the refuse container, the need for a large refuse container decreases, and the solid waste rate decreases. The City offers bundled collection rates – each account is offered all three containers for one charge. If the size of the refuse container reduces, the charge reduces accordingly.

The City also incentivizes organics recycling through its Green Business Certification Program and being a member of the California Green Business Program Network. "Recycle and Compost All Acceptable Materials" and "Maximize Recycling and Composting by Placing Clearly Labeled Recycling and Compost Containers Next to All Trash Containers" are two of the scoring criteria to become a certified Green Business in the City. The program offers a host of incentives, including community recognition, free consultation with the City's energy and water efficiency experts, free advertising materials to promote the business as a "Green Business," free publicity on Santa Monica Travel and Tourism, Chamber of Commerce, and Santa Monica Green Business Certification websites, priority enrollment in free utility retrofit programs, and various free sustainable product samples.

Finally, the City is working on creating a zero waste ordinance mandating organics diversion, which reduces the need to financially incentivize behavioral change. The City already requires blue bin recycling in its municipal code, and the new ordinance is intended to leverage statewide organic waste reduction mandates such as AB 1826 and SB 1383 and codify mandatory organics recycling on the local level. The zero waste ordinance – which encompasses organics recycling and food waste prevention and rescue – is in the research and development stage. It is scheduled to be adopted by the City Council well in advance of January 1, 2024 when cities are mandated to take enforcement actions against noncompliant entities pursuant to SB 1383.

Recommendation 1.8

County official should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its' summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

This recommendation is not applicable to the City of Santa Monica as no County facilities providing food service to the public are located in the City.

Recommendation 1.14

Elected official in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organics waste.

This recommendation has been largely implemented. The City responds to each of the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan as follows:

1. Commercial Recycling Ordinance: Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

This suggestion is in the research and development phase and will be implemented in the near future. Staff is analyzing existing zero waste ordinances from the cities of San Francisco and Berkeley as well as reviewing the SB 1383 ordinance model created by CalRecycle. The City is in the process of creating a zero waste ordinance to codify the mandatory organics recycling requirements of AB 1826 and SB 1383 for all commercial and residential customers.

Please note that the City has developed and implemented curbside organics collection. Although not yet a mandate, all customers can voluntarily sign up for organics collection at no additional charge. Approximately 15% of the City's total solid waste customers already receives organics collection services.

2. SFR Recycling Ordinance: Adopt an ordinance establishing organics collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826, including but not limited to single family

residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwelling with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement actions as necessary.

This suggestion is in the research and development phase and will be implemented in the near future. In alignment with AB 1826 and SB 1383 mandates, the City is in the process of creating a zero waste ordinance and making organics recycling compulsory.

Please note that the City has a curbside organics collection program in place. Although not yet a mandate, all single-family customers in the City are automatically provided with an organics container for comingled green waste and food waste at no additional charge.

3. Self-Haul Standards: Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.

This suggestion requires further analysis. The City mandates permitted private haulers of construction and demolition (C&D) materials to meet C&D recycling requirements, but mandating self-haul landscapers and gardeners to meet organics recycling requirement would be significantly more challenging due to the high number of unlicensed gardening and landscaping providers operating in any city. Staff is open to collaborating with the City's business license office to identify the number of permitted landscaping contractors in the City and exploring the viability of establishing self-haul standards for organics recycling.

4. Flow Control: Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.

This suggestion has been implemented. The City has been making curbside organics collection services available to all residential and commercial customers for years. All organic waste collected in the City is sent to an approved organics processing facility. In fiscal year 2019-20, Santa Monica diverted a total of 15,871 tons of organics, or 16% of the City's total waste generation, from the landfills through its curbside organics collection program.

5. Contract Modification: Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

This suggestion is not applicable to the City of Santa Monica. The City has a municipally staffed waste collection system in which its Resource Recovery and Recycling Division makes available refuse, recycling, and organics collection services to all residential and commercial customers in the City. Since the City manages its own waste collection services, there is no collection contract or franchise agreement to modify.

6. Exclusive Commercial Hauling: Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

This suggestion requires further analysis. The City has a municipally staffed waste collection system, and all commercial customers are required to use the City's services. The only exceptions are businesses that use roll-off bins, such as Santa Monica Place (an outdoor shopping center) and UCLA Health – Santa Monica Medical Center, or government entities including Santa Monica DMV, Santa Monica College, and the Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District. The City does not offer roll-off service; a cost-benefit analysis will be required to examine if developing such a program is advisable. Government entities are exempt from franchise agreements in place within a city.

7. Source Separated Organics Collection: Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e. residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

This suggestion is not applicable to the City of Santa Monica. The City runs its own municipally staffed source separated organics collection program. There is no collection contract or franchise agreement to modify because the City manages its own waste collection services.

8. Wet/Dry Collection: Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

This suggestion has been implemented but has proven ineffective to achieve its intended goals. The City has a pilot wet/dry collection program with approximately 30 businesses in the Main Street commercial district. However, waste audit revealed a high level of contamination in both the "wet" and "dry" containers, indicating misuse of both bins. Customers are likely confused about how to categorize and properly dispose of certain materials, such as a recyclable food container ("dry") with food ("wet") still inside the container. The City Council adopted a 2019 Zero Waste Plan Update, and the roadmap document identifies priority actions that will maximize success in achieving the City's waste diversion goals. The plan recommends continuing to adopt the City's existing three-bin system (refuse, recycling, organics) and focus resources on public education and technical assistance.

9. Incentives: Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.

This suggestion has been implemented in ways of having a "pay as you throw" solid waste rate structure in place. Customers who separate and place food waste and green waste in their organics containers will in turn require a smaller trash container, which drives down their bundled solid waste rate. The City does not charge a separate rate for recycling or organics collection in order to incentivize maximum landfill diversion. Organics recycling is also mandated by State legislations including AB 1826 and SB 1383, making financial incentives unnecessary to encourage participation.

Furthermore, the City currently pays \$114 per ton in organics hauling and processing as compared to \$77 per ton in recyclables hauling and processing or \$66 per ton in refuse hauling and landfilling. (All cost estimates do not include internal municipal collection expenses, such as City personnel costs and

fleet costs.) Running an organics program is already significantly costlier than recycling or refuse collections. Providing additional financial incentive to organics customers is not fiscally viable nor recommended, especially in these times when the City has suffered financially due to COVID-19 related economic impacts.

10. Education Only: No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.

This suggestion has been implemented and efforts will continue to expand. In 2018, the City sent mailers to all qualifying commercial customers under AB 1826 mandates, educating customers on the State's organics recycling requirements and offering free food waste separation training and educational materials.

Through the City-sponsored Green Business Certification Program, the City contracts with Sustainable Works, a Santa Monica-based environmental education and action non-profit organization, to provide business education and compliance monitoring. Finally, the City has in-house zero waste staff committed to providing organics collection education and support to customers on an ongoing basis.

11. On-Site Management: Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies.

This suggestion has been implemented and efforts will continue to expand. The City Council-adopted 2019 Zero Waste Plan Update highlights on-site technical assistance to commercial customers as the most impactful priority action to drive the City's zero waste goals. In addition to on-site support provided by Sustainable Works as mentioned above, the City's zero waste staff is currently working on a multi-phase AB 1826 implementation plan, which requires identifying and proactively reaching out to commercial customers who have not yet signed up for organics collection and providing on-site technical assistance in right-sizing service level, container placement, staff training, and ongoing support.

City of Santa Monica maintains a long-standing commitment to sustainability and fighting climate change. Should you have any additional questions about this letter, please contact Yvonne Yeung, Resource Recovery and Recycling Administrator, at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,



Kevin McKeown
Mayor

cc: Lane Dilg, Interim City Manager
George Cardona, Interim City Attorney
Susan Cline, Director of Public Works
Chris Celsi, Resource Recovery and Recycling Manager
Judith Krimmel, Foreperson, 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury



City of Sierra Madre

232 W. Sierra Madre Boulevard, Sierra Madre, CA 91024
phone 626.355.7135 fax 626.355.2251

September 30, 2021

Thomas O'Shaughnessy
Foreperson
County of Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury
222 South Hill Street, 6th Floor, Suite 670
Los Angeles, Ca 90012

Dear Foreperson,

This letter is in response to your letter dated September 17, 2021 alerting us that we are tardy in providing required responses to the Recommendations outlined in the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Final Report, **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste.**

Please accept our apology on behalf of the City of Sierra Madre and Mayor Arizmendi for not responding promptly. We sincerely have not figured out how this was missed.

Below are the responses that you are seeking.

Recommendation 1.1: At the time of publication of the Final Report (July 31, 2020) the City of Sierra Madre had been participating with the Los Angeles Regional Agency (LARA) to share ideas on edible food programs, such as the "drop-off" center mentioned in the recommendation. With the advent of COVID 19 restrictions, the Sierra Madre Community took great efforts to find methods of sharing edible food. The "Sierra Madre Helping Hand" program emerged on social media and other avenues to make sure that edible food went to Sierra Madre residents in need, and also provided a method for impacted restaurants and compassionate residents to donate food that would otherwise expire or go to waste to people via COVID conscious delivery or drive-by.

Currently, Sierra Madre is preparing an Organics Recycling Ordinance, which will include a food donation program. The City is also in negotiations with our contract hauler to amend the franchise agreement to meet the requirements of the Ordinance as well as additional items to benefit the community's recycling efforts in general.

Recommendation 1.3: Incentivizing programs for separation of food waste was included in discussions among the LARA organization. Sierra Madre has yet to determine a viable incentive program, however the concept remains a topic, and may be included within the upcoming franchise agreement or may also be further explored through the City's Natural Resources Commission.

Recommendation 1.8: This recommendation is target for County officials as opposed to Cities. Sierra Madre is a very small City of 11,000 residents and we do not have any contracts with food vendor companies similar to the examples provided (Hollywood Bowl, Arboretum, Hospitals, etc).



CITY OF SIGNAL HILL

2175 Cherry Avenue ♦ Signal Hill, CA 90755-3799

October 21, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, California 90012

Subject: City of Signal Hill Response to Recommendations of 2019-2020 Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury Report on A Diet For Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste

Dear Honorable Presiding Judge:

The City of Signal Hill has carefully reviewed the Grand Jury Report on A Diet For Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste. In agreement with California Penal Code Sections 933(c) and 933.05, the following is the City's response to the following three recommendations to this report:

Recommendation 1.1 – Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

The City of Signal Hill does not agree with this recommendation nor does it intend to provide weekly food waste drop-off centers. The City of Signal Hill will implement the requirements of the State mandated SB 1383 for commercial and residential generators no later than January 1, 2022, which will be conveniently located at the address of each generator.

Recommendation 1.3 – County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

Grand Jury Response Letter

October 27, 2020

Page 2

The City of Signal Hill does not agree with this recommendation nor does it intend to create an incentive program for residential and businesses to separate food waste. Due to the economic effects of COVID-19, the City is currently in a structural deficit and has experienced a considerable loss of revenue generating sales tax. Also, the City will have to implement SB 1383, which is an unfunded mandate that will cost the City and ratepayers more money. Therefore, the City is not in a position to subsidize food waste services and therefore, cannot provide any kind of incentives.

Recommendation 1.14 – Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

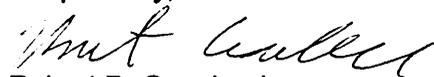
The City of Signal Hill finds it difficult to either completely agree or disagree with all 11 suggestions in the Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan as referred to within this recommendation. Many of the 11 suggestions are required with the Mandatory implementation of SB 1383 by January 1, 2022.

1. **Commercial Recycling Ordinance** – Required under SB 1383.
2. **SFR Recycling Ordinance** – Required under SB 1383.
3. **Self-Haul Standards** – Required under SB 1383.
4. **Flow Control** – The City's hauler is responsible for flow control in order to meet all State requirements (i.e. AB 341, AB 1826, and SB 1383).
5. **Contract Modification** – Contract between the City of Signal Hill and hauler will be discussed as required, to meet all State requirements (i.e. AB 341, AB 1826, and SB 1383).
6. **Exclusive Commercial Hauling** – The City of Signal Hill currently has a franchise agreement with one (1) hauler for both commercial and residential service.
7. **Source Separated Organics Collection** – Contract between the City of Signal Hill and hauler will be discussed as required, to meet all State requirements (i.e. AB 341, AB 1826, and SB 1383).
8. **Wet/Dry Collection** – Required under SB 1383
9. **Incentives** – The City of Signal Hill does not support, as SB 1383 will mandate organic recycling.
10. **Education Only** – Required under SB 1383
11. **On-Site Management** – Required under SB 1383

The majority of the 11 suggestions will be a part of the implementation of the Mandatory SB 1383 requirements and schedule. The City of Signal Hill is requesting the implementation schedule for SB 1383 be legislatively delayed due to the economic effects of COVID-19.

The City of Signal Hill appreciates the opportunity to respond to the Civil Grand Jury's Report and we hope that our response, along with other cities' responses, will provide an insightful approach in dealing with these recommendations on a practical and reasonable path.

Respectfully,



Robert D. Copeland
Mayor

SM



CITY OF SOUTH EL MONTE

1415 SANTA ANITA AVENUE
SOUTH EL MONTE, CALIFORNIA 91733
PHONE (626) 579-5409 * FAX (626) 579-2409



September 29, 2021

Thomas O'Shaughnessy, Foreperson
County of Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury
222 South Hill Street, 6th Floor, Suite 670
Los Angeles, CA 90012
www.grandjury.co.la.ca.us

Subject: A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste (Responses to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14)

Dear Foreperson,

Thank you for the commendable report and information gathered by the Grand Jury. The City of South El Monte values your input and is committed to diverting organic waste from landfills by promoting programs as listed on the Food Waste Recovery Hierarchy. On June 22, 2021 the City Council adopted an ordinance to implement the provisions of SB1383 regulations. On September 14, 2021, the City Council approved a rate increase to the City's residential and commercial waste management services to implement an Organic Waste Recycling Program. The City Council also approved Amendment No. 6 to the Agreement with Arakelian Enterprises, Inc. dba Athens Services, for waste/recycling service enhancements required to comply with SB1383 regulations and implementation of the approved maximum rate schedule. Amendment No. 6 includes language pertaining to organic waste laws SB 1383 and AB 1826 and the City and Athens Services have agreed to increase the rates to cover the costs attributable to such programs.

City staff and Athens Services are working together on a plan which focuses on the following:

- AB 1826 and SB 1383 Education and Outreach
- Electronic/print activities and direct contact
- Organic Waste Notice of Violation Letter to non-participating businesses
- Tracking data, monitoring, and follow-up
- Developing a residential food waste program as required by SB 1383 by 2022

The current COVID-19 pandemic has had devastating impacts on our City, businesses, and economy. Due to this, the City shifted efforts to meet public health and safety priorities. The statewide emergency also became a significant barrier, delaying the development of new organic waste programs and conducting in-person outreach.

Despite the obstacles posed by COVID-19, the City of South El Monte has continued moving forward in implementing organics recycling programs in the City, and will continue to exercise good-faith efforts, such as promoting the mandates through our hauler's outreach efforts, educating businesses through the City website and social media pages. Importantly, as of July this

year, the City has fully adopted an enforcement ordinance implementing a local SB 1383 compliance program by which *both* commercial and residential waste generators in the City, as well as Athens Services, are mandated to undertake organic waste diversion and other heightened actions to ensure recycling and diversion of waste away from California's landfills.

Below are our responses to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14 (which are the recommendations directed at cities and most applicable to the City of South El Monte):

Recommendation 1.1 - Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

City's Response: The City of South El Monte will research establishing a weekly food waste drop-off center and arrange for the food waste to be taken to a compost facility. The City's waste hauler, Athens Services, has a weekly organic waste collection route and will collect the organic waste from participating commercial entities that source separate the food waste. The City appreciates learning about various nonprofits such as the LA Community Garden Council and will evaluate what free resources are available to improve local garden spaces and on-site composting programs. In fact, Athens Services will be hosting two annual free compost pick-up events for the public. Athens Services is also an active educator in the community, assisting with workshops and videos to help residents and businesses learn about the value of composting.

Furthermore, under the City's new SB 1383 Ordinance, adopted July 2021, "Tier One" commercial food generators (and eventually "Tier Two" food generators) are subject to mandatory participation in food recovery programs with local food banks and related organizations, as follows:

"A. Tier One Commercial Edible Food Generators must comply with the requirements of this Section commencing January 1, 2022, and Tier Two Commercial Edible Food Generators must comply commencing January 1, 2024, pursuant to 14 CCR Section 18991.3.

B. Large Venue or Large Event operators not providing food services, but allowing for food to be provided by others, shall require Food Facilities operating at the Large Venue or Large Event to comply with the requirements of this Section, commencing January 1, 2024.

C. Commercial Edible Food Generators shall comply with the following requirements:

- (1) Arrange to recover the maximum amount of Edible Food that would otherwise be disposed.
- (2) Contract with, or enter into a written agreement with Food Recovery Organizations or Food Recovery Services for: (i) the collection of Edible Food for Food Recovery; or, (ii) acceptance of the Edible Food that the Commercial Edible Food Generator self-hauls to the Food Recovery Organization for Food Recover.
- (3) Shall not intentionally spoil Edible Food that is capable of being recovered by a Food Recovery Organization or a Food Recovery Service.
- (4) Allow City's designated enforcement entity or designated third party enforcement entity to access the premises and review records pursuant to 14 CCR Section 18991.4.
- (5) Keep records that include the following information, or as otherwise specified in 14 CCR Section 18991.4:
 - a. A list of each Food Recovery Service or organization that collects or receives its Edible Food pursuant to a contract or written

- agreement established under 14 CCR Section 18991.3(b).
- b. A copy of all contracts or written agreements established under 14 CCR Section 18991.3(b).
 - c. A record of the following information for each of those Food Recovery Services or Food Recovery Organizations:
 - i. The name, address and contact information of the Food Recovery Service or Food Recovery Organization.
 - ii. The types of food that will be collected by or self-hauled to the Food Recovery Service or Food Recovery Organization.
 - iii. The established frequency that food will be collected or self-hauled.
 - iv. The quantity of food, measured in pounds recovered per month, collected or self-hauled to a Food Recovery Service or Food Recovery Organization for Food Recovery.
- (6) No later than July 1st of each year commencing no later than July 1, 2022 for Tier One Commercial Edible Food Generators and July 1, 2024 for Tier Two Commercial Edible Food Generators provide an annual Food Recovery report to the City. . ."

Recommendation 1.3 - County and City officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscrap program and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

City's Response: The City of South El Monte and Athens Services currently offer businesses access to food waste recycling services within their overall trash collection service. The program allows businesses and residents the ability to enroll in the recycling and waste hauling services that match their needs to the appropriate level of hauling services and enables rate payers to manage their costs for services. Furthermore, the City is developing a reward program for the business community to acknowledge their exemplary practices in recycling and environmental stewardship. The acknowledgements will be promoted through the City's social media outlets and Council meetings.

Recommendation 1.8 - County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

City's Response: The City of South El Monte will evaluate contracts with food vendors that work directly with the City to implement and promote proper food waste separation, recycling and recovery. The City conducts a number of public events including: concerts in the park, Fourth of July, among others, and will work with all contract food vendors to properly dispose of food waste and implement a public education campaign for recycling of organics and other recyclable materials. The City will provide "food," "recycling," and "trash" bins with visible signage throughout the event venues. The City will also use available part-time staff to assist the public with proper use of the disposal bins and educate attendees of the event.

Additionally, by January 1, 2022, Tier One generators will enter into agreements with local food recovery service organizations and pantries. As part of the business license annual renewal process, Tier One generators shall provide the City active food recovery agreements and annual reports to ensure compliance with State regulations.

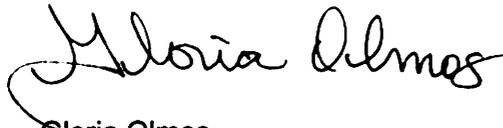
Recommendation 1.14 - Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

City's Response: The City of South El Monte is committed in adopting the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan. Below is a brief status update:

	Option Name	Status
1	Commercial Recycling	Completed
2	Single Family Residence Recycling Ordinance	Completed
3	Self-haul standards	Completed
4	Flow Control	Completed
5	Contract Modification	Completed
6	Exclusive Commercial Hauling	Completed
7	Source Separated Organics	Completed
8	Wet/Dry Collection	Not needed, the City is transitioning to a 3-barrel system by January 1, 2022.
9	Incentives	City is working to develop reward/incentive programs
10	Education Only	Currently in place through newsletters, electronic social media outreach, and in-person outreach.
11	On-Site Management	Trash hauler is preparing to conduct on-site guidance/assistance during the service transition period to the 3-barrel system.

Again, the City of South El Monte would like to thank you and the Grand Jury members for the informative report and valued recommendations. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Gloria Olmos
Mayor



CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA

OFFICE OF PUBLIC WORKS
1414 MISSION STREET, SOUTH PASADENA, CA 91030
TEL: (626) 403-7240 • FAX: (626) 403-7241
WWW.SOUTHPASADENACA.GOV

September 8, 2020

Re: Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report, A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste

The City of South Pasadena submits the enclosed responses to the recommendations in the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report, A Diet for Landfills. The City of South Pasadena agrees with the findings in the report and is committed to implementing policies and practices that divert organic waste from landfills.

The City took its first step in doing so by adopting the South Pasadena Green Action Plan in November 2019. One of the five goals of this plan is to “Increase Organics Diversion from Landfill” and includes sixteen actions that will help us achieve this goal including connecting restaurants and grocery stores with food donation organizations, educating residents and business owners on how to avoid food waste, and building partnerships with local composting hubs. In addition, the City is working closely with our waste hauler, Athens Services, to provide organics recycling options for our residents and businesses. Furthermore, City staff are finalizing the City’s first Climate Action Plan, which will set rigorous targets for reducing landfilled organics waste emissions.

We appreciate the recommendations provided by the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury and look forward to incorporating them into our citywide organics diversion actions. Should you have questions or require additional information, please contact our City Clerk’s Office at

[REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert S. Joe
City of South Pasadena
1414 Mission Street
South Pasadena, CA 91030

City Clerk’s Office

[REDACTED]



Enclosure: Responses to Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report from City of South Pasadena

**Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report
A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste
Responses from City of South Pasadena**

Section 933.05. Responses to findings

(a) For purposes of subdivision (b) of Section 933, as to each grand jury finding, the responding person or entity shall indicate one of the following:

- (1) The respondent agrees with the finding.**
- (2) The respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding, in which case the response shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed and shall include an explanation of the reasons therefor.**

(b) For purposes of subdivision (b) of Section 933, as to each grand jury recommendation, the responding person or entity shall report one of the following actions:

- (1) The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action.**
- (2) The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with a timeframe for implementation.**
- (3) The recommendation requires further analysis, with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or head of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.**

Recommendation 1.1

Recommendation 1.3

Recommendation 1.14

(4) The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable, with an explanation therefor.

Recommendation 1.8



The mayors of LA County were asked to respond to four (4) recommendations made in the Grand Jury Report: 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14. Responses from City of South Pasadena are as follows:

Recommendation	Action	City Response
<p>Recommendation 1.1 – Each of the 88 cities, and the County’s unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer’s market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.</p>	<p>(3) The recommendation requires further analysis.</p>	<p>City staff met with <u>LA Compost</u> in October 2019 to learn about setting up a food waste drop-off center at the City’s weekly farmer’s market. This will require additional resources including a location for processing the food-waste, staff to manage the project, and funds for contracting with LA Compost and implementing the program. A Capital Improvement Project was submitted for this project.</p>
<p>Recommendation 1.3 – County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer’s market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city’s Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.</p>	<p>(3) The recommendation requires further analysis.</p>	<p>City staff is working with Athens Services to determine if food waste can be placed in residential green bins (currently used for yard-waste) at no extra charge. By using green bins, businesses may be able to size down on their trash bins and cut costs. These changes are being made to accommodate SB 1383 and are anticipated to be implemented by December 31, 2020. Additional incentives need further analysis and may be considered if funds are available.</p>
<p>Recommendation 1.8 – County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picknicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.</p>	<p>(4) The recommendation will not be implemented.</p>	<p>The City of South Pasadena does not have County facilities; therefore, this recommendation is not warranted. However, the City will follow the County’s lead in this practice, should we contract with food vendor companies for City facilities and events in the future.</p>
<p>Recommendation 1.14 – Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the <u>11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan</u> and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organics waste.</p>	<p>(3) The recommendation requires further analysis.</p>	<p>The City of South Pasadena has implemented some of the suggestions outlined in the Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan. Many others are in progress. For details, see following table.</p>

March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan

ID	Option Name	Option Description	City Response
1	Commercial Recycling Ordinance	Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.	In Progress Refers to AB1826. The City currently has established organics services for businesses. An ordinance enforcing organics recycling is in progress and is anticipated to be adopted by December 31, 2021.
2	SFR Recycling Ordinance	Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.	In Progress Refers to SB1383. An ordinance enforcing organics recycling for residential customers is in progress and is anticipated to be adopted by December 31, 2021.
3	Self-Haul Standards	Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.	In Progress Self-haul and other exemptions will be included in the ordinance mentioned above.
4	Flow Control	Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.	Current Practice Organics and green waste collected in the City is directed to American Organics, a composting facility owned by the City's waste hauler, Athens Services.
5	Contract Modification	Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.	In Progress Developing the ordinance mentioned above will require the City to modify our contract with Athens Services.
6	Exclusive Commercial Hauling	Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.	Current Practice Athens Services is the City's exclusive waste hauler.
7	Source Separated Organics Collection	Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.	In Progress Source separated organics collection has been established for commercial sector and will be implemented for residential with ordinance mentioned above.
8	Wet/Dry Collection	Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents	Current Practice Athens Services has screw presses at

		of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.	their MRFs and can separate wet rubbish for recycling.
9	Incentives	Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.	Requires Further Analysis City staff is working with Athens Services to allow disposing organics in green bins (currently used for yard waste). Costs may be minimal and organics collection will be mandated; therefore, further incentives may not be required. However, incentives and perks will help ease the transition. More analysis is required to determine if incentives such as free compost or bill discounts will be feasible. This will be discussed as the ordinance is being developed.
10	Education Only	No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support	Current Practice City staff and Athens Services work together to continuously provide AB1826 education to businesses. Educational materials include bill inserts, presentations to Chamber of Commerce members, and information on the City website.
11	On-Site Management	Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies	Requires Further Analysis City staff will work with Athens Services to determine if training and guidance can be provided to businesses. This will be discussed as the ordinance is being developed.



OK



9701 Las Tunas Drive • Temple City • California 91780 • 626-285-2171

October 29, 2021

Thomas O'Shaughnessy, Foreman
Civil Grand Jury, County of Los Angeles
222 South Hill Street, Sixth Floor, Suite 670
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Honorable Foreman O'Shaughnessy,

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury Report regarding "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste." And thank you for your letter to the Mayor dated September 17, 2021, regarding responding to the Civil Grand Jury. I apologize for the delay in the City of Temple City's response to the Civil Grand Jury report.

On behalf of the Mayor of Temple City, I respectfully submit this response to be included in the final report regarding food waste.

Over the last eight years, the City of Temple City has engaged the experts of the R3 consulting group to assist the City with compliance and implementation regarding waste hauling and recycling mandates and rules. Attached, you will find a response from R3 consulting detailing the City's measures in the last year to address food waste, organic recycling, and food recovery. It has been a long and sometimes arduous effort, but we believe the City of Temple City is well on its way to be in compliance with SB 1383 and the mandates regarding food waste.

I hope this response with the attached letter helps answer the Civil Grand Jury questions regarding Temple City's effort in the area. If you need any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me anytime, at [REDACTED], extension [REDACTED], or [REDACTED].

Again, thank you for this opportunity to respond to the Civil Grand Jury.

Sincerely,

Bryan Cook

City Manager
City of Temple City, California

Cc: Mayor and City Council, City of Temple City
Gregory Murphy, City Attorney, City of Temple City
Carrie Baxter, Project Manager, R3 Consulting Inc.
Ashley Avery, Management Analyst, City of Temple City
Attachment: Response R3 Consulting Group Inc. October 25, 2021

October 25, 2021

Mr. Bryan Cook, City Manager
City of Temple City
9701 Las Tunas Drive, Temple City, CA 91780

submitted via email: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Response to 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Final Report

Dear Mr. Cook,

R3 Consulting Group, Inc. (R3) was engaged by the City of Temple City (City) to prepare a response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Final Report. In response to the Report "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste", the City of Temple City has:

- › Amended its collection agreement with Arakelian Enterprises, Inc (Athens Services);
- › Revised the Solid Waste Municipal Code; and
- › Entered into an agreement with the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments for participation in the San Gabriel Valley Regional Food Recovery Program

These actions are described in further detail below:

Amended Franchise Agreement. On February 16, 2021, the City entered into an amended agreement, which requires Athens Services to provide all residential accounts source-separated Organic Waste, including food waste, collection services beginning no later than January 1, 2022. All Organic Waste must be sent for processing at an organic waste processing facility that complies with Senate Bill (SB) 1383. Similarly, the amended agreement requires Athens Services to provide source-separated Organic Waste services in 64-gallon carts weekly as a default service for commercial customers.

Revision of Solid Waste Management Ordinance. The City revised the municipal code Title 6, Chapter 2, Article C, to require organic material generators to fully comply with SB 1383 regulatory requirements or be subject to the penalties prescribed in Section 18997.2. These revisions went into effect on April 1, 2021.

San Gabriel Valley Regional Food Recovery Program. SB 1383 set a target for statewide recovery of at least 20 percent of edible food that would otherwise be sent to landfills by 2025. The Solid Waste Committee organized by SGVCOG, began meeting monthly, during the Spring of 2021, to discuss potential regional solutions to the edible food recovery component of SB 1383. In late fall, a consultant was selected to assist participating cities with the development and implementation of a compliant edible food recovery program. The program will include compliance and capacity assessments, public outreach and education, and the development of a final report. In addition, inspection and enforcement of food recovery program may be administered by SGVCOG staff.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to the City. Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this submittal, please don't hesitate to reach out directly.

Sincerely,



Carrie Baxter | Project Manager
R3 Consulting Group, Inc.

[REDACTED]



CITY OF
T O R R A N C E

PATRICK J. FUREY
MAYOR

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS
HEIDI ANN ASHCRAFT
GEORGE CHEN
TIM GOODRICH
MIKE GRIFFITHS
SHARON KALANI
AURELIO MATTUCCI

October 8, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street
11th Floor- Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

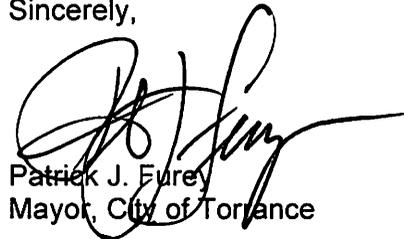
**RE: 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report
A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste**

Honorable Presiding Judge and Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury:

The City of Torrance has received and reviewed the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report on A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste document. Attached is the written response of the City of Torrance to the recommendations pertaining to the City contained in the Grand Jury report.

Please feel free to contact me or Eleanor B. Jones at [REDACTED], should you have any questions about this submittal.

Sincerely,



Patrick J. Furey
Mayor, City of Torrance

Enclosure: Response to recommendations on A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste

**Response to 2019-2020 Grand Jury Report
'A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste'
City of Torrance, CA**

Recommendation 1.1

Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

City of Torrance Staff is in agreement with the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury that a weekly food waste drop-off center could be established within the City of Torrance. However, this may require significant additional analysis.

The City sponsors a Farmer's Market at Charles H. Wilson Park that is open every Tuesday and Saturday and may look into the viability of a program that accepts food waste at the Farmer's Market and utilizes the food waste as compost at local community gardens.

Currently, due to restrictions put in place by Los Angeles County Health, patrons are not allowed to eat on-site at the Farmer's Market. Once these restrictions are lifted, the Sanitation and Parks Divisions for the City of Torrance may jointly examine the equipment, labor, costs and concerns associated with operating a "food waste to compost" drop off location at the Farmers Market.

The primary concerns that would be examined would concern contamination levels especially of non-compostable items such as bio-plastics and trash; monitoring of the material that is accepted to ensure there is no unwanted food waste such as meat and animal waste; strong odors that may impact neighborhoods; and proper utilization of the compost in accordance with the California Department of Food and Agriculture standards.

Recommendation 1.3

County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the City of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's *Foodscraps* program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

City of Torrance Staff agrees with the premise of the recommendation. However, providing a financial incentive to promote food waste recycling is currently not fiscally viable and the City does not intend to implement the recommendation.

The City of Torrance's disposal rates for green waste will increase approximately 50% on November 1, 2020 and the City may anticipate further increases in disposal cost once food waste is incorporated into the green waste disposal bin. Organics disposal costs for refuse

haulers in Los Angeles County are currently higher than disposal costs for refuse due to the lack of facilities to process the material within the County and the high costs to transport the material to facilities outside of the County. Based upon these rising cost factors, the City cannot move forward with this recommendation to provide a financial incentive to separate food waste.

Recommendation 1.8

County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its' summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

City of Torrance Staff agrees with the recommendation that all County facilities that provide food service at the facility should have a food waste recycling program. However, City of Torrance Staff is unable to implement the recommendation as the City is unaware of any County buildings in the City of Torrance providing food service to the public.

Recommendation 1.14

Elected official in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organics waste.

City of Torrance Staff agrees that there is a need to site and build new facilities to handle organics waste. The limited infrastructure in place within the County is inadequate to meet the requirements for food waste disposal as mandated through AB 1826 and SB 1383.

City of Torrance Staff could support future legislation, which may aid in siting and building new facilities to handle organics waste.

The 11 recommendations in the 2018 Countywide Organic Waste Management Plan are as follows:

- 1. Commercial Recycling Ordinance: Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes a system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.**

City of Torrance Staff agrees with this recommendation and is incorporating the recommendation in an ordinance to revise the City of Torrance Municipal Code to comply with SB 1383 mandates on organics recycling.

Staff will be proposing to the City Council by September 2021 revisions to Torrance Municipal Code sections 43.6.1-7 and 43.7.1 and anticipates this becoming effective by January 1, 2022 to parallel the implementation of SB 1383.

- 2. SFR Recycling Ordinance: Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement actions as necessary.**

City of Torrance Staff agrees with this recommendation and is incorporating the recommendation in an ordinance to revise the City of Torrance Municipal Code to comply with SB 1383 mandates on organics recycling.

Staff will be proposing to the City Council by September 2021 revisions to Torrance Municipal Code sections 43.6.1-7 and 43.7.1 and anticipates this becoming effective by January 1, 2022 to parallel the implementation of SB 1383.

- 3. Self-Haul Standards: Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.**

City of Torrance Staff agrees with this recommendation and anticipates this will become a requirement in SB 1383 and if not, will incorporate the recommendation in an ordinance to revise the City of Torrance Municipal Code to comply with SB 1383 mandates on organics recycling.

Staff will be proposing to the City Council by September 2021 revisions to Torrance Municipal Code sections 43.6.1-7 and 43.7.1 and anticipates this becoming effective by January 1, 2022 to parallel the implementation of SB 1383.

- 4. Flow Control: Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.**

City of Torrance Staff agrees with this recommendation and anticipates this will become a requirement in SB 1383 and if not, will incorporate the recommendation in an ordinance to revise the City of Torrance Municipal Code to comply with SB 1383 mandates on organics recycling. The City will require that private haulers direct their material to qualified, CalRecycle approved facilities, for composting or processing.

Staff will be proposing to the City Council by September 2021 revisions to Torrance Municipal Code sections 43.6.1-7 and 43.7.1 and anticipates this becoming effective by January 1, 2022 to parallel the implementation of SB 1383

- 5. Contract Modification: Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.**

City of Torrance Staff agrees with this recommendation and is incorporating the recommendation in an ordinance to revise the City of Torrance Municipal Code to comply with SB 1383 mandates on organics recycling.

Staff will be proposing to the City Council by September 2021 revisions to Torrance Municipal Code sections 43.6.1-7 and 43.7.1 and anticipates this becoming effective by January 1, 2022 to parallel the implementation of SB 1383.

While the City of Torrance currently does not have collection contracts or franchise agreements with private haulers, language will be placed into the Torrance Municipal Code to ensure that private haulers comply with all State mandates regarding the collection of organics and recycling.

6. **Exclusive Commercial Hauling: Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.**

City of Torrance Staff agrees with this recommendation and is incorporating the recommendation in an ordinance to revise the City of Torrance Municipal Code to comply with SB 1383 mandates on organics recycling.

Staff will be proposing to the City Council by September 2021 revisions to Torrance Municipal Code sections 43.6.1-7 and 43.7.1 and anticipates this becoming effective by January 1, 2022 to parallel the implementation of SB 1383.

While the City of Torrance currently does not have collection contracts or franchise agreements with private haulers, language will be placed into the Torrance Municipal Code to ensure that private haulers comply with all State mandates regarding the collection of organics and recycling.

7. **Source Separated Organics Collection: Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.**

The City of Torrance Staff agrees with this recommendation and is incorporating the recommendation in an ordinance to revise the City of Torrance Municipal Code to comply with SB 1383 mandates on organics recycling.

Staff will be proposing to the City Council by September 2021 revisions to Torrance Municipal Code sections 43.6.1-7 and 43.7.1 and anticipates this becoming effective by January 1, 2022 to parallel the implementation of SB 1383.

While the City of Torrance currently does not have collection contracts or franchise agreements with private haulers, language will be placed into the Torrance Municipal

Code to ensure that private haulers comply with all State mandates regarding the collection of organics and recycling.

8. **Wet/Dry Collection: Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.**

City of Torrance Staff agrees with this recommendation and is incorporating the recommendation in an ordinance to revise the City of Torrance Municipal Code to comply with SB 1383 mandates on organics recycling.

Staff will be proposing to the City Council by September 2021 revisions to Torrance Municipal Code sections 43.6.1-7 and 43.7.1 and anticipates this becoming effective by January 1, 2022 to parallel the implementation of SB 1383.

While the City of Torrance currently does not have collection contracts or franchise agreements with private haulers, language will be placed into the Torrance Municipal Code to ensure that private haulers comply with all State mandates regarding the collection of organics and recycling.

9. **Incentives: Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.**

City of Torrance Staff agrees with the premise of the recommendation. However, providing a financial incentive or subsidy to promote food waste recycling is currently not fiscally viable and the City of Torrance does not intend to implement the recommendation.

The City of Torrance's disposal rates for green waste will increase approximately 50% on November 1, 2020 and the City anticipates further increases in disposal costs once food waste is incorporated into the green waste disposal bin. Organics disposal costs for refuse haulers in Los Angeles County are currently higher than disposal costs for refuse due to the lack of facilities to process the material within the County and the high costs to transport the material to facilities outside of the County. Based upon these rising cost factors, the City cannot move forward with this recommendation to provide a financial incentive to recycle food waste.

10. **Education Only: No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.**

City of Torrance Staff agrees with this recommendation, and in addition to the existing outreach provided by the City, intends to incorporate the recommendation in an

ordinance to revise the City of Torrance Municipal Code to comply with SB 1383 mandates on organics recycling.

Staff will be proposing to the City Council by September 2021 revisions to Torrance Municipal Code sections 43.6.1-7 and 43.7.1 and anticipates this becoming effective by January 1, 2022 to parallel the implementation of SB 1383.

The City and the licensed private haulers have been providing education and outreach to businesses on organics recycling related to AB 1826 since 2016. The City has included fliers in business license renewals that detail the provisions required for businesses to be in compliance for organics recycling. The City also has a dedicated website on the topic <https://www.torranceca.gov/our-city/public-works/mandatory-commerical-organics-recycling>, has mailed and provided brochures to businesses, and provided support to the businesses through phone and e-mail. The City has sent letters for the haulers to use as outreach to their business customers. Additionally, the City has provided information through the Chamber of Commerce, environmental fairs and the Public Works Open House.

The private haulers themselves, as part of their compliance with State and City requirements, have provided assistance and outreach to their City of Torrance customers in the form of on-site visits and consultations on their organics programs and many have their own outreach materials and websites as well. The haulers have been providing information to the City on organics tonnage and the number of customers participating in organics programs since 2016.

11. On-Site Management: Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies.

City of Torrance Staff agrees with this recommendation and in addition to the existing guidance provided to businesses, intends to incorporate the recommendation in an ordinance to revise the City of Torrance Municipal Code to comply with SB 1383 mandates on organics recycling.

Staff will be proposing to the City Council by September 2021 revisions to Torrance Municipal Code sections 43.6.1-7 and 43.7.1 and anticipates this becoming effective by January 1, 2022 to parallel the implementation of SB 1383.

In addition to the on-site visits and consultations on organics programs the private haulers have been providing on AB 1826, the City is also part of the California Green Business Network, which is funded through a grant program that provides hands-on assistance with implementation of environmental program requirements including organics recycling. We hope to expand this program as part of our SB 1383 implementation.



CITY ADMINISTRATION
4305 Santa Fe Avenue, Vernon, California 90058
Telephone (323) 583-8811

October 27, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Your Honor,

Please consider this letter as an official response from the City of Vernon regarding the recommendations outlined in the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury's "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste" report.

The City of Vernon was founded in 1905 and has approximately 200 residents, over 1,800 businesses, and an overall workforce population of nearly 55,000. The City is committed to implementing measures to decrease the amount of organic waste that ends up in landfills to comply with the Senate Bill 1383 mandates.

Recommendation 1.1:

Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

The City disagrees with this recommendation. The City intends to focus its resources on implementing Senate Bill (SB) 1383 organic waste diversion requirements; namely that collection of food waste diversion will be required of all residences multi-family properties and covered commercial generators. Collecting from commercial and residential generators is more likely to be effective than regional drop-off centers.

Exclusively Industrial

Recommendation 1.3:

County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

The City disagrees with this recommendation. Since food waste diversion is mandated by SB 1383, incentives are not necessary. Collection of food waste will be required of all residences, multi-family properties, and covered commercial generators under SB 1383.

Recommendation 1.8:

County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people¹⁴² for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite,¹⁴³ and traditionally draws large pre-concert picknicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

The City cannot comment on the practices within County facilities. Under SB 1383, there are specific food waste and edible food recovery requirements for events and venues. The City intends to adopt these requirements for events and venues as part of a regulatory overhaul planned during 2021.

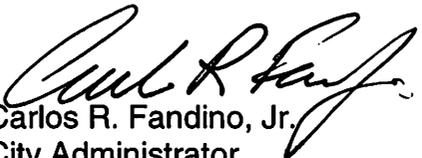
Recommendation 1.14:

Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan¹⁴⁶ and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

The City agrees with this recommendation. The City will adopt the suggestions from the Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan that align with the recent State legislation that mandates organics recycling. The need for increased capacity and new infrastructure to handle organics should be a priority throughout the County and State.

The City of Vernon appreciates and values the review by the Grand Jury regarding this important issue. The City looks forward to working with our County and city partners to address reducing the waste stream that all Los Angeles County residents currently experience. Thank you again to the Grand Jury for their efforts.

Respectfully submitted,


Carlos R. Fandino, Jr.
City Administrator



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Mayor, Eric Ching
Mayor Pro Tem, Allen Wu
Council Member, Linda Freedman
Council Member, Robert Pacheco
Council Member, Nancy Tragarz

CITY OF WALNUT

October 21, 2021

Mr. Thomas O'Shaughnessy,
Foreperson
2021-2022 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury
222 South Hill Street
Sixth Floor, Suite 670
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Via Email: [REDACTED]

Subject: Response to 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Final Report
"A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

Dear Foreperson:

As requested in your letter dated September 17, 2021, the City of Walnut respectfully submits this response to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8 and 1.14 of the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Final Report "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste."

RECOMMENDATION 1.1

Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

Response

The City of Walnut has joined the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) Regional Food Recovery Program which will significantly reduce the amount of food waste in the area. Additionally, in preparation for SB 1383 regulations, Walnut is working with our franchise hauler, Valley Vista Services, to provide a curbside option for food waste recovery; eliminating the need for a drop-off location.

RECOMMENDATION 1.3

County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

Response

With SB 1383 regulations, organic recycling will become mandatory for all residents and businesses in Walnut in 2022. The City will develop marketing and community outreach programs designed to encourage and better ensure compliance from residents and businesses that may or may not include financial incentives. Further, through participation in the SGVCOG program, there may be opportunities to streamline marketing and educational outreach efforts.

RECOMMENDATION 1.8

County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people¹⁴² for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, ¹⁴³ and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.

Response

This recommendation is not applicable to the City of Walnut.

RECOMMENDATION 1.14

Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

#1 COMMERCIAL RECYCLING ORDINANCE

Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

Response

Walnut will adopt a comprehensive organic waste recycling ordinance to comply with SB 1383, this will include commercial businesses. A Study Session regarding SB 1383 will be conducted on October 27, 2021 and the comprehensive recycling ordinance will be adopted prior to January 1, 2022.

#2 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE (SFR) RECYCLING ORDINANCE

Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to SFR dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units. Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

Response

The City of Walnut will adopt a comprehensive organic waste recycling ordinance to comply with SB 1383 which will apply to both commercial and residential customers. A Study Session regarding SB 1383 will be conducted on October 27, 2021 and the comprehensive recycling ordinance will be adopted prior to January 1, 2022.

#3 SELF-HAUL STANDARDS

Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.

Response

Walnut's exclusive franchise hauler, Valley Vista Services, is in the process of building an Organics Extraction Facility to recover and break down organic waste. We will explore the option of providing the facility as a self-haul option to contractors and residents in Walnut if needed.

#4 FLOW CONTROL

Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.

Response

Walnut's exclusive franchise hauler, Valley Vista Services, is in the process of building an Organics Extraction Facility to recover and break down organic waste. It is anticipated that all organic waste generated in Walnut will go to this facility.

#5 CONTRACT MODIFICATION

Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

Response

SB 1383 requires contract modification of solid waste contracts. Walnut is working with Valley Vista Services to amend the current contract with these modifications.

#6 EXCLUSIVE COMMERCIAL HAULING

Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

Response

The City will work with Valley Vista Services to amend the current exclusive contract to include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance, and enforcement actions.

#7 SOURCE SEPARATED ORGANICS COLLECTION

Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

Response

Walnut is working with Valley Vista Services, its exclusive franchise hauler, to amend the current contract with these modifications. Valley Vista Services is in the process of building an Organics Extraction Facility to recover and break down organic waste. All organic material will be delivered to this Facility. It is projected that 90% of organic waste will be recovered at that Facility; exceeding requirements.

#8 WET/DRY COLLECTION

Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.

Response

Walnut is working with Valley Vista Services to provide wet/dry collection services to commercial customers.

#9 INCENTIVES

Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.

Response

Organics collection will be city wide and will be required in accordance with the comprehensive organic waste recycling ordinance to be adopted prior to January 1, 2022. The City will develop marketing and community outreach programs designed to encourage and better ensure compliance from residents and businesses that may or may not include financial incentives.

#10 EDUCATION ONLY

No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.

Thomas O'Shaughnessy, Foreperson
October 21, 2021
Page 5

Response

Valley Vista Services will assist Walnut in our efforts to monitor compliance and distribute public education materials regarding organic collection and recycling to residential and commercial customers.

#11 ON-SITE MANAGEMENT

Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies

Response

Valley Vista Services and the City will provide with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Z. Leibold

Barbara Z. Leibold
City Attorney, City of Walnut

cc: Mayor Ching and City Council Members
City Manager Rob Wishner
City Clerk Teresa DeDios
Assistant City Manager- Community Services Director Mary Rooney
Melissa Barcelo, Community Services Superintendent



Office of the Mayor

October 27, 2020

The Honorable Presiding Judge Kevin C. Brazile
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple St., 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: City of West Covina's Response to Civil Grand Jury Report Entitled "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

Dear Judge Brazile:

The City of West Covina has reviewed the Los Angeles County Grand Jury Report entitled "A Diet For Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste", issued July 31, 2020 (the "Report"). The Report contains valuable information regarding the impact of food waste in landfills. The City has a long-term franchise agreement with Athens Services for waste disposal and recycling. The Report included four specific recommendations that apply to all 88 cities in the County. The City's responses to the applicable recommendations included in the Report are as follows:

Recommendation 1.1: *Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.*

City's Response: **The recommendation requires further analysis.**

The City will work with Athens Services and with the Local Farmer's Market operator to explore the feasibility and viability of establishing a food waste drop off station at the West Covina Farmers Market held each Saturday. The City will make a determination as to the feasibility and viability of such drop off station by January 31, 2021.

Recommendation 1.3: *County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.*

City's Response: The recommendation requires further analysis.

The City will work with Athens Services to explore the feasibility and viability of establishing a food waste diversion incentive program for both residents and commercial establishments. The City will make a determination as to the feasibility and viability of such program by January 31, 2021.

Recommendation 1.8: *County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.*

City's Response: This recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable.

The City of West Covina supports the recommendations outlined in Recommendation 1.8. However, the City will not be implementing the recommendation because it pertains to County facilities, over which the City has no jurisdiction. To the extent the County's implementation of the recommendation requires collaboration by the City, the City will collaborate with the County on such implementation.

Recommendation 1.14: *Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.*

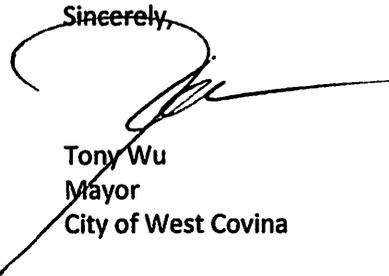
City's Response: The recommendation requires further analysis.

The City will review and discuss the 11 suggestions in the Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan to determine the suggestions and strategies that best fit the City of West Covina. The City will discuss the 11 suggestions by January 31, 2021.

This Report highlights an important issue that will need to be balanced against other issues the City is currently addressing. The City looks forward to working with the County and Athens Services to address the matter of food waste in landfills.

If you have any questions, please contact Mark Persico, Assistant City Manager, at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED].

Sincerely,



Tony Wu
Mayor
City of West Covina

cc: City Clerk
Athens Services



City of West Hollywood

ATTACHMENT A

City Hall
8300 Santa Monica Blvd.
West Hollywood, CA
90069-6216
Tel. (323) 848-6460
FAX (323) 848 6562

CITY COUNCIL

LINDSEY P. HORVATH
Mayor

JOHN HEILMAN
Mayor Pro Tempore

JOHN J. DURAN
Councilmember

JOHN D'AMICO
Councilmember

LAUREN MEISTER
Councilmember

September 22, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: City of West Hollywood's Response to County of Los Angeles
Civil Grand Jury Report Entitled "A Diet for Landfills"

Honorable Judge:

On July 8, 2020, the County of Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury issued its report entitled "A Diet for Landfills" (the "Report"). In the Report, the Civil Grand Jury recommends that cities and districts in Los Angeles County recommend a public education campaign around food waste that creates drop-off food waste centers in more areas of the County and provides financial incentives, as well as County-owned facilities "leading by example" in recycling food waste.

At the conclusion of the Report, the Civil Grand Jury requested a response from the City to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, and 1.14. We provide the following responses to these Recommendations in accordance with Penal Code §933.05.

Recommendations:

1.1 *Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.*

Section 933.05. Responses to recommendations:

- a. (1) The respondent agrees with the recommendation.
- b. (3) The recommendation requires further analysis, with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or head of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable.

This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.

The City of West Hollywood's franchise solid waste hauler, Athens Services has the infrastructure and capacity to assist the City with this directive. Athens has been collecting food waste in West Hollywood since 2004. Food waste collected in the City is then transported to American Organics, our composting facility. Our nutrient rich compost is then utilized in various capacities, through compost giveaways in the City, and is utilized by many agriculture companies throughout the state. This closed loop process is unique to Athens Services, and enhances the City of West Hollywood's waste and recycling program.

Athens Services will work with the City of West Hollywood to determine if there is a place for a food waste drop-off center. In addition, the City and Athens will soon commence a meet and confer process, which will include discussion and planning for implementation of a curbside food waste collection program, to enhance the commercial organics program. The meet and confer is expected to be completed by end of 2020, with any new programming implemented by July 1, 2021.

1.2 *County officials should initiate programs using composting technology (such as Compostology137 or Earth Cube138) that can compact food waste and can be easily installed in offices and schools.*

Not applicable.

1.3 *County and City officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.*

Section 933.05. Responses to recommendations:

- c. (1) The respondent agrees with the recommendation.
- d. (3) The recommendation requires further analysis, with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or head of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable.

This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.

As part of Athens Services' outreach and education program, customers are encouraged to participate in food recovery programs. This is important because it incentivizes customers to remove edible food from the waste stream, ultimately providing savings to the customer with their refuse bill. The City of West Hollywood and Athens Services will soon be launching a residential food waste program and will develop effective outreach and education programs to continue encouraging participation.

1.4 County officials should work with community colleges and workforce training programs, to increase classes about food waste recycling and careers in waste management that focus on diversion and conversion technologies.

Not applicable.

1.5 County officials should create a garden/compost program at Pitchess Detention Center in Castaic and investigate the option of a garden at some or all of the juvenile detention facilities.

Not Applicable.

1.6 The County Department of Public Health should develop a program to train its 300 food inspectors as "ambassadors" when they are in the field. The inspectors need to be armed with the Food DROP brochure, 141 as well as information about how that establishment can safely separate and recycle any food waste. (This recommendation is also for Long Beach and Pasadena, which have their own Public Health departments.)

Not applicable.

1.7 The County Department of Public Health should take the lead in creating a food waste education component as part of its permit process required for all outdoor public events that will be serving food. Department officials can work with the event manager ahead of time to plan for excess edible food donation, and for how food waste will be collected and separated. (This recommendation is also for Long Beach and Pasadena, which have their own Public Health departments.)

Not applicable.

1.8 *County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, 143 and traditionally draws large pre-concert picknicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign.*

Section 933.05. Responses to recommendations:

- a. (1) The respondent agrees with the recommendation.
- b. (1) The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action.

Athens Services currently provides source separated recycling for all special, large scale events in the City. This includes events such as LA Pride, and the City's annual Halloween celebration. Athens team members meet with event planners to coordinate resources needed for the event, such as educational materials (signage) and source separated containers. In addition, a report is provided to the City after each event, detailing the amount of waste collected (refuse, recyclables and food waste), as well as the overall diversion for the event.

1.9 *The County Board of Supervisors should require that the vendor operating the Hall of Administration cafeteria institute procedures to separate food waste, both in the food prep area, and in the dining room.*

Not applicable.

1.10 *The City of Los Angeles should partner with LA Compost to expand that organization's footprint in the city to increase its capacity to collect and compost food waste.*

Not applicable.

1.11 *The City of Los Angeles should work with its 99 Neighborhood Councils to increase public education around food waste separation/recycling programs.*

Not applicable.

1.12 *All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school and monitor edible food recovery efforts.*

Not applicable.

1.13 *All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).*

Not applicable.

1.14 *Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.*

Responses To The Los Angeles County Organic Waste Management Plan

- 1) ***Commercial Recycling Ordinance:*** *Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.*

Section 933.05. Responses to recommendations:

- a. (1) The respondent agrees with the recommendation.
- b. TBD

Athens Services has been providing organic food waste collection for all restaurants in the City of West Hollywood since 2004, and has positioned the City of West Hollywood to be one of the few LA County cities, early on, to have a food waste program in place. Athens Services has the infrastructure and capacity to continue to provide organic waste collection and processing, as well as methods to quantify recovery, and monitor compliance to help West Hollywood meet their waste and recycling goals

- 2) ***SFR Recycling Ordinance:*** *Adopt an ordinance establishing organic collection requirements on properties not subject to AB 1826 including but not limited to single- family residential (SFR) dwellings and multi-family residential dwellings with 2-4 units.*

Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

Section 933.05. Responses to recommendations:

- a. (1) The respondent agrees with the recommendation.
- b. TBD

The City and Athens will soon commence a meet and confer process, which will include discussion and planning for implementation of a curbside food waste collection program, to enhance the commercial organics program. The meet and confer is expected to be completed by end of 2020, with any new programming implemented by July 1, 2021. This will include methodology for quantifying recovery, and monitoring compliance.

- 3) ***Self-Haul Standards:*** *Establish standards or requirements for self-haul (landscapers and other qualified providers) to meet recycling requirements. Includes reporting requirements and audit procedures to ensure minimum standards are being met as well as licensing requirements.*

Section 933.05. Responses to recommendations:

- a. (1) The respondent disagrees with the recommendation.
- b. TBD

Establishing a system to regulate self-haul landscapers would be very challenging logistically. The sheer volume of unlicensed gardening, and landscaping contractors in the greater Los Angeles area alone would make this very difficult. It would require a significant amount of staff effort to manage. Requiring registration at disposal facilities is likely a more reasonable, and statistically accurate option.

- 4) ***Flow Control:*** *Flow control to direct material collected to qualified processing or composting facilities.*

Section 933.05. Responses to recommendations:

- a. (1) The respondent agrees with the recommendation.
- b. The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action.

As per Section 8 of the City's franchise agreement with Athens Services, the City has the option to direct and/or approve which facilities Athens shall use.

- 5) ***Contract Modification:*** *Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to include specified recycling requirements. Such action may include contract language modifications, separation of commercial/multi-family collection into separate contract(s), extension of existing contracts or franchises or qualified licensing. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

Section 933.05. Responses to recommendations:

- a. (1) The respondent agrees with the recommendation.
- b. The recommendation requires further analysis.

The City's current agreement with Athens Services includes specific collection, diversion and reporting requirements, and enforcement actions. In addition, the City and Athens will soon commence a meet and confer to revisit the contract to provide additional changes to meet new legislative mandates, as well as address the impacts to the recycling industry.

- 6) ***Exclusive Commercial Hauling:*** *Establish new trash collection contracts or franchises with commercial or other exclusivity clauses and specified recycling requirements. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

Section 933.05. Responses to recommendations:

- a. (1) The respondent agrees with the recommendation.
- b. The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action.

The City's franchise solid waste agreement is exclusive to commercial hauling (except for construction, and demolition debris). The current agreement does specify collection, diversion, and reporting requirements, as well as enforcement actions.

- 7) **Source Separated Organics Collection:** *Modify existing contract or establish a new trash collection contract or franchise to require the hauler to provide separate collection of organic waste to entities (i.e., residential and commercial) that generate organic waste and deliver the material to a qualified organics recycling or composting facility. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

Section 933.05. Responses to recommendations:

- a. (1) The respondent agrees with the recommendation.
- b. The recommendation requires further analysis.

The City will soon begin a meet and confer process with Athens Services which will include a plan for adopting and implementing a source separated organics collection program across all customer sectors. It is anticipated that these new programs will be in place by July 1, 2021.

- 8) **Wet/Dry Collection:** *Require the hauler to provide 2 or more separate bins for wet/dry commercial collection system in which the contents of certain bins are delivered to a materials recovery facility with organics extraction technology. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery, reporting compliance and enforcement actions.*

Section 933.05. Responses to recommendations:

- a. (1) The respondent agrees with the recommendation.
- b. The recommendation requires further analysis.

The City currently has a food waste collection program in place, where material is hauled to a Municipal Recycling Facility (MRF) with organics extraction technology. The City does not have a wet/dry collection in place and will address during the aforementioned meet and confer with Athens Services.

- 9) **Incentives:** *Provides incentives for participation in organics collection by implementing subsidies to offset the incremental costs of collection, separation and processing of organics to the degree necessary to change behavior and establish a successful base program. Should include provisions for quantifying recovery and reporting compliance to maintain eligibility for incentives.*

Section 933.05. Responses to recommendations:

- a. (1) The respondent agrees with the recommendation.
- b. The recommendation requires further analysis.

As part of Athens Services' outreach and education program, customers are encouraged to participate in food recovery programs. This is important because it incentivizes customers to remove edible food from the waste stream, ultimately providing savings to the customer with their refuse bill. The City of West Hollywood and Athens Services will soon be launching a residential food waste program and will develop effective outreach and education programs to continue encouraging participation.

- 10) ***Education Only:*** No change to contracts but educate businesses to comply with the law. Includes business compliance monitoring and identification of resources that would be made available to businesses to ensure compliance and build program support.

Section 933.05. Responses to recommendations:

- a. (1) The respondent agrees with the recommendation.
- b. The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action.

Athens Services currently provides a comprehensive outreach, and education program to commercial customers. This includes site visits, waste assessments and ongoing training for customer staff. Athens gathers and maintains business information (types of programs in place, 3rd party recycling, etc.) for each customer. In addition, Athens periodically distributes newsletters to commercial customers, and includes legislative information in customer invoices.

- 11) ***On-Site Management:*** Provide businesses with guidance/assistance in the implementation of scalable on-site organics management aggregation methods and available technologies

Section 933.05. Responses to recommendations:

- a. (1) The respondent agrees with the recommendation.

- b. The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action.

Athens Services has an outreach team that works with individual businesses to assist in establishing their organics program. Support provided includes onsite training (bilingual support), printed materials, and recommendations for equipment (when applicable).

We thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Report. Should you have any further questions or desire any further information, please contact me or City Manager, Paul Arevalo.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lindsey P. Horvath', written in a cursive style.

Lindsey P. Horvath, Mayor

cc: West Hollywood City Council
Paul Arevalo, City Manager
Jackie Rocco, Director of Public Works
Judith Krimmel, Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Foreperson



City of Whittier

13230 Penn Street, Whittier, California 90602-1772
(562) 567-9999 www.cityofwhittier.org

Joe Vinatieri
Mayor

Henry Bouchot
Mayor Pro Tem

Cathy Warner
Council Member

Jessica Martinez
Council Member

Fernando Dutra
Council Member

Brian Saeki
City Manager

October 29, 2020

VIA EMAIL

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste – Response

Dear Presiding Judge:

Below is the City of Whittier’s response to the recommendations made in the Civil Grand Jury Report, A Diet For Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste.

Recommendation – Disagree

1.1 Each of the 88 cities, and the County’s unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer’s market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting.

Brief reason for agreement or disagreement: A weekly food waste drop-off center would likely result in minimal diversion, possible contamination, hazardous inputs and expenditure of City resources that are already designated for more effective programs. The City’s Public Works Department will focus on establishing comprehensive organics recycling systems to maximize organics diversion and participation. The City is mandated by state law SB 1383 to establish residential and commercial organics recycling programs that must be in place by January 1, 2022. The final rule for SB 1383 has not yet been finalized. The City’s franchise haulers already offer commercial organics recycling service. Residential organics recycling systems will be in place and ready to commence no later than January 1, 2022.

Recommendation - Disagree

1.3 County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee.

Brief reason for agreement or disagreement: Since food waste diversion is mandated by law for those meeting a certain generation threshold under AB 1826, no incentives are necessary. Starting in January 2022, collection of food waste will be required of all residences, multi-family properties, and covered commercial generators under SB 1383. The City's Public Works Department will focus on establishing comprehensive organics recycling systems to maximize organics diversion and participation as mandated by state law SB 1383 by January 1, 2022.

Recommendation - Disagree

1.8 Modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling.

Brief reason for agreement or disagreement: This recommendation is not applicable since the City of Whittier has no jurisdiction over LA County facilities. The City of Whittier has no contracts with food vendor companies.

Recommendation – Agree with some, Disagree with others

1.14 Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste.

Brief reason for agreement or disagreement: The City will adopt, as required by state law, many of the suggestions from the Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan if they align with AB 1826 and SB 1383. The City's proposed response to these 11 suggestions is summarized as follows:

Suggestions Already Implemented:

- 3 – Self-Haul Standards
- 4 – Flow Control
- 5 – Contract Modification
- 6 – Exclusive Commercial Hauling
- 7 – Source Separated Organics Collection
- 10 – Education Only
- 11 – On-Site Management

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Presiding Judge LA Superior Court
October 29, 2020

Suggestions that will be implemented by January 1, 2022 as required by SB1383:

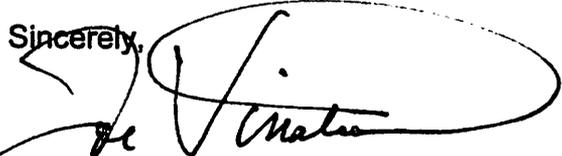
- 1 – Commercial Recycling Ordinance
- 2 – Single Family Residential Recycling Ordinance

Suggestions the City Disagrees with Implementing:

- 8 – Wet/Dry Collection – The City's franchise hauler already provides source separated organics collection, therefore wet/dry collection to MRFs is not necessary.
- 9 – Incentives – The City does not support providing incentives since organics recycling will be mandatory under SB 1383 by January 1, 2022.

In addition, the City Council is very supportive of actions that will increase the capacity to handle organic waste, including siting and building new facilities.

Sincerely,



Joe Vinatieri
Mayor

cc: Brian Saeki, City Manager
Kyle Cason, Director of Public Works

PART 3 -- SCHOOL DISTRICTS



ABC Unified School District

16700 Norwalk Boulevard, Cerritos, CA 90703 (562) 926-5566

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dr. Chris Apodaca • Brad Beach • Dr. Michael Eugenio
Ernie Nishii • Dr. Olga Rios
Sophia Tse • Soo Yoo

**Superintendent
Dr. Mary Sieu**

W

October 4, 2021

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012



**Re: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury**

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of ABC Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mary Sieu
Superintendent

[TN]
Enclosure

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 4, 2021
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RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴ www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

¹⁴⁵ <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
"School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success" (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented, but the District intends to implement the recommendation in the future. Current gardening and composting efforts by schools in other districts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

Presiding Judge
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RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented, but the District intends to implement the recommendation in the future. Current gardening and composting efforts by schools in other districts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop a garden/compost program that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
Denise R. Jaramillo

ALHAMBRA

UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

1515 West Mission Road, Alhambra, CA 91803
Phone: (626) 943-3330 FAX: (626) 943-8050

October 30, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Alhambra Unified School District (the "District"), attached is our response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

Denise Jaramillo
Superintendent

[DJ]
Enclosure

BOARD OF EDUCATION
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"EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER"

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
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Page 2

Alhambra Unified School District has reviewed the Civil Grand Jury report, "A Diet for Landfills-". The District understands that minimizing food waste is an important aspect of running a school Food and Nutrition Program. Alhambra has a commitment to creating a school culture of reducing food waste. We also understand that each District, as well as each school within a District has different challenges in implementing a "one size fits all" approach. As a District, we believe that we understand the capabilities and resources available in implementing a program that is most efficient in reducing food waste at a local level. To that end, the District has already increased awareness among students and staff as well as created programs to help move toward the goal of food waste reduction. The District, therefore, does not fully agree with the recommendations set forth in the Grand Jury Report but has outlined the steps it has taken as well as our plans for the future. Due to the current pandemic, some of these programs may be delayed or affected.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴ www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

¹⁴⁵ <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
"School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success" (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District partially agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented, but the District intends to implement the recommendation in the future. Current gardening and composting efforts by schools in other districts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

Presiding Judge
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We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. The District will not implement the recommendation. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

Existing Programs Operated by the School District (Pre-pandemic)

The following are programs that the District participated in before the pandemic and may continue in the future if health orders and capacity allow.

Food Recovery Program partnership with the Tzu Chi Foundation. Through this partnership, certain types of unused food are picked up from designated school sites on a scheduled basis by the Tzu Chi Foundation for distribution to persons in need throughout the community. This program minimizes food waste and provides the food to an organization with the capacity for distribution where it is most needed. This program has been halted as there is no in person instruction and therefore no food waste at the site level. This program will be reevaluated in light if COVID-19 once in person instruction resumes.

Share tables - Prior to COVID-19 the Alhambra Unified School District had an established process at each site in which unused food is “donated” to a share table where other students are able to access the food and therefore minimize food waste. As students are currently in distance learning, the District is not operating this program. Once in class instruction resumes the District

will have to reevaluate whether this program is achievable while still following all necessary mandated health guidelines.

Future plans for composting program and minimizing food waste

The District in partnership with its waste management service provider will develop a program in which unused food can be composted. The District operates a Central Production Kitchen where all food is prepared and then delivered to the various schools within the District for distribution and serving to the students.

The District will partner with our contracted waste management provider in order to produce compost that will be used by the District at various sites when needed. As previously mentioned, neither the school sites nor the District has the capacity to run a program directly. Therefore, the waste management company will pick up food waste which will be separated at the Central Kitchen. The waste management company will then use the organic food waste to prepare compost. When the District is in need of compost for a particular project whether it be a student garden or through the facilities department, the District will request a specific amount of compost. The waste management company will then deliver the needed amount of compost. This process will be more effective and efficient than having a separate composting program at the site level.

Educational Programs

The District understands the role education plays in the long term success of minimizing food waste. We understand that in order to create lasting change, appropriate education should be provided to future generations. As a District, we believe that part of our role is to educate our students in this manner.

Field Trips- By working with our waste management company, we intend to schedule field trips (in person or virtual) to the waste management facilities in order to provide a better understanding of the waste management and composting process. This will in turn provide a learning opportunity as well as awareness for our students. The District will supply signs at the sites to indicate that compost is supplied by our food composting program.

Program with LIFT students- The LIFT (Learning Independence For Transition) program for adult students, can assist the Central Kitchen with a composting program when appropriate. When students are available they will assist in food separation so that food is separated and the food waste company can appropriately repurpose and create compost.

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Student Clubs- The District has various student-run clubs. Some of these clubs focus on environmental and community-based initiatives. The District will work with these clubs in order to provide student groups with the knowledge and understanding of details involved with implementation of a school-wide food recovery and composting program. One way the District will do this is by offering compost bins for organic food waste, when a student group takes ownership of the project.

Conclusion

With the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste, the District will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs. Each program will be evaluated based on mandated guidelines from the health department along with capacity within the District to accomplish the programs.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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DR. VICTORIA M. RUFFIN
JOHN RUSH
DONITA J. WINN

County of Los Angeles
Civil Grand Jury
222 South Hill Street, Sixth Floor Suite 670
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: AVUHSD response to 'A Diet for Landfills' Grand Jury Report
Attn.: Mr. Thomas O'Shaughnessy, Foreperson

ADMINISTRATION

SHANDELYN WILLIAMS
Interim Superintendent
GREG NEHEN
Interim Deputy Superintendent
BRETT NEAL
Assistant Superintendent
Personnel Services
BRIAN HAWKINS
Assistant Superintendent
Business Services

Mr. O'Shaughnessy,

This letter is in response to items 1.12 and 1.13 from the Antelope Valley Union High School District.

Overview: The District has 16 School sites, with 8 comprehensive high schools, the others are smaller sites primarily used for Alternative Education or Special education. Only the comprehensive sites have fully operational kitchens, all others have only a food service set up.

Pre-COVID, AVUHSD had 3 school sites with Agricultural Programs that have an operational Crop Box (trade name for a small greenhouse) which allowed students the opportunity to grow and cultivate different crops. Since the return to school for students, we have been unable to operate these facilities due to the LA County Department of Health operational guidelines for growing and serving the byproducts from the Crop Box.

AVUHSD began (pre-COVID) working with both the City of Lancaster and Waste Management on a Single Stream recycling program for food waste products. The District has always operated a "food share" table at all food of our cafeterias and food service operations, where students would put unwanted food on a table, then other students could take and consume the items.

1.12: The District has found that a composting program of a size that would accommodate the food waste becomes difficult to maintain due to the labor required. We have not found a sufficient number of students willing to assist in the process of composting to keep it viable.

1.13: AVUHSD is a High School District which does not offer after school daycare options for students.

The Antelope Valley Union High School District appreciates the opportunity to provide comment for this Grand Jury report.

Sincerely,

Brian Hawkins
Assistant Superintendent Business Services



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JILL MCGRADY
AMANDA L. PARRELL
DR. VICTORIA M. RUFFIN
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DONITA J. WINN

County of Los Angeles
Civil Grand Jury
222 South Hill Street, Sixth Floor Suite 670
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: AVUHSD response to 'A Diet for Landfills' Grand Jury Report
Attn.: Mr. Thomas O'Shaughnessy, Foreperson

Mr. O'Shaughnessy,

ADMINISTRATION

SHANDELYN WILLIAMS
Interim Superintendent
GREG NEHEN
Interim Deputy Superintendent
BRETT NEAL
Assistant Superintendent
Personnel Services
BRIAN HAWKINS
Assistant Superintendent
Business Services

This letter is in response to items 1.12 and 1.13 from the Antelope Valley Union High School District.

Overview: The District has 16 School sites, with 8 comprehensive high schools, the others are smaller sites primarily used for Alternative Education or Special education. Only the comprehensive sites have fully operational kitchens, all others have only a food service set up.

Pre-COVID, AVUHSD had 3 school sites with Agricultural Programs that have an operational Crop Boxe (trade name for a small greenhouse) which allowed students the opportunity to grow and cultivate different crops. Since the return to school for students, we have been unable to operate these facilities due to the LA County Department of Health operational guidelines for growing and serving the byproducts from the Cop Box.

AVUHSD began (pre-COVID) working with both the City of Lancaster and Waste Management on a Single Stream recycling program for food waste products. The District has always operated a "food share" table at all food of our cafeterias and food service operations, where students would put unwanted food on a table, then other students could take and consume the items.

1.12: The District has found that a composting program of a size that would accommodate the food waste becomes difficult to maintain due to the labor required. We have not found a sufficient number of students willing to assist in the process of composting to keep it viable.

1.13: AVUHSD is a High School District which does not offer after school daycare options for students.

The Antelope Valley Union High School District appreciates the opportunity to provide comment for this Grand Jury report.

Sincerely,

Brian Hawkins
Assistant Superintendent Business Services





Azusa

Unified School District

Board of Education

Jeri Bibles-Vogel, PRESIDENT
Gabriela Arellanes, VICE PRESIDENT
Adrian Greer, CLERK
Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez, MEMBER
Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña, MEMBER
Arturo Ortega, SUPERINTENDENT

July 20, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Response to Los Angeles Grand Jury Report, "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

To the Honorable Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

In accordance with California Penal Code section 933.05, the Los Angeles County Grand Jury has requested that the Azusa Unified School District respond to findings and recommendations in the 2019-20 Los Angeles Grand Jury Report entitled, "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste."

Recommendation 1.12 All 80 school districts in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school and monitor edible food recovery efforts.

Response to Recommendation 1.12: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not reasonable in these unprecedented times. School districts in California are faced with the overwhelming task of implementing distance learning due to the current orders of the Governor, California Department of Public Health, and the county health officer to stop the spread of COVID-19 and keep schools closed until the pandemic is under control. It is unknown how long it will be before school districts will be able to reopen schools and bring students and staff back to school and provide in-person learning. School district resources are currently stretched to the limit in terms of personnel, equipment, supplies, facilities, and fiscal resources, in planning and implementing distance learning and implementing health and safety measures for the eventual return to in-person learning. All of our time and attention is currently being devoted to ensuring the health and safety of our staff, students, and community. The school district does not have the capacity at this time to devote any of its limited resources to developing a garden or compost program at its schools while the school district is coping with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, the recommendation cannot be implemented at this time.

Recommendation 1.13 All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

Response to Recommendation 1.13: The recommendation will not be implemented at this time because it is not reasonable in these unprecedented times. In addition to the reasons stated in the response to Recommendation 1.12, the California Department of Public Health guidelines and the orders of the county health officer make it impractical and unachievable to implement Recommendation 1.13 in our after-school daycare programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arturo Ortega', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Arturo Ortega
Superintendent
Azusa Unified School District

September 16, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shorridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Bassett Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,



Art Cunha, Ed.D.
Interim Superintendent

AC
Enclosure

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
September 16, 2020
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴ www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

¹⁴⁵ <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
“School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success” (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. The District will not implement the recommendation. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
September 16, 2020
Page 3

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. The District will not implement the recommendation. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.



[Via e-mail to civilgrandjury@lacourt.org](mailto:civilgrandjury@lacourt.org)

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Response to Civil Grand Jury Request dated July 8, 2020
A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste

Dear Hon. Kevin C. Brazile:

The Beverly Hills Unified School District serves approximately 3,450 students and consists of two elementary schools, a middle school, and a high school. The District responds to the findings of the Grand Jury as follows:

1. Findings 1.1 through 1.11 are not applicable to the Beverly Hills Unified School District.
2. Findings 1.12 and 1.13 cannot be implemented at the District due to the District's undersized and compact campuses. In addition, the urban setting of the District requires the District to take more care in securing food waste and composting facilities to avoid vermin infestation. Thus, at this time, the District does not intend to implement these findings.

Presently, due to the age of the facilities at the District, configurations for the sorting of trash, recycling and food/organic waste are limited, varying from campus to campus. However, since the District is undergoing a District-wide modernization, it is anticipated that cafeterias in each school will be upgraded with locations to dispose of and properly store food/organic waste. The most recently renovated school, Horace Mann, was modernized to include a separate food/organic waste bin and handling area. Each of the other schools will receive similar facilities as part of their modernization.

In the meantime, the City of Beverly Hills has been working with their waste hauling service, Athens Services, to provide food/organic waste bins for each campus and a food/organic waste removal service to address food/organic waste. The Beverly Hills Unified School District recognizes that the ability to handle food/organic waste is critical to the proper operation of each school.

The District expects to have all campuses in compliance with AB 1826 through cooperation with the City and Athens Services within the next 6 months.

Please let me know if you should need any clarification on this letter.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL BREGY, Ed.D., SUPERINTENDENT
BEVERLY HILLS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Cc: Heather Oyama
Ken Hass
Terry Tao
Don Blake
James Burnley, City of Beverly Hills



BEVERLY HILLS
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
EDUCATION REIMAGINED

255 SOUTH LASKY DRIVE
BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90212

BHUSD.ORG
310-551-5100

September 24, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of the Beverly Hills Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Bregy".

Dr. Michael Bregy
Superintendent

Enclosure

DR. MICHAEL BREGY SUPERINTENDENT

LAURA CHISM ASST. SUPERINTENDENT, STUDENT SERVICES **J. WADE ROACH** ASST. SUPERINTENDENT, BUSINESS SERVICES

DUSTIN SEEMANN ASST. SUPERINTENDENT, EDUCATION SERVICES **DR. MATTHEW HORVATH** ASST. SUPERINTENDENT, PERSONNEL SERVICES

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
9/24/2020
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

144 www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

145 <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
"School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success" (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not reasonable in these unprecedented times. School districts in California are faced with the overwhelming task of implementing distance learning due to the current orders of the Governor, California Department of Public Health, and the county health officer to stop the spread of COVID-19 and keep schools closed until the pandemic is under control. It is unknown how long it will be before school districts will be able to reopen schools and bring students and staff back to school and provide in-person learning. School district resources are currently stretched to the limit in terms of personnel, equipment, supplies, facilities, and fiscal resources, in planning and implementing distance learning and implementing health and safety measures for the eventual return to in-person learning. All of our time and attention is currently being devoted to ensuring the health and safety of our staff, students, and community. The school district does not have the capacity at this time to devote any of its limited resources to developing a garden or compost program at its schools while the school district is coping with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, the recommendation cannot be implemented at this time.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
9/24/2020
Page 3

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

The recommendation will not be implemented at this time because it is not reasonable in these unprecedented times. In addition to the reasons stated in the response to Recommendation 1.12, the California Department of Public Health guidelines and the orders of the county health officer make it impractical and unachievable to implement Recommendation 1.13 in our after-school daycare programs, which are managed by the City of Beverly Hills.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.



BONITA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

115 West Allen Avenue San Dimas, California 91773 (909) 971-8200 Fax (909) 971-8329

Superintendent
Carl Coles – Superintendent

Assistant Superintendents
Susan Cross Hume – Business Services
Kevin Lee, Ed.D. – Human Resources Development
Matthew Wien – Educational Services

Board of Education
Derek Bahmanou
Krista Chakmak
Chuck Coyne
Glenn Creiman
Diane Koach

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Requested response to A Diet for Landfills; Cutting Down on Food Waste

Recommendations requiring a response from public school districts:

1.12 All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school, and monitor edible food recovery efforts.

1.13 All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

District Response:

Depending on the time available in the educational program, space available on campus, and available resources, each of our schools, as well as our after school child care program, have from time to time maintained gardens that may or may not produce edible plants. Some sites also have fruit trees. In the past, our high schools have grown vegetables and fruits that are used in the culinary arts programs. Some schools have small compost capabilities. However, since the school shutdown on March 13, 2020, very little gardening or composting has taken place.

Before the school shutdown, two of our elementary schools were participating in a pilot program developed by our trash contractor ,Waste Management, in response to AB1826 (AB1826 requires all business that generate more than four cubic yards of organic waste per week to have a way to recycle this material). Students learned about recycling organic waste and sorted their trash at the end of their lunch period. The cost of this program is \$326 per elementary school per month. The estimated annual cost if all schools and offices were put on the program would be over \$63,000 per year.

"Preparing Every Student To Live Their Purpose"

District cafeterias do offer “share” tables and “offer vs. serve” to limit food waste.

Conclusion: To the extent practicable, the recommendations have been implemented. Continuation or expansion of these programs will depend upon the following:

- Time available in the day not needed for students’ core educational programs that could be devoted to gardening. This is determined by teachers and certificated administrators.
- Arable space available on school sites. Not all schools have suitable facilities for gardens.
- Ability to keep gardens from attracting animals onto campus.
- Financial resources at the site level available to purchase gardening equipment and supplies.
- Availability of trained adults to teach/supervise students.
- Available financial resources at the District level that would allow expansion of composting programs.
- Ability to meet all Health Department codes, as well as all requirements of the National School Lunch and Breakfast Program.

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Very Truly Yours,



Susan Cross Hume
Assistant Superintendent
Business Services

cc: Carl Coles, Superintendent
Robb Harrison, Director, Maintenance and Operations
Terry Quinn, Supervisor, Maintenance and Operations



Burbank Unified School District
Superintendent's Office
1900 W. Olive Avenue
Burbank, CA 91506
Ph: 818.729.4422 • Fax: 818.729.4550

Board of Education
Dr. Armond Aghakhanian, President
Steve Frintner, Vice President
Charlene Tabet, Clerk
Steve Ferguson
Dr. Roberta Reynolds

Superintendent
Matt Hill, Ed.D.

October 2, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Burbank Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

Matt Hill, Ed.D.
Superintendent

MH:rmd
Enclosure

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 2, 2020
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

144 www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

145 <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
“School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success” (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District partially agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has been and is being implemented in some of the schools in the District, in those schools that have a garden and compost program. However, current gardening and composting efforts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 2, 2020
Page 3

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. The District will not implement the recommendation. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.



CASTAIC UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

28131 Livingston Avenue • Valencia, California 91355
Phone: (661) 257-4500 • Fax: (661) 257-5737 • www.castaicusd.com

Mayreen Burk • Laura Pearson • Fred Malcomb • Janene Maxon • John Richard
President Clerk Member Member Member

September 28, 2021

VIA U.S. MAIL & CERTIFIED MAIL,
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED,
& ELECTRONIC MAIL

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

- Re: (1) Response of the Castaic Union School District to the July 31, 2020 Report of the Civil Grand Jury: Regarding A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste.
- (2) Recommendation No. 1.12 “All 80 School Districts Located in the County Should Work with Local Public Works and Health Department Officials to Create a Garden and Compost Program in Every School, and Monitor Edible Food Recovery Efforts.”
- (3) Recommendation No. 1.13 “All 80 School District Should Develop a Garden / Compost Program That Can Be Available for Students in the Myriad After-School Daycare Options Available on Campus (LACER, After The Bell, STAR, etc.).”

Dear Presiding Judge:

The Castaic Union School District (“CUSD” or “District”) Governing Board thanks the Los Angeles County Grand Jury for its thoughtful report (“Report”) dated July 31, 2020 regarding cutting down on food waste. The District’s Governing Board and administration have taken into consideration the recommendations of the Grand Jury and respond below.

Pursuant to California Penal Code section 933.05 (a)(2), the District agrees in large part with Findings 1.12 and 1.13. It will endeavor to work with local public works and health department officials to explore the possibility of creating a garden and compost program at school sites where space, staffing, and resources permit. It will investigate the feasibility, in conjunction with public works and health department officials, of developing a garden/compost program available for students as an after-school option.

The District disagrees with the Report to the extent it is not a Respondent in this matter. It was not made aware that this issue was under investigation or examination by the Grand Jury, and it had no opportunity to provide a response as to the measures it has in good faith undertaken, many of them years before the existing mandates, to limit food waste.

The District was not contacted to learn any of the measures that it takes to minimize food waste by any representative of the Grand Jury. Rather, it appears from the text of the report that the primary school contact and basis of evidence for the Report concerning schools was the Los Angeles Unified School District, as is set forth on pages 13 and 14. Thus, pursuant to Government Code section 933.05 (b)(4), these recommendations are neither warranted nor reasonable, however, the District provides the below explanation of the steps that it is already taking that are consistent, in large part, with the Report's recommendations.

The Grand Jury is possibly unaware of the following important information concerning steps that the District has taken since the 1980s to conserve resources and limit food waste: The District is a founding member of the Santa Clarita Valley School Food Services Agency, a joint powers authority established by the Newhall, Castaic, and Sulphur Springs Union School Districts to collectively purchase, prepare, and distribute meals efficiently to children served by its member districts. Presently, the Saugus School District is also a member of the joint powers authority sometime referred to as "Agency" or the newer title, "School Day Cafe." The Agency has a number of practices that it continues to follow to limit both food and packaging waste:

1. Of course, under the current school closures and distance learning protocols, no food is being served directly to students at school. Rather, food is served not only to students but to members in need in the nearby community via a "Grab and Go" method. The Agency serves food in bulk whenever possible, such as a salad bar or a produce stand at lunch time. This greatly limits packaging waste, and may also limit food waste.
2. In times when students are in attendance, the Agency practices what they call, "Offer vs. Serve." This means that students are offered food items, but are not automatically served all available food items for the meal, in order to reduce food waste. Both the National School Breakfast Program and the National School Lunch Program *require* that certain offerings be made to students participating in the nutrition program. Students are allowed by those rules to turn down a certain number of the offerings. The Agency offers for lunch a dairy item, a protein item, a grain item, and two fruit items. Under the national rules, students must select three items, but may turn down the remainder of the offerings.
3. At lunch time, students may select the vegetable offering from the salad bar or from the produce stand, utilizing the Share Table idea mentioned on page 14 of the Report.
4. Since mid-March 2020, schools in the District have been physically closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Families in need pick up prepackaged meals. To save trips and packing materials, they typically pick up breakfast, lunch, and dinner at the same time. Since milk must be offered with each meal, for a family of four picking up three meals, this could be as many as twelve servings of milk. The Agency has applied for and received a waiver thus, if the client does not wish to take the milk, it is not required that they do so, thus saving food waste.
5. In addition to limiting food waste, the Agency has taken conscious steps to limit packaging waste as well. Grab and go meals are provided in a clear thin plastic bag without boxes and without cardboard trays. This limits packaging waste.

6. During school closures in the spring semester due to the pandemic, and in beginning the 2020 – 2021 school year in August, individual school sites served by the Agency will have no food waste, as students will not be present.
7. During regular food production when students are in attendance on campus, the Agency endeavors to maintain food offerings in a frozen state until absolutely needed. Careful records are maintained of what foods are offered and what amounts are selected by students, thus, limiting preparation of excess amounts of food. When food can be safely retained, stored, and offered as an option on the next day menu in addition to the scheduled food offerings, this is done to limit food waste.
8. All retention or storage of food is always in accordance with USDA guidelines. This may cause some amount of food waste.
9. Some school nutrition services offer prepackaged salads. The Agency does not do this, in order to limit food waste. For example, individual elements of a salad are maintained and stored separately rather than being prepackaged in a salad. This allows the ingredients of a salad to be safely retained and used the next day.
10. The Agency keeps detailed production sheets to assess the popularity and volume of food offerings so as to limit ordering and limit the preparation of unnecessary food.
11. During regular times when schools are physically open to students, the cardboard tray or “Boat” on which school lunches are placed is biodegradable. Milk cartons in use are also biodegradable.

Please direct any questions to the undersigned.

Respectfully,



Steve Doyle
Superintendent



Centinela Valley Union High School District

Business Services Division

14901 Inglewood Avenue, Lawndale, CA 90260

(310) 263-3220; (310) 644-7218 fax

www.centinela.k12.ca.us

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Gregory O'Brien

Business Services

Ron Hacker
Assistant Superintendent
(310) 263-3220
(310) 644-7218 fax

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Dr. Kelly Santos
Assistant Superintendent
(310) 263-3170
(310) 973-8318 fax

Human Resources

Dr. Stephen Nellman
Assistant Superintendent
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Hawthorne High School

Dr. Pamela Brown
Principal
(310) 263-4400
(310) 675-7017 fax

Lawndale High School

Dr. Paula Hart Rodas
Principal
(310) 263-3100
(310) 675-8174 fax

Leuzinger High School

Dr. Howard Ho
Principal
(310) 263-2200
(310) 675-7023 fax

Lloyde High School/CV

Adult School/CV
Independent Study School
Ben Wardrop
Principal
(310) 263-3263
(310) 679-2632 fax

October 30, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Centinela Valley Union High School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report includes the required responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

Ron Hacker for
Gregory O'Brien, Ph.D.
Superintendent
Centinela Valley Union High School District

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 30, 2020
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴ www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

¹⁴⁵ <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
"School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success" (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District partially agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. The District does not currently have plans to implement the recommendation. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 30, 2020
Page 3

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. The District will not implement the recommendation. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.

Civil Grand Jury

From: Lori Mikesell [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 27, 2020 3:15 PM
To: Civil Grand Jury
Subject: Fwd: 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report (13)
Attachments: Jeffrey Jordan.doc; A DIET FOR LANDFILLS Cutting Down on Food Waste.pdf

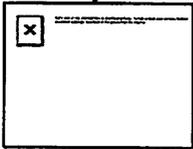
Good afternoon,

Charter Oak Unified School District's response to the attached is:

(2) The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with a timeframe for implementation.

Timeline by the year 2023.

Thank you!



Lori Mikesell, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
Charter Oak Unified School District

20240 E. Cienega Avenue, Covina, CA 91724

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Civil Grand Jury [REDACTED]
Date: Wed, Jul 8, 2020 at 9:32 AM
Subject: 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report (13)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Natalie Rascon [REDACTED]

Dear Superintendent Jordan

Attached you will find a Civil Grand Jury Report addressed to your agency from the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury. Please Reply All to this email to confirm receipt prior to the report being released to the public.

Thank you. *JK*

Judy Krimmel

Judith Krimmel
Foreperson
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
www.grandjury.co.la.ca.us

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Claremont Unified School District

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James Elsasser, Ed.D.

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Hilary LaConte, Member

Lisa Shoemaker, Assistant Superintendent,
Business Services



Inspiring Students of Today, Leaders of Tomorrow!

170 West San Jose Avenue, Claremont, CA 91711-5285
(909) 398-0609 ext. 70401 FAX (909) 621-0180
<http://www.cusd.claremont.edu>

October 30, 2020

Presiding Judge

Los Angeles Superior Court

Clara Shorridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center

210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506

Los Angeles, CA 90012

[REDACTED]

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Claremont Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa Shoemaker".

Lisa Shoemaker
Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

LS/bh
Enclosure

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴ www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

¹⁴⁵ <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
"School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success" (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District partially agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented, but the District intends to implement the recommendation in the future. Current gardening and composting efforts by schools in other districts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District partially agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented, but the District intends to implement the recommendation in the future. Current gardening and composting efforts by schools in other districts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.



JK

**Compton Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent**

501 S. Santa Fe Ave., Room 120, Compton, CA 90221
Phone: (310) 639-4321, Ext. 55125 • Fax

October 7, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

Mitch Att
President

The purpose of this correspondence is to comply with your letter pertaining to the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Final Report entitled a DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste.

Satra Zurita
Vice President

We agree with the findings. As of this date we have implemented the separation of organics, non-organics, recyclables and green waste from disposable trash. *1. 12*

Charles Davis
Clerk

LoWanda Green
Legislative
Representative

We have not implemented college and workforce training programs, garden compost, or a food donation program. Nor have we implemented the additional recommendations of the findings. *1. 13*

Mae Thomas
Member

Sandra Moss
Member

Sincerely,

Alma Taylor Pleasant
Member

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darin Brawley".

Darin Brawley Ed. D.
Superintendent

Darin Brawley, Ed.D.
Superintendent



COVINA-VALLEY

UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

District Superintendent
Elizabeth Eminhizer, Ed.D.

Board of Education
Sonia Frasquillo
Sue L. Maulucci
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Rachael Robles
Gary C. Rodriguez

September 25, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Covina-Valley Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Eminhizer, Ed.D.
Superintendent

EE:pw
Enclosure

"Educational Excellence For Every Student, Every Day"

519 E. Badillo Street • Covina, California 91723
626.974.7000 • FAX 626.974.7032
www.c-vusd.org

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
September 25, 2020
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴ www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

¹⁴⁵ <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
“School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success” (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District partially agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented, but the District intends to implement the recommendation in the future. Current gardening and composting efforts by schools in other districts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
September 25, 2020
Page 3

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District partially agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. The District does not plan to implement the recommendation.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goal of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.



Culver City Unified School District

Administration Building 4034 Irving Place Culver City, CA 90232-2810
(310) 842-4220

October 21, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shorridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, California 90012

Re: Response to Los Angeles Grand Jury Report, "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

To the Honorable Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

In accordance with California Penal Code section 933.05, the Los Angeles County Grand Jury has requested that Culver City Unified School District (the "District") respond to findings and recommendations in the 2019-20 Los Angeles Grand Jury Report entitled, "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste." Specifically, the Report asks the District to respond to the following recommendations.

Recommendation 1.12 All 80 school districts in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school and monitor edible food recovery efforts.

Recommendation 1.13 All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

District's Response

All of the District's school sites include a garden. Below is a list of the District's school sites with the square footage of the associated garden:

<u>Site</u>	<u>Square footage</u>
El Marino Elementary (2 gardens)	1,825
El Rincon Elementary	450
Farragut Elementary	2,000
La Ballona Elementary	2,650
Linwood Howe Elementary	565
Culver City Middle School	1,600
Culver City High School	2,600

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ms. Anne Allaire Dr. Kelly Kent Dr. Steven M. Levin Ms. Summer McBride Dr. Tashon McKeithan Ms. Leslie Lockhart, Superintendent



Culver City Unified School District

Administration Building 4034 Irving Place Culver City, CA 90232-2810
(310) 842-4220

October 21, 2020

Page 2

We have also included pictures of the gardens for reference.

Each of the school gardens compost to reduce food waste and the school site's cafeterias implement a compost program as follows. At the elementary schools, posters are placed on the trash cans and at various locations that describe and show food waste that can and should be composted, such as all food, dirty paper and paper lunch trays. The school sites also include posters that show what goes in trash cans designated for the landfill, such as plastic bags, soft plastic, all juice boxes and plastic utensils. At the secondary school sites, three compartment trash cans are distributed around the campuses that indicate to students and staff where to place items for recycling, trash and composting. We have also attached pictures of the posters for reference.

Of course, the District's compost program is on pause due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Once schools are reopened, the District plans to continue to operate the school gardens, with the associated compost programs, described above. Thus, the District believes it has already implemented programs meeting the recommendations in the Report. However, to the extent the Report suggests the District should change its current compost program; the District is not in a position to make any such changes at this time. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, District resources are currently stretched to the limit in terms of personnel, equipment, supplies, facilities, and fiscal resources, in planning and implementing distance learning and implementing health and safety measures for the eventual return to in-person learning. Thus, all of our time and attention is currently being devoted to ensuring the health and safety of our staff, students, and community. Therefore, the District does not have the capacity at this time to devote any of its limited resources to reassessing its current compost program while the District is coping with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Again, the District believes its current compost program meets the recommendations and intent of the Report, as summarized above. However, the District is not in a position to make any adjustments to its compost program at this time based on the Report. The District will continue to monitor its compost programs and will adjust them as necessary and appropriate to meet the District's needs and the goal of reducing landfill waste.

Sincerely,

Leslie Lockhart
Superintendent

/mes

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ms. Anne Allaire Dr. Kelly Kent Dr. Steven M. Levin Ms. Summer McBride Dr. Tashon McKeithan Ms. Leslie Lockhart, Superintendent

CULVER CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
EL RINCON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



CULVER CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
FARRAGUT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL







CULVER CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
LINWOOD E. HOWE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



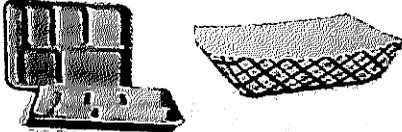
CULVER CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
CULVER CITY HIGH SCHOOL



CULVER CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
CULVER CITY MIDDLE SCHOOL



COMPOST

ALL FOOD	
<u>DIRTY PAPER</u>	
PAPER LUNCH TRAYS	

LANDFILL

ZIP LOCK BAGS	
SOFT PLASTIC	
ALL JUICE BOXES	
PLASTIC UTENCILS	



Downey Unified School District

Gallegos Administration Center

11627 Brookshire Avenue, P.O. Box 7017, Downey, California 90241-7017

(562) 469-6500, FAX: (562) 469-6515

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John A. Garcia, Jr., Ph.D.

October 26, 2020

Presiding Judge

Los Angeles Superior Court

Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center

210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506

Los Angeles, CA 90012

[REDACTED]

Re: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: CUTTING DOWN ON FOOD WASTE
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of the Downey Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A. Garcia, Jr.", is written over a white background.

John A. Garcia, Jr., Ph.D.
Superintendent

Enclosure

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴ www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

¹⁴⁵ <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf> "School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success" (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.



1620 Huntington Drive
Duarte, CA 91010
Phone (626) 599-5000
Fax (626) 599-5069

BOARD OF EDUCATION
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Jacqueline Ku

SUPERINTENDENT
Gordon Amerson, Ed.D.

bk

September 27, 2021

Thomas O'Shaughnessy, Foreperson
County of Los Angeles
Civil Grand Jury
222 South Hill Street
Sixth Floor, Suite 670
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste

Dear Mr. O'Shaughnessy,

Responses requested for the 2019-2020 Civil Grand Jury Final Report are provided below.

1.12: (1) The respondent agrees with the finding

1.13: (3) The recommendation requires further analysis, with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or head of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.

If I can provide any additional information, please contact me at [REDACTED].

Thank you,

Dr. Gordon Amerson
Superintendent of Schools
Duarte Unified School District

El Monte Union High School District

3537 Johnson Avenue • El Monte, California 91731
(626) 444-9005



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Edward Zuniga, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Wael Elatar
Chief Business Official

Larry L. Cecil
*Assistant Superintendent
Educational Services*

Robin Torres
*Assistant Superintendent
Human Resources*

October 20, 2020

BY U.S. MAIL & E-MAIL

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of the El Monte Union High School District ("District"), please see attached the District's response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report, which requires that the District respond to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13 therein.

Sincerely,

Edward Zuniga, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Enclosure

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 20, 2020
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

144 www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

145 <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
“School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success” (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has been and is being implemented in some of the schools in the District. The District has a compost program at multiple school sites and is currently planning on implementing additional compost programs as early as next school year. Moreover, in addition to the District’s already-existing garden and horticulture instructional programs, the District intends to implement a garden program at each school site in the near future, beginning as early as next school year.

It should still be noted, however, that the COVID-19 pandemic and fiscal constraints create additional challenges to establishing such programs. Nonetheless, the District will continue its current efforts regarding monitoring food recovery and explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has been and is being implemented in some of the schools in the District. As explained above, the District has a compost program at multiple school sites and is currently planning on implementing additional compost programs as early as next school year. Moreover, in addition to the District’s already-existing garden and horticulture instructional programs, the District intends to implement a garden program at each school site in the near future, beginning as

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 20, 2020
Page 3

early as next school year. These programs are available to students participating in the District's current, after-school programs.

It should still be noted, however, that the COVID-19 pandemic and fiscal constraints create challenges to establishing such programs. Nonetheless, the District will continue its current efforts regarding monitoring food recovery and explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

October 30, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of El Monte City School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or further requests.

Sincerely,



José Marcelino Herrera
Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
El Monte City School District
[REDACTED]

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

144 www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

145 <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
"School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success" (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District partially agrees with the recommendation. This recommendation has not been implemented, but the District intends to explore the implementation of this recommendation in the future. Current gardening and composting efforts by schools in other districts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it may not be possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties related to this initiative. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols. We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District partially agrees with the recommendation. This recommendation has not been implemented, but the District intends to explore the implementation of this recommendation in the future. Current gardening and composting efforts by schools in other districts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it may not be possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties related to this initiative. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols. We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.



SUPERINTENDENT

Melissa S. Moore Ed. D.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Jeanie M. Nishime, Ed.D.

October 22, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Response to Los Angeles Grand Jury Report, "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

To the Honorable Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

In accordance with California Penal Code section 933.05, the Los Angeles County Grand Jury has requested that the El Segundo Unified School District respond to findings and recommendations in the 2019-20 Los Angeles Grand Jury Report entitled, "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste."

Recommendation 1.12 All 80 school districts in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school and monitor edible food recovery efforts.

Response to Recommendation 1.12: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not reasonable in these unprecedented times. School districts in California are faced with the overwhelming task of implementing distance learning due to the current orders of the Governor, California Department of Public Health, and the county health officer to stop the spread of COVID-19 and keep schools closed until the pandemic is under control. It is unknown how long it will be before school districts will be able to reopen schools and bring students and staff back to school and provide in-person learning. School district resources are currently stretched to the limit in terms of personnel, equipment, supplies, facilities, and fiscal resources, in planning and implementing distance learning and implementing health and safety measures for the eventual return to in-person learning. All of our time and attention is currently being devoted to ensuring the health and safety of our staff, students, and community. The school district does not have the capacity at this time to devote any of its limited resources to developing a garden or compost program at its schools while the school district is coping with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, the recommendation cannot be implemented at this time.

Recommendation 1.13 All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

Response to Recommendation 1.13: The recommendation will not be implemented at this time because it is not reasonable in these unprecedented times. In addition to the reasons stated in the response to Recommendation 1.12, the California Department of Public Health guidelines and the orders of the county health officer make it impractical and unachievable to implement Recommendation 1.13 in our after-school daycare programs.

Sincerely,



Melissa Moore, Ed. D.
Superintendent
El Segundo Unified School District



GARVEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

2730 North Del Mar Avenue, Rosemead, CA 91770
Phone: (626) 307-3444 Fax: (626) 307-1964
Anita Chu, Superintendent

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Vinh Ngo
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Ronald Trabanino

Garvey School District Vision:

"Providing a premier education in a 21st century learning environment to develop tomorrow's responsible leaders."

October 14, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of the Garvey School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Anita Chu", written over a horizontal line.

Anita Chu
Superintendent

[] Enclosure

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 14, 2020
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴ www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

¹⁴⁵ <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
“School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success” (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. The District will not implement the recommendation. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

✓

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 14, 2020
Page 3

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. The District will not implement the recommendation. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.



GLENDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Preparing our students for their future"

223 North Jackson St., Glendale, California 91206-4380
Telephone: 818-241-3111, Ext. 1215 • Fax: 818-548-9041

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

October 29, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: *A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste*
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

I am writing on behalf of Glendale Unified School District in response to the above-referenced 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. Specifically, the report requires school districts respond to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13. Glendale Unified responds as follows:

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

"All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school, and monitor edible food recovery efforts."

Glendale Unified cannot and will not implement the recommendation districtwide. One of our elementary schools, Benjamin Franklin Elementary, piloted a composting and gardening program in the 2019-2020 school year. Although the program was primarily driven by volunteers, it still required a substantial amount of district resources and proved to be a very labor-intensive program. At this point we do not know if we will have the same level of support in the future. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for Glendale Unified schools to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

"All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.)."

Glendale Unified cannot and will not implement the recommendation. Additionally, all schools within Glendale Unified schools do not have district sponsored after school programs to implement this recommendation. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

As Glendale Unified continues to work towards becoming an eco-friendlier school district and teach our students to be environmentally conscious citizens, we will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste. We will also continue to explore ways to collaborate with our individual schools to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Vivian Ekchian".

Vivian Ekchian, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools



GLENDORA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

500 North Loraine Avenue, Glendora, CA 91741
(626) 963-1611 • Fax (626) 335-2196 • Web Site www.glendora.k12.ca.us

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Penelope A. DeLeon, Ed.D.
Superintendent

October 21, 2021

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

RE: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

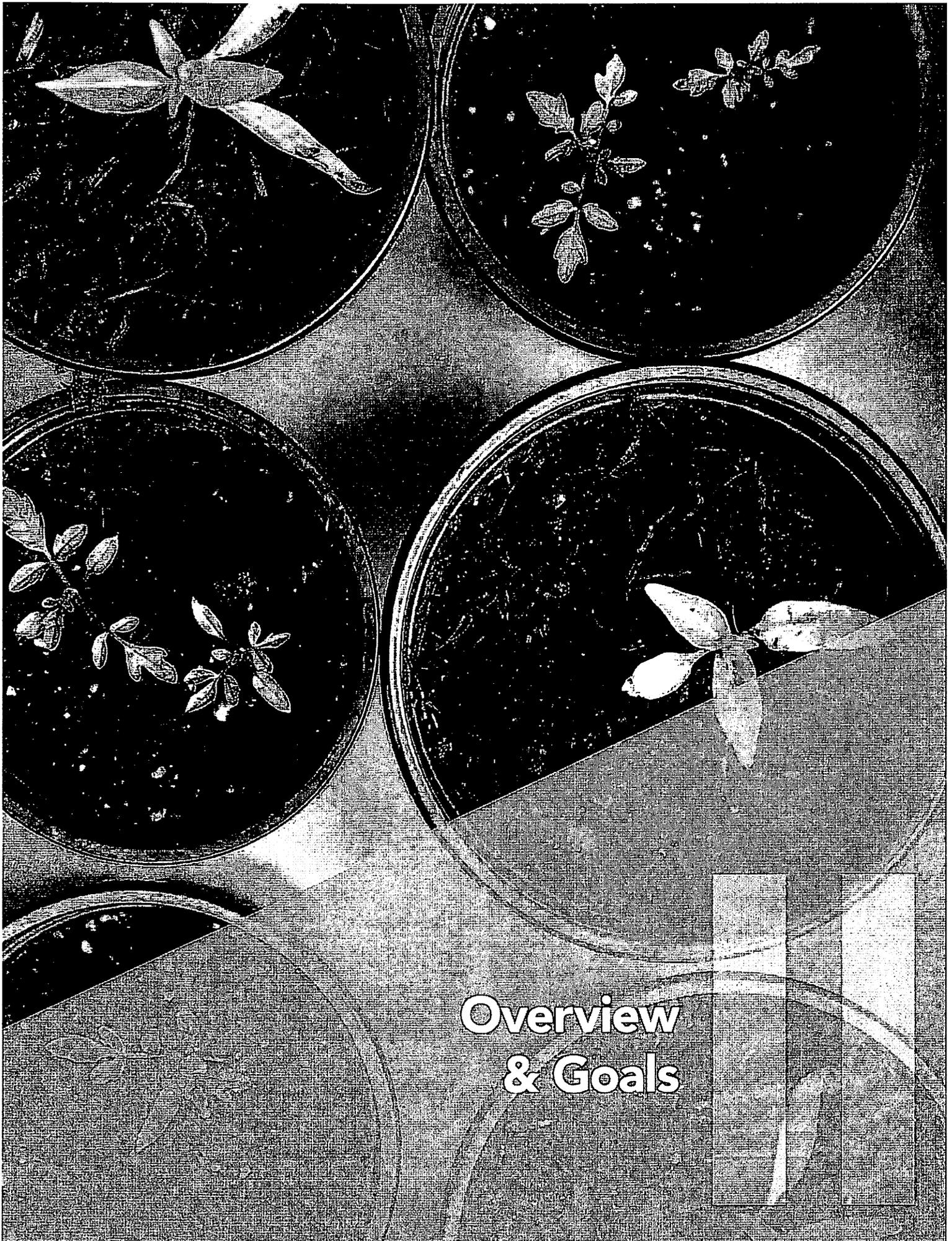
To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Glendora Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2021-2022 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

If you have any questions, you can reach me at [REDACTED] or (626) 963-1611.

In service,

Penelope DeLeon, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Glendora Unified School District



Overview & Goals

The Spartan Garden will be developed and maintained jointly by Sandburg students and staff and by Plants 4 the people, a local nonprofit organization working to create a culture of good nutrition and sustainability while strengthening our sense of community with the power of food.

The garden will feature seasonal fruits and vegetables, herbs, flowering plants, legumes, potted trees, and sugar cane. All plants will be connected to an automatic irrigation system to conserve water. Harvests will be used in educational demonstrations including nutritional and healthy eating demonstrations during lunchtime, the Garden Club, and in the newly created Food Science elective course. The excess will be distributed to student volunteers or donated to hunger-relief charities.



SOME GOALS FOR THE FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION INCLUDE:

- » **CONSTRUCTION**
Build one, ½ acre school garden including an outdoor classroom space to host 70-100 students.
- » **PROMOTING SERVICE**
Bring together over 50 unique volunteers to continue to the construction and development of the garden.
- » **BUILDING COMMUNITY**
Host guest speakers on topics such as food science, cooking, and community involvement.
- » **HEALTHY EATING**
Form a Student Nutrition Advisory Council (SNAC) to leverage student leadership and peer-to-peer promotion of the importance of better nutrition through increased consumption of California specialty crops. Administer three workshops on creative, tasty vegetable recipes for students.
- » **STAFF TRAINING**
Provide cafeteria staff training to learn produce safety practices and scratch cooking techniques to improve the menu and utilize fresh, campus-grown produce at our cafeteria's salad bar.
- » **INTEGRATING STEM AND TECHNOLOGY**
Increase teacher and student engagement and professional development in the areas of science by providing three workshops on the biological science of gardening, cultivation, and propagation.
- » **DEVELOPING CURRICULUM**
Develop three unique lessons plans for science or elective teachers can use in the outdoor classroom.
- » **COMBATting FOOD INSECURITY**
Host three workshops on growing fresh produce at home.
- » **LONG-TERM GOAL**
is to expand the Farm to School program to include California Technical Education (CTE) pathways in agriculture or food science (culinary arts) at the high school level including a high school capstone internship exploring agricultural careers.



The Phases

The pre-garden phase will include soil testing, weeding the entire space, and using spray paint to map the ground's design. Adjustments will be made as necessary. The pre-garden phase will conclude with the installation of irrigation and electricity.

Phase 1 (see appendix)

This phase we will install one shipping container with whiteboards hung on the containers. We will construct the demo workbenches and the first four rows of long desks so a class will meet. We will also build the first 3x3 plot of planter boxes so that gardening may commence.

Phase 2 (see appendix)

This phase expands on phase 1, adding the hydroponic system along the back fence. Students will help with the setup and learn about hydroponics by creating a simple DIY system. Then compost bins will be added throughout the garden. Lastly, the second 3x3 plot of planter boxes will be built and planted. Phase 2 is more focused on planting than the framework.

Phase 3 (see appendix)

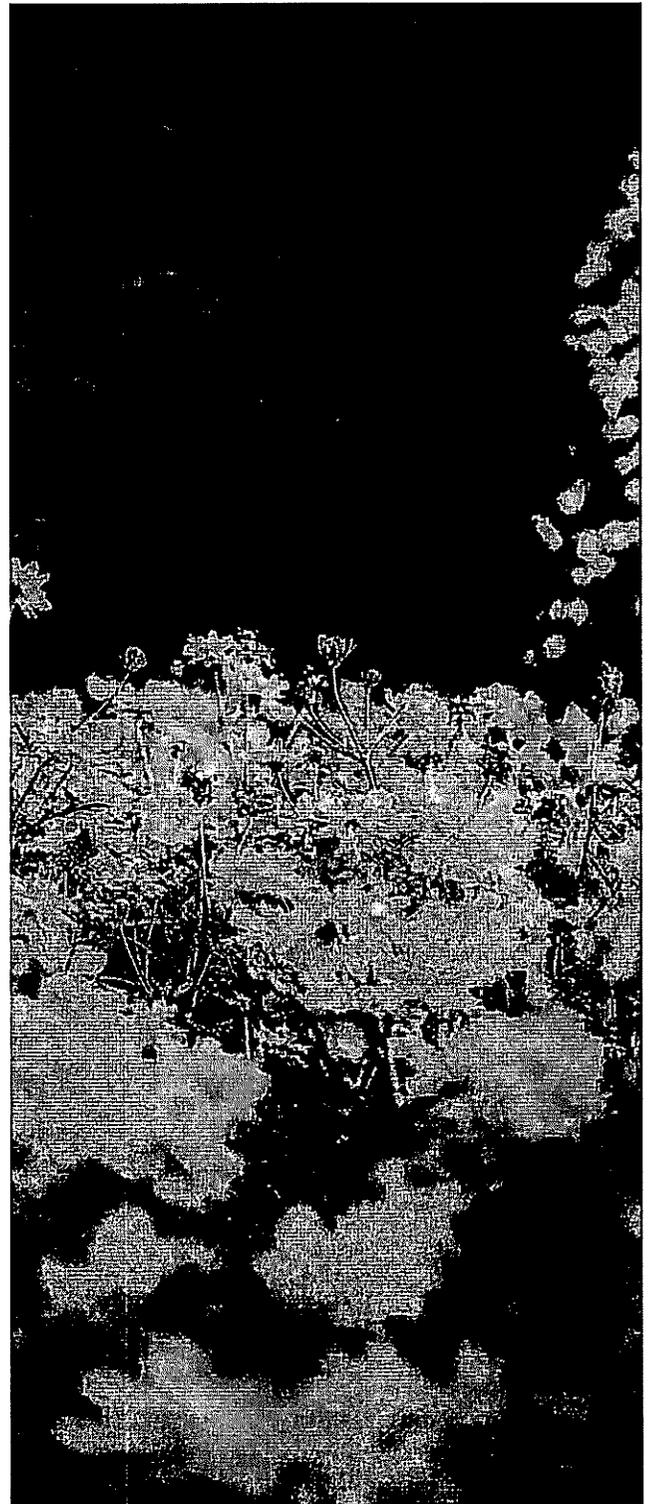
This phase aims to complete the garden, including adding picnic benches and smaller workbenches to the outdoor classroom and a small set of bleachers in the back of the outdoor classroom space to allow extra seating. A shade structure will then be installed to provide the outdoor classroom shade. A large plot of sugar cane will be planted along the back fence. The garden's central part will be finished when the last 3x3 plot of planter boxes are built and planted. A few trees will be planted along the west fence. Wooden boxes will also be constructed and placed around the garden for people to store belongings. This would complete the garden and allow for basic functionality. Phase 4 will move into the finishing touches.

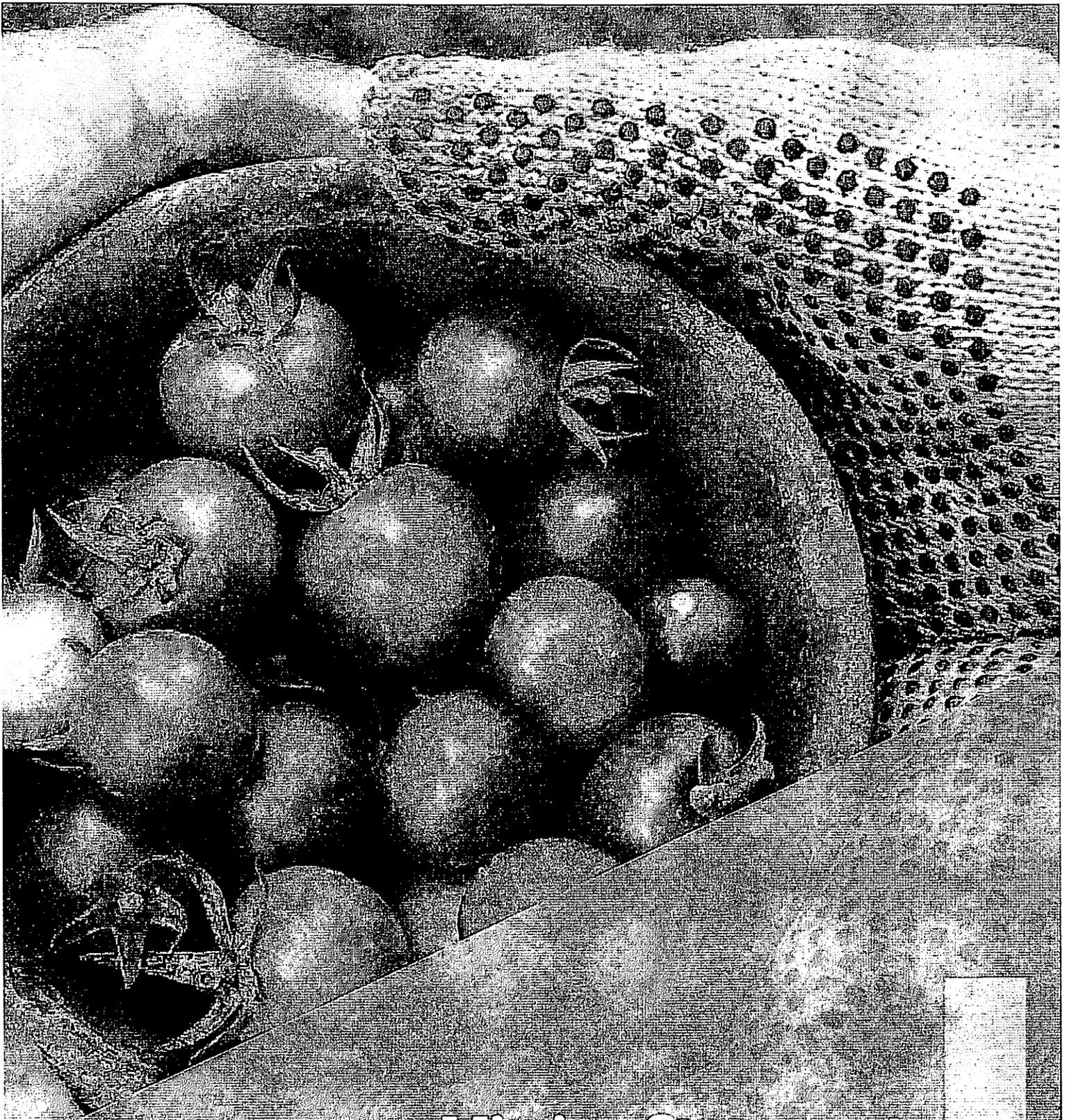
**Phase 4 (see appendix)**

This phase includes adding a wall of stacked crates fastened to the fence. Each class would get a crate that is theirs for the semester to plant what they wish. The final addition will be the small greenhouse in the northeast corner to showcase more advanced gardening technology and allow for seedlings to be started indoors and transplanted outdoors.

Phase 5 (Additions)

This phase allows for innovation. Current ideas include adding a farm store at the front of the garden where the community can purchase inexpensive fresh produce, installing rainwater collection bins, and developing an application that integrates advanced technology into the garden. During this phase, the garden can be made open to the public for educational workshops.





Mission Statement & School Profile

The Spartan Garden (Farm to School) is founded on the idea that food has the power to heal, educate, and connect people.

Being the only Title 1 Middle School in Glendora Unified School District, many of our students do not have the means or the knowledge to engage in healthy eating habits, let alone cultivate and grow their own produce. Our program will provide students and the greater community with the resources they need to thrive by encouraging student leadership, community service, environmental stewardship, and scientific and nutritional education. Our mission is to educate, promote, and sustain a strong community by engaging with what is in our garden and on our plates.

The Spartan Garden will promote standards-based learning and community-building while combating food insecurity through hands-on farm-based elective class options, Garden Club, and community education workshops that incorporate food science, sustainability, and community outreach.



SCHOOL PROFILE

Sandburg Middle School is an innovative, twenty-first-century school nestled against the awe-inspiring Southern California foothills in Glendora, located in the East San Gabriel Valley. Sandburg is a place where diversity is celebrated, collaboration flourishes, and students are presented with academic and personal growth opportunities daily.

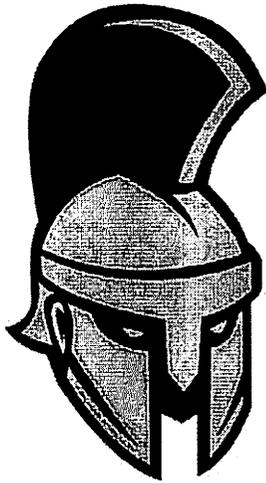
Sandburg is a California Distinguished and Gold Ribbon School (2017). Recently it has earned the honor of being a Title 1 Academic Achievement Award winner and Title 1 School of Distinction (2017, 2018) and has been on the Educational Results Partnership Honor Roll (2017, 2018, 2019).

As the only Title 1 middle school in Glendora, we serve a diverse population of 820 students, sixth through eighth grades. The school's demographic breakdown has changed over the years to currently encompass: 55% Hispanic, 30% White, 7.5% Asian, 3.5% multiple races, 2.5% Filipino, and 1.5% African American. Our free and reduced lunch population is 43%. The three most prominent languages for translation include Spanish, Arabic, and Mandarin.

Our highly qualified staff consists of 34 full-time and 4 part-time staff, including general education teachers, special education SAI I, SAI II, and SAI III teachers, school psychologist, speech and language pathologists, itinerant music, physical education teachers, paraprofessionals, a health clerk, library media technician, two counselors, a mental health counselor, office support personnel, and countless volunteers.



Strengths and highlights of Sandburg include a staff that is willing to take risks and do what is necessary to meet the needs of our students. This has been true in how they have embraced California State Standards and the need to change how they previously approached teaching and learning in the classroom. **We focus on building connections with students and supplement the state adopted curriculum with several supplemental supports to increase student engagement and retention.** Social-emotional well-being is emphasized, whether implicitly taught in our monthly social-emotional lessons, worked on in our group or individual therapy and counseling, or fostered organically in the fields or in our music arts programs. Our staff is dedicated to supporting and educating the "whole child".



Three qualities make our school exceptional

Unparalleled opportunities. Our talented faculty offers a comprehensive and challenging program in the arts, sciences, and humanities. Our students are encouraged to be scientists, artists, athletes, mathematicians, musicians, designers, writers, and innovators. Our extensive extracurricular activities, clubs, and programs are designed to complement the child's academic program while engaging, relevant, and fun.

Each child is known and valued. Diversity is our greatest strength. Students step on campus in the morning and are immediately greeted by an amiable and caring staff and student body. We work hard to understand each student as an individual with unique gifts and talents. Success is measured by one child at a time.

Joyful community. A sense of humor and boundless curiosity comfortably thrive amidst a challenging academic program. Our staff is intentional about building strong professional student-teacher relationships with a focus on mentoring. Our students grow and flourish in an environment that allows children to be children, with the added support of a faculty that understands and cares about each child.

What are the results of a Sandburg education? Each year we promote poised, articulate, empathetic, creative, and intellectually flexible young adults, the most robust evidence for our program's positive impact.



HACIENDA LA PUENTE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

15959 EAST GALE AVENUE • P.O. BOX 60002 • CITY OF INDUSTRY, CA 91716-0002 • (626) 933-3800

DR. ALFONSO JIMÉNEZ, Superintendent

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October 7, 2021

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shorridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste – 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

Dear Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of the Hacienda La Puente Unified School District (the "District"), enclosed is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alfonso Jiménez".

Dr. Alfonso Jiménez
Superintendent

AJ:nr

Enclosure

Vision Statement:

The Hacienda La Puente Unified School District is a community committed to developing lifelong learners who value themselves and the diversity of all people; apply decision-making skills leading to responsible actions; and use creativity, critical thinking, and problem solving in meeting the challenges of a changing society.

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 7, 2021
Enclosure

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school, and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴ www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

¹⁴⁵ <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
“School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success” (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented, but the District intends to implement the recommendation in the future. Current gardening and composting efforts by schools in other districts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program, because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District due to the social distancing measures in place. Once programs are available, students and staff must conscientiously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented, but the District intends to implement the recommendation in the future. Current gardening and composting efforts by schools in other districts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program, because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, due to current social distancing measures at the school site. Once programs are available, students and staff must conscientiously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.



HACIENDA LA PUENTE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

15959 EAST GALE AVENUE • P.O. BOX 60002 • CITY OF INDUSTRY, CA 91716-0002 • (626) 933-3800

DR. ALFONSO JIMÉNEZ, Superintendent

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JEFFREY DE LA TORRE, Member
STEPHANIE SERRANO, Member

October 7, 2021

[REDACTED]

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste – 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

Dear Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of the Hacienda La Puente Unified School District (the "District"), enclosed is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

Dr. Alfonso Jiménez
Superintendent

AJ:nr

Enclosure

Vision Statement:

The Hacienda La Puente Unified School District is a community committed to developing lifelong learners who value themselves and the diversity of all people; apply decision-making skills leading to responsible actions; and use creativity, critical thinking, and problem solving in meeting the challenges of a changing society.

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 7, 2021
Enclosure

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school, and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁴

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RESPONSE

The District agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented, but the District intends to implement the recommendation in the future. Current gardening and composting efforts by schools in other districts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program, because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District due to the social distancing measures in place. Once programs are available, students and staff must conscientiously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented, but the District intends to implement the recommendation in the future. Current gardening and composting efforts by schools in other districts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program, because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, due to current social distancing measures at the school site. Once programs are available, students and staff must conscientiously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.



Hawthorne School District

Educational Excellence

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September 28, 2021

Thomas O'Shaughnessy, Foreperson
County of Los Angeles
Civil Grand Jury
222 South Hill Street, Sixth Floor, Suite 670
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. O'Shaughnessy,

ADMINISTRATION

HELEN E. MORGAN, Ed.D.
Superintendent

BRIAN MARKARIAN, Ed.D.
Associate Superintendent
Human Resources

ERIKA AYALA, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent
Educational Services

MARA PAGNIANO
Assistant Superintendent
Business Services

Please accept this letter as my response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Final Report: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste. I have reviewed the recommendations for school districts (1.12 and 1.13) and disagree with these recommendations.

1.12 – While many of our schools have established a garden, the ability to effectively maintain this space has been a challenge. The staff required to organize students, materials, and required maintenance has been an obstacle to productive gardens. In our current environment, it is difficult, at best, to engage staff in extra duties. When we are able to secure staff, we utilize their skills to address learning loss and/or provide enrichment for our students.

1.13 – In this current environment after-school activities are focused on those areas mentioned above.

Our school districts continue to be charged with additional requirements that take away from our primary duty of ensuring our students are prepared to enter college or career. The activity outlined in 1.12 and 1.13 are worthy activities; however, I do not feel our school day can sustain these undertakings.

Sincerely,

Helen E. Morgan, Ed.D.
Superintendent

September 15, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste

2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Hermosa Beach City School (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school, and monitor edible food recovery efforts.

RESPONSE

The District agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented, but the District intends to implement the recommendation in the future. Current gardening and composting efforts by schools in other districts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once

programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District agrees with the recommendation.

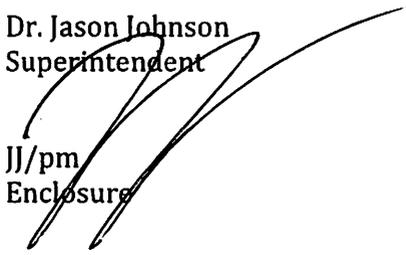
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We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jason Johnson
Superintendent

JJ/pm
Enclosure



Hughes-Elizabeth Lakes Union Elementary School District

P.O. Box 530, 16633 Elizabeth Lake Road, Lake Hughes, CA 93532
Phone (661) 724-1231 Fax (661) 724-1485



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Lori Slaven, Ed.D

September 16, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Hughes Elizabeth Lakes Union Elementary School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lori Slaven".

Lori Slaven, Ed.D.
Superintendent/Principal

Enclosure

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴ www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

¹⁴⁵ <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
“School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success” (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District Hughes Elizabeth Lakes Union Elementary School District with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented, but the District intends to implement the recommendation in the future. Please know that due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for our one school District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

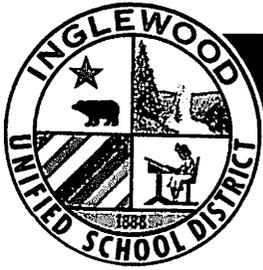
All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District Hughes Elizabeth Lakes Union Elementary School District with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented, but the District intends to implement the recommendation in the future. Please know that due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for our one school District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.



INGLEWOOD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

401 S. Inglewood Avenue, Inglewood, California 90301 phone: (310) 419-2700

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
Erika F. Torres, Ed.D., MSW

October 30, 2020

Via E-Mail Only

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Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Honorable Presiding Judge,

The purpose of this correspondence is to respond to the Civil Grand Jury Report:
A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste

Thank for you for providing a copy of the report. In my role as County Administrator of the Inglewood Unified School District, I found the report to be both timely and informative. My response to each of the applicable recommendations are provided below:

Recommendation 1.12 All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school and monitor edible food recovery efforts.

I agree that the recommendation is a worthy goal. This recommendation is partially implemented in the Inglewood Unified School District. Some of our school currently have gardens and compost programs. Current garden and compost programs are not consistently implemented because they are primarily led by volunteers (parent or staff "champions" who lead the effort at individual school sites).

At the current time, it is not feasible to mandate a garden and composting program at all schools. The Inglewood Unified School District is currently the only school district in the State of California that is in receivership due to fiscal insolvency. I am the appointed County Administrator assigned to return the district to solvency and local control. Absent additional volunteers, there would be a fiscal cost to mandating a garden and compost program at every school that the District cannot afford at this time.

Edible food recovery is in place to the extent allowed by the Federal meal program where uneaten items such as fruits, milk/juice in unopened cartons, etc. may be shared.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with City of Inglewood and Los Angeles County agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

Recommendation 1.13 All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

I agree that the recommendation is a worthy goal. This recommendation is partially implemented in the Inglewood Unified School District. Some of our school currently have gardens and compost programs that are available to the community and as afterschool programs. Current garden and compost programs are not consistently implemented because they are primarily led by volunteers (parent or staff “champions” who lead the effort at individual school sites).

At the current time, it is not feasible to mandate an afterschool garden and composting program at all schools. The Inglewood Unified School District is currently the only school district in the State of California that is in receivership due to fiscal insolvency. I am the appointed County Administrator assigned to return the district to solvency and local control. Absent additional volunteers, there would be a fiscal cost to mandating after school garden and compost program at every school that the District cannot afford at this time.

Sincerely,



Erika F. Torres, Ed.D., MSW
County Administrator



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DR. JACQUELINE A. CARDENAS

October 19, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shorridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

**Re: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury**

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Keppel Union School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. Jacqueline A. Cardenas", followed by a long horizontal line.

Dr. Jacqueline A. Cardenas
Superintendent

JC
Enclosure

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 19, 2020
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴ www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

¹⁴⁵ <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
"School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success" (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. The District will not implement the recommendation. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 19, 2020
Page 3

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. The District will not implement the recommendation. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.

Wendy K. Sinnette
Superintendent

Ana's Wenn
Associate Superintendent
Educational Services

Mark Evans
Associate Superintendent
Business & Administrative Services

Jamie Lewsadder
Chief Technology Officer

La Cañada Unified School District

...a learning community committed to personal growth and
academic excellence



October 1, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of La Cañada Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,


Wendy Sinnette
Superintendent

WS:gb
Enclosure

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 1, 2020
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴ www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

¹⁴⁵ <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
"School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success" (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. The District will not implement the recommendation. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 1, 2020
Page 3

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. The District will not implement the recommendation. The District does not run myriad after-school daycare options on campus. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.



Lancaster School District

44711 NORTH CEDAR AVENUE, LANCASTER, CALIFORNIA 93534-3210 (661) 948-4661

LARRY M. FREISE, Ed D.
Assistant Superintendent
Business Services

Fax (661) 942-9452
TDD/Voice (661) 948-4661 x100

October 26, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of the Lancaster School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

Larry Freise, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent, Business

[lmf]
Enclosure

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 26, 2020
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school, and monitor edible food recovery efforts.

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented, nor will the District be implementing the recommendation. Due to fiscal constraints exacerbated by declining enrollment and anticipated decreases in state revenue, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program. The District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

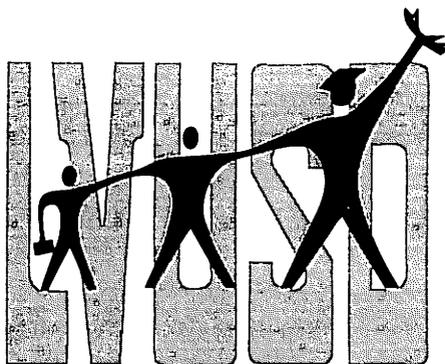
RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented, nor will the District be implementing the recommendation. Due to fiscal constraints exacerbated by declining enrollment and anticipated decreases in state revenue, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program. The District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.

LAS VIRGENES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
4111 LAS VIRGENES ROAD
CALABASAS, CALIFORNIA 91302
Telephone: (818) 880-4000
Fax: (818) 880-4200
www.lvusd.org



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SUPERINTENDENT

July 22, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Dear Presiding Judge:

The Las Virgenes Unified School District (LVUSD) is in receipt of the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury report: A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste.

The Las Virgenes Unified School District disagrees with the findings in the report based on section 933.05 (2)

We recognize there are countless benefits to our environment by reducing the amount of food waste our landfills receive. At the Las Virgenes Unified School District we are committed to conserving our natural resources and serving as a model to our community. We encourage a waste free lunch program. Families are requested to:

- Use a reusable lunch box and food containers (avoid plastic baggies and single-use items)
- Use a refillable water bottle (avoid juice boxes and plastic bottles)
- Use reusable utensils and napkins (avoid plastic and paper)
- Take any waste from a packed lunch home each day
- Sort waste from "hot lunch" in appropriate bins

The food waste program we implemented in 2015 recovered minimal amounts of food waste per week. The cost and effort we put forth did not equal the small amount of food diverted. We decided to refocus our energy on our recycling and waste free lunch program with added training, clear signage, and grouped waste bins.

In our current climate, we have made significant investments in safety and health upgrades. The safety and wellbeing of our students, staff, and community come first. When our campuses reopen for the 2020/21 school year, we will be providing grab and go lunches eliminating the need for food waste diversion.

When things return to normal, students will require supervision at lunch time to train the students to use the correct waste bins. Each of our 14 school campuses would require dedicated campus supervisors at lunch to supervise the students to ensure the program's success. This would be an added cost of \$261,100 of which we cannot absorb.

In the 2020/21 school year we received an unexpected increase in basic recycling waste service costs, adding \$100,000 to our annual deficit. If we were to add a separate food-waste pick up on each site during the school year, it would be an added cost of \$16,800 annually. This is on top of a budget where we have lost over \$5 million in state and local funding this year, and added significant costs for cleaning and PPE related to the COVID pandemic. With our current financial picture, we are facing an operating loss of \$8 million and struggling to cut our educational program over the next year to stay solvent. In total, the food waste program would increase our costs by an additional \$277,900 per year. This would be a hardship for LVUSD.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karen Kimmel', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Karen Kimmel
Assistant Superintendent
Business Services

9/21/2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of the Lawndale Elementary School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,



Dr. Betsy Hamilton
Superintendent

[bh]
Enclosure

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
9/21/2020
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

144 www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

145 <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
"School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success" (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District partially agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has been and is being implemented in some of the schools in the District, in those schools that have a garden and compost program. However, current gardening and composting efforts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
9/21/2020
Page 3

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District partially agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has been and is being implemented in some of the schools in the District, in those schools that have a garden and compost program. However, current gardening and composting efforts by the schools are voluntary and led by volunteers. Programming occurs during regular school hours as well as during our After School Education and Safety (ASES) program. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.



Little Lake City School District

Where Kids Are #1

10515 S. Pioneer Boulevard, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670-3799 (562) 868-8241 Fax (562) 868-1192

September 23, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shorridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Little Lake City School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

William Crean, Ed.D.
Superintendent

WC/mc
Enclosure

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
September 23, 2020
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴ www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

¹⁴⁵ <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
"School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success" (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. The District will not implement the recommendation. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
September 23, 2020
Page 3

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. The District will not implement the recommendation. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.

LONG BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

**SERVING LONG BEACH, LAKEWOOD, SIGNAL HILL AND
AVALON**

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
1515 HUGHES WAY
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90810-1839
(562) 997-8242 • FAX (562) 997-8280**

October 28, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Long Beach Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,



Dr. Jill Baker
Superintendent of Schools

Enclosure

Recommendation 1.12

1.12 All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school and monitor edible food recovery efforts

Response:

The District partially agrees with the recommendation.

The Long Beach Unified School District has commenced taking action to implement a variety of intervention programs such as school gardens, recycling programs, organic waste sorting, landfill waste reduction through share-table and food donation programs, and school composting programs as well.

Furthermore, the District continues to seek non-profit and local partnerships to further advance the implementation of recommendations outlined in this Grand Jury Report. However, with recent COVID-19 challenges, there is no timeframe outlined to continue the implementation of school gardens, composting, and organic waste sorting programs district-wide. These decisions are now site-based decisions that must be made under the proper guidance of local health department officials and local county office of education (LACOE). In addition, due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. Food donation and recovery efforts may continue through existing non-profit partnerships to distribute the excess of individually wrapped foods.

Recommendation 1.13

1.13 All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus.

Response:

The District partially agrees with the recommendation.

The Long Beach Unified School District has commenced taking action to implement a variety of intervention programs such as school gardens, recycling programs, organic waste sorting, landfill waste reduction through share-table and food donation programs, and school composting programs as well.

Furthermore, the District continues to seek non-profit and local partnerships to further advance the implementation of recommendations outlined in this Grand Jury Report. However, with recent COVID-19 challenges, there is no timeframe outlined to continue the implementation of school gardens, composting, and organic waste sorting programs district-wide. These decisions are now site-based decisions that must be made under the proper guidance of local health department officials and local county office of education (LACOE). In addition, due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. District sites may have the option to include their after-school daycare partners should sites be able to carry out those duties while preserving the health and safety of all participants.

Rec 8/19/20 - BP/SLC
Dept. 100

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OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

RAYMOND TAN
DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL
EDUCATION/PUPIL SERVICES

RALPH SALAZAR
DIRECTOR OF MAINTENANCE
AND OPERATIONS

CATHY TANG
DIRECTOR OF NUTRITION SERVICES

July 24, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shorridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Response to Los Angeles Grand Jury Report, "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

To the Honorable Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

In accordance with California Penal Code section 933.05, the Los Angeles County Grand Jury has requested that the Los Nietos School District respond to findings and recommendations in the 2019-20 Los Angeles Grand Jury Report entitled, "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste."

Recommendation 1.12 All 80 school districts in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school and monitor edible food recovery efforts.

Response to Recommendation 1.12: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not reasonable in these unprecedented times. School districts in California are faced with the overwhelming task of implementing distance learning due to the current orders of the Governor, California Department of Public Health, and the county health officer to stop the spread of COVID-19 and keep schools closed until the pandemic is under control. It is unknown how long it will be before school districts will be able to reopen schools and bring students and staff back to school and provide in-person learning. School district resources are currently stretched to the limit in

terms of personnel, equipment, supplies, facilities, and fiscal resources, in planning and implementing distance learning and implementing health and safety measures for the eventual return to in-person learning. All of our time and attention is currently being devoted to ensuring the health and safety of our staff, students, and community. The school district does not have the capacity at this time to devote any of its limited resources to developing a garden or compost program at its schools while the school district is coping with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, the recommendation cannot be implemented at this time.

Recommendation 1.13 All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

Response to Recommendation 1.13: The recommendation will not be implemented at this time because it is not reasonable in these unprecedented times. In addition to the reasons stated in the response to Recommendation 1.12, the California Department of Public Health guidelines and the orders of the county health officer make it impractical and unachievable to implement Recommendation 1.13 in our after-school daycare programs.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Vasquez
Los Nietos School District
Superintendent



**Lowell Joint
School District**

A Tradition of Excellence Since 1906

"Home of Scholars and Champions"

JK



Copy of Email Submission:

Jim Coombs [REDACTED]

10:25 AM (0 minutes ago)

to Civil, Natalie, me

Good Afternoon LA County Civil Grand Jury,

I apologize for our delay. We read the initial email requesting that we received the information, which we did, but missed the request for us to respond to the actual recommendations. As an additional point of information, Lowell Joint School District became the first district in California to transition from one county to another. As of July 1, 2021 LJSD has transitioned to become an Orange County School District .

Our response to the Civil Grand Jury recommendations (1.12 & 1.13) are listed below:

Recommendation 1.12: All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school, 144 and monitor edible food recovery efforts. Lowell Joint SD has already established a 3 year plan to design and establish "Living Classrooms" - Sustainable Literacy Gardens at each of our six schools. Two of the schools are about 70% completed and will be finished in the 2021/22 school year. Two more schools will be completed in 22/23 and the final two will be completed in 23/24. These Living Classrooms include full gardens, composting, hydroponic grow beds, weather equipment (solar, rain monitors, barometers, wind speed, etc), reading areas, etc. They will also coordinate with our cafeterias and local high school agriculture programs.

Recommendation 1.13: All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.). The Lowell Joint Living Classrooms - Sustainable Literacy Gardens will also be available during after school hours as a part of Horizons Program (GATE/High Achievers) as well as students and families that are interested.

We hope this answers your questions and supplies the information you are seeking. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Jim Coombs

LOWELL JOINT STRONG!!

Jim Coombs
Superintendent of Schools

"Home of Scholars and Champions"

www.ljzd.org



LYNWOOD
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of the Superintendent

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Member

Superintendent
Gudiel R. Crosthwaite, Ph.D.

*To ensure each student fearlessly
achieves their highest academic
and personal aspirations while
contributing to a diverse, global
society*

October 28, 2020

BY U.S. MAIL & E-MAIL

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of the Lynwood Unified School District ("District"), please see attached the District's response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report, which requires that the District respond to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13 therein.

Sincerely,


Gudiel R. Crosthwaite, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Enclosure

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

144 www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

145 <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf> "School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success" (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented, but the District intends to implement the recommendation as soon as reasonably practicable. It is the District's understanding that gardening and composting efforts in many other school districts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to current circumstances at the District, including fiscal constraints, it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses additional challenges to creating such programs at all of the District's schools.

Nonetheless, the District will continue to explore ways to work with local public agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented, but the District intends to implement the recommendation as soon as reasonably practicable. It is the District's understanding that gardening and composting efforts in many other school districts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to current circumstances at the District, including fiscal constraints, it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses additional challenges to creating such programs at all of the District's schools.

Nonetheless, the District will continue to explore ways to work with local public agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste, as well as with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students in the District's after-school programs.

Michael D. Matthews, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools



Board of Trustees

Jennifer Cochran
Jen Fenton
Bill Fournell
Karen Komatinsky
Sally Peel

**Manhattan Beach
Unified School District**

325 South Peck Avenue • Manhattan Beach • California 90266 • (310) 318-7345 • FAX (310) 303-3822

October 20, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Manhattan Beach Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael D. Matthews".

Michael D. Matthews, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Enclosure

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

144 www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

145 <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
“School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success” (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District partially agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has been and is being implemented in some of the schools in the District, in those schools that have a garden and compost program. However, current gardening and composting efforts are voluntary and led by volunteers and are sustainable only as long as there is volunteer interest and involvement. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols whenever programs are available.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

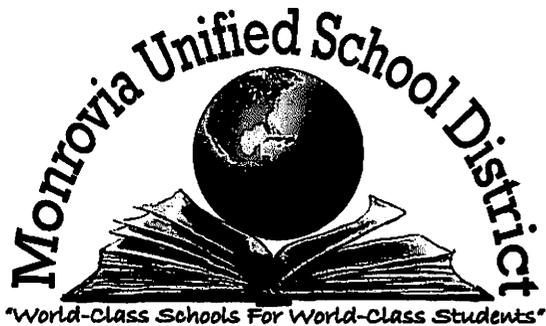
All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District partially disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. The District does not currently plan to implement the recommendation. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. Where on-campus gardening and composting efforts exist, they are voluntary and led by volunteers and are sustainable only as long as there is volunteer interest and involvement. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols whenever programs are available.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students in after-school daycare programs available on campus with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.



RYAN D. SMITH
Superintendent

SUE KAISER
Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services

DARVIN JACKSON
Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

CONNIE WU
Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

CHARLES POOVAKAN
Chief Technology Officer

SHERSHONNA HUFF
Administrative Assistant

325 East Huntington Drive, Monrovia, California 91016 • 626/471-2010 • FAX 626/471-2077

October 7, 2021

Thomas O'Shaughnessy

Poreperson

2021-2022 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

222 South Hill Street, 6th Floor, Suite 670

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. O'Shaughnessy:

Monrovia Unified School District is in receipt of your letter dated September 22, 2021, regarding the district's response to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13 listed in the report "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste." Below is our response:

Each of our elementary, middle, and high schools have on-site vegetable gardens. These gardens are aligned with District curriculum and foster positive learning experiences for our students.

The District contracts with organizations to teach the scientific principles surrounding growing plants and acquiring food from the gardens in our elementary schools. All students have access to these gardens during the school day at the elementary schools.

Students in secondary schools have access to the gardens during and after school, and students learn through work assigned in science classes and through activities in science clubs.

If you have any additional questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact us at 626-471-2010.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ryan Smith
Superintendent
Monrovia Unified School District



APPROVED BY THE
BOARD OF
EDUCATION

MONTEBELLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mark Skvarna, Interim Superintendent of Schools
123 S. Montebello Boulevard, Montebello, CA 90640
(323) 887-7900 ext. 2206 • Fax (323) 887-5890

October 20, 2021

VIA U.S. MAIL AND E-MAIL

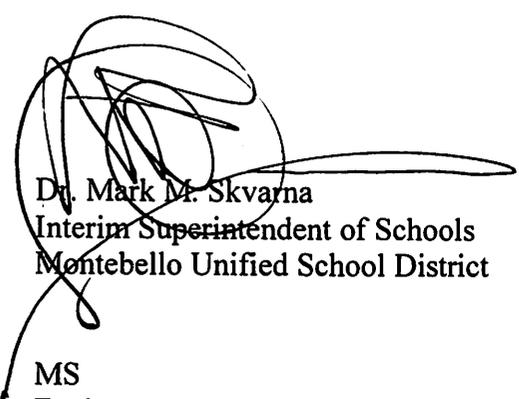
Thomas O'Shaughnessy, Foreperson
Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury
222 South Hill Street, Sixth Floor, Suite 670
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To Thomas O'Shaughnessy, Foreperson of the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury:

On behalf of the Montebello Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,



Dr. Mark M. Skvarna
Interim Superintendent of Schools
Montebello Unified School District

MS
Enclosure

5-d



MEMORANDUM

October 14, 2021

ACTION

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Mark Skvarna, Interim Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Approval of Montebello Unified School District Responses to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report, A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste

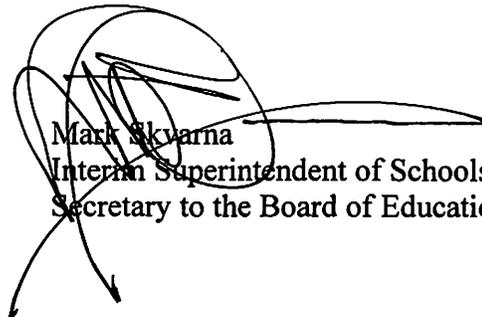
The 2021-2022 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Continuity Committee (“Committee”) issued a letter dated September 22, 2021 to the Montebello Unified School District (“District”). The Committee reminded the District that its responses regarding the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Final Report, specifically, “A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste” (“Report”) remained outstanding. The Committee made its Report public in 2020, and disseminated the same to Los Angeles County school districts. The Committee investigated how Los Angeles County disposes of its waste, and more specifically, how it addresses one of its own diversion goals: reducing waste sent to landfills by 80% by the year 2025, with a 75% reduction in the organic waste sent there.

The Committee made recommendations in the Report, requesting that school districts respond to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13. Generally, the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury recommends that school districts create a garden and compost program in every school, and develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in after school programs. The District responses include that while some schools do have gardens, it is unable to implement the recommendations, mainly due to lack of physical space in each school and respective funding to implement and maintain the programs.

I recommend adoption of the following motion:

That the Board of Education approve the responses to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13 of the Report, as documented in the attached correspondence addressed to the Foreperson of the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury, which is incorporated herein by this reference, and authorizes Dr. Mark Skvarna, Interim Superintendent of Schools, to issue the attached correspondence on behalf of the District in order to be in compliance with the Report.

Approved for presentation to the
Board of Education: October 20, 2021


Mark Skvarna
Interim Superintendent of Schools
Secretary to the Board of Education



APPROVED BY THE
BOARD OF
EDUCATION

Thomas O'Shaughnessy, Foreperson
Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury
October 20, 2021
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴ www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

¹⁴⁵ <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
"School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success" (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. Schools within the District have extracurricular gardening programs, but do not have composting programs that utilize the school's food waste.

The District will not implement the recommendation. First, District-run schools do not have the physical space or facilities that would be required to compost all food waste at each school. Next, due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. Finally, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District. Participation in a gardening and composting program is not possible when: (1) schools are providing online instruction only to their students during periods of high COVID-19 transmission; and (2) schools are requiring physical distancing at their facilities even though students have been permitted to return to campus. Students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.



Thomas O'Shaughnessy, Foreperson
Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury
October 20, 2021
Page 3

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. Schools within the District have extracurricular gardening programs, but do not have composting programs that utilize the school's food waste.

The District will not implement the recommendation. First, District-run schools do not have the physical space or facilities that would be required to compost all food waste at each school. Next, due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. Finally, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District. Participation in a gardening and composting program is not possible when: (1) schools are providing online instruction only to their students during periods of high COVID-19 transmission; and (2) schools are requiring physical distancing at their facilities even though students have been permitted to return to campus. Students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.



APPROVED BY THE
BOARD OF
EDUCATION

MONTEBELLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mark Skvarna, Interim Superintendent of Schools
123 S. Montebello Boulevard, Montebello, CA 90640
(323) 887-7900 ext. 2206 • Fax (323) 887-5890

October 20, 2021

VIA U.S. MAIL AND E-MAIL

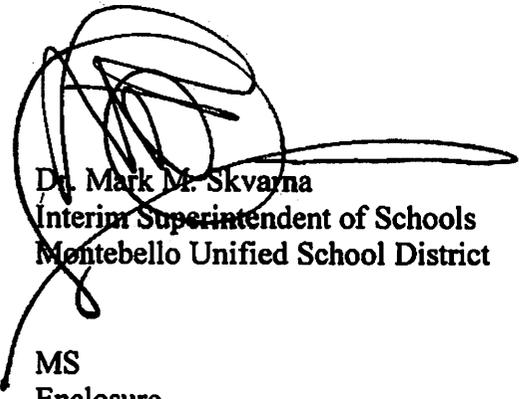
Thomas O'Shaughnessy, Foreperson
Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury
222 South Hill Street, Sixth Floor, Suite 670
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To Thomas O'Shaughnessy, Foreperson of the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury:

On behalf of the Montebello Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,



Dr. Mark M. Skvarna
Interim Superintendent of Schools
Montebello Unified School District

MS
Enclosure

5-d



MEMORANDUM

October 14, 2021

ACTION

TO: Board of Education

FROM Mark Skvarna, Interim Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Approval of Montebello Unified School District Responses to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report, A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste

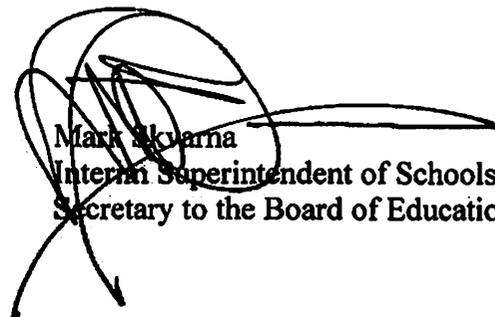
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The Committee made recommendations in the Report, requesting that school districts respond to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13. Generally, the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury recommends that school districts create a garden and compost program in every school, and develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in after school programs. The District responses include that while some schools do have gardens, it is unable to implement the recommendations, mainly due to lack of physical space in each school and respective funding to implement and maintain the programs.

I recommend adoption of the following motion:

That the Board of Education approve the responses to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13 of the Report, as documented in the attached correspondence addressed to the Foreperson of the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury, which is incorporated herein by this reference, and authorizes Dr. Mark Skvarna, Interim Superintendent of Schools, to issue the attached correspondence on behalf of the District in order to be in compliance with the Report.

Approved for presentation to the
Board of Education: October 20, 2021


Mark Skvarna
Interim Superintendent of Schools
Secretary to the Board of Education



APPROVED BY THE
BOARD OF
EDUCATION

Thomas O'Shaughnessy, Foreperson
Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury
October 20, 2021
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

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¹⁴⁵ <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
"School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success" (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. Schools within the District have extracurricular gardening programs, but do not have composting programs that utilize the school's food waste.

The District will not implement the recommendation. First, District-run schools do not have the physical space or facilities that would be required to compost all food waste at each school. Next, due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. Finally, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District. Participation in a gardening and composting program is not possible when: (1) schools are providing online instruction only to their students during periods of high COVID-19 transmission; and (2) schools are requiring physical distancing at their facilities even though students have been permitted to return to campus. Students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.



APPROVED BY THE
BOARD OF
EDUCATION

Thomas O'Shaughnessy, Foreperson
Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury
October 20, 2021
Page 3

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. Schools within the District have extracurricular gardening programs, but do not have composting programs that utilize the school's food waste.

The District will not implement the recommendation. First, District-run schools do not have the physical space or facilities that would be required to compost all food waste at each school. Next, due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. Finally, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District. Participation in a gardening and composting program is not possible when: (1) schools are providing online instruction only to their students during periods of high COVID-19 transmission; and (2) schools are requiring physical distancing at their facilities even though students have been permitted to return to campus. Students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.

5-d



MOUNTAIN VIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

3320 Gilman Road, El Monte, California 91732-3201
(626) 652-4000 • www.mtviewschools.com

07

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Adam C. Carranza
Christian Diaz
Jacqueline Saldaña
Veronica Sifuentes
Cindy Wu

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

Lillian Maldonado French
Superintendent
Darin De Knikker
*Assistant Superintendent
Business Services*
John Lovato, Ed.D.
*Assistant Superintendent
Personnel Services*
Raymond Andry
*Assistant Superintendent
Educational Services*

Baker School
12043 Exline St.
El Monte, CA 91732-2797
(626) 652-4700

Cogswell School
11050 Fineview St.
El Monte, CA 91733-2817
(626) 652-4100

Kranz Intermediate School
12460 Fineview St.
El Monte, CA 91732-3996
(626) 652-4200

La Primaria School
4220 Gilman Rd.
El Monte, CA 91732-2597
(626) 652-4150

Madrid Middle School
3300 Gilman Rd.
El Monte, CA 91732-3226
(626) 652-4300

Maxson School
12380 Felipe St.
El Monte, CA 91732-3694
(626) 652-4500

Miramonte School
10620 Schmidt Rd.
S. El Monte, CA 91733-2702
(626) 652-4600

Monte Vista School
11111 Thienes Ave.
S. El Monte, CA 91733-4099
(626) 652-4650

Parkview School
12044 Elliott St.
El Monte, CA 91732-3799
(626) 652-4800

Payne School
2850 N. Mt. View Rd.
El Monte, CA 91732-3593
(626) 652-4900

Twin Lakes School
3900 Gilman Rd.
El Monte, CA 91732-2515
(626) 652-4400

Voorhis School
3501 N. Durfee Ave.
El Monte, CA 91732-2999
(626) 652-4450

Children's Center
2109 Burkett
El Monte, CA 91733-4113
(626) 652-4250

Magnolia Center
11919 Magnolia St.
El Monte, CA 91732-3401
(626) 652-4938

September 30, 2021

Thomas O'Shaughnessy, Foreperson
2021-2022 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury
222 South Hill Street, Suite 670
Los Angeles California, 90012

Dear O'Shaughnessy,

The Mountain View School District administration and Governing Board thank the 2019-2020 County of Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury for its thoughtful report dated July 31, 2020, "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste."

District Report Pursuant to Penal Code Sections 933.05(b)

The Mountain View School District reports that pursuant to Penal Code section 933.05(b), the recommendations applicable to the District have been implemented as follows:

- 1. Recommendations 1.12: "All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school, and monitor edible food recovery efforts."**

Response: Implemented. No further action is required. Mountain View School District administration and the Governing Board support the recommendations. Attached please find two documents delineating the Mountain View School District's efforts to implement the recommendations.

Appendix A. The Mountain View School District Board Policy 3511.1 Integrated Waste Management. The policy describes strategies designed to promote waste management practices of source reduction, recycling, and composting to help the district reduce and recycle solid and organic waste, properly dispose of potentially hazardous materials, improve efficiency in the use of natural resources, and minimize the impact of such use on the environment. The policy is scheduled for first reading at our October 7, 2021 School Board Meeting, and scheduled for final approval on November 4, 2021.

Appendix B. The minutes of the Meeting of the Mountain View Board of Education on August 12, 2021, where the Board approved a Memorandum of Understanding with Our Savior Center, a community-based nonprofit organization, for the donation of unused and usable school district food items.

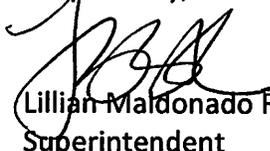
- 2. Recommendation 1.13: "All 80 school districts located in the County should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus."**

Response: Implemented. No further action is required. Please see answers to Item 1.

Conclusion

On behalf of the Governing Board, we appreciate the recommendations set forth in the 2019-2020 report and will endeavor to provide periodic updates to Board members and administrators consistent with the industry standard and considering the recommendations made in the Grand Jury report.

Respectfully,



Lillian Maldonado French, Ed.D.,
Superintendent

LMF:

Cc: Governing Board

Appendix A.



Agenda Item Details

Meeting	Jan 01, 2019 - POLICY REVISION
Category	2. Business Services
Subject	A. New BP 3511.1 - Integrated Waste Management (1st Reading - October 7, 2021)
Access	Public
Type	

Public Content

INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT

The Board of Education believes that the conservation of water, energy, and other natural resources, the protection of the environment, and the implementation of an effective waste diversion program are connected to the District's educational mission and are essential to the health and well-being of the community. The Superintendent or designee shall regularly review a cost-effective, integrated waste management program that incorporates the principles of green school operations.

The District's review shall include strategies designed to promote waste management practices of source reduction, recycling, and composting to help the district reduce and recycle solid and organic waste, properly dispose of potentially hazardous materials, improve efficiency in the use of natural resources, and minimize the impact of such use on the environment. The review shall address all areas of the District's operations, including, but not limited to, procurement, resource utilization, and facilities management practices.

The Superintendent or designee may collaborate with city, county, and state agencies and other public or private agencies in developing and implementing the District's integrated waste management program.

The Superintendent or designee shall make every effort to identify funding opportunities for the District's integrated waste management program, including applying for available grants or other cost-reduction incentives.

The Superintendent or designee may provide appropriate educational and training opportunities to students and staff regarding the benefits and methods of conserving natural resources and the manner in which integrated waste management strategies impact such efforts.

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly monitor all aspects of the District's integrated waste management program and shall provide an update to the Board on its effectiveness as necessary.

Policy Reference Disclaimer: The references below are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject-matter of the policy.

State Description

- 14 CCR 17225.12 Commercial solid waste
- Ed. Code 17070.96 Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act of 1996, consideration of high-performance standards
- Ed. Code 17072.35 New construction grants; use for designs and materials for high-performance schools
- Ed. Code 32370-32376 Recycling paper
- Ed. Code 33541 Science requirements
- Ed. Code 8700-8707 Environmental education
- Pub. Res. Code 41780 Waste diversion
- Pub. Res. Code 25410-25421 Energy conservation assistance
- Pub. Res. Code 40050-40063 Integrated waste management act
- Pub. Res. Code 42620-42622 Source reduction and recycling programs

Pub. Res. Code 42630-42647 Schoolsite source reduction and recycling assistance program
Pub. Res. Code 42649-42649.7 Recycling of commercial solid waste

Management Resources Description

Website AASA The School Superintendents Association

Cross References

Code	Description
0100	Philosophy
1400	Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies And The Schools
3000	Concepts And Roles
3270	Sale And Disposal Of Books, Equipment, and Supplies
3270	Sale And Disposal Of Books, Equipment, and Supplies
3312	Contracts
3510	Green School Operations
3511	Energy And Water Management
3511	Energy And Water Management
3514	Environmental Safety
3514	Environmental Safety
3514.2	Integrated Pest Management
3517	Facilities Inspection
4131	Staff Development
4331	Staff Development
6142.5	Environmental Education
6142.93	Science Instruction
7110	Facilities Master Plan
7131	Relations With Local Agencies

Executive Content

Appendix B. - Partial Minutes of the August 12, 2021 MVSD Board Meeting

That the Board of Education of the Mountain View School District approves the renewal of the agreement between School Services of California, Inc., and Mountain View School District at the cost of \$4,700, plus expenses and any additional hours over 12 hours paid at the consultant's hourly rate for the period of September 1, 2021, to August 31, 2022.

Motion by Adam Carranza, second by Cindy Wu.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Adam Carranza, Christian Diaz, Jacqueline Saldaña, Veronica Sifuentes, Cindy Wu

Action: F. Award of Bid to Republic National Security

That the Board of Education of the Mountain View School District awards the bid and authorizes the staff to execute all related contract documents with Republic National Security for Security Patrol Services paid with all appropriate facilities funding sources.

Motion by Adam Carranza, second by Cindy Wu.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Adam Carranza, Christian Diaz, Jacqueline Saldaña, Veronica Sifuentes, Cindy Wu

Action, Ratification: G. Approval of Change Order #2 for the Fire Alarm Replacement @ Various Sites, Gr. 2

That the Board of Education of the Mountain View School District approves/ratifies change order #2 with Golden Phoenix Construction Co. Inc., for a total amount not to exceed \$58,488.66 paid with Fund 21 and any other eligible facilities funds.

Motion by Adam Carranza, second by Cindy Wu.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Adam Carranza, Christian Diaz, Jacqueline Saldaña, Veronica Sifuentes, Cindy Wu

Action, Ratification: H. Approval of Agreement with Our Savior Center for Food Donation Program

Ms. Wu is happy to see the agreement with Our Savior Center for a Food Donation Program brought forward.

That the Board of Education of the Mountain View School District approves the Memorandum of Understanding with Our Saviour Center for three years; August 2021 to June 2024.

Motion by Adam Carranza, second by Cindy Wu.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Adam Carranza, Christian Diaz, Jacqueline Saldaña, Veronica Sifuentes, Cindy Wu

Action: I. Approval of Surplus/Obsolete Equipment

That the Board of Education of the Mountain View School District declares the list of equipment as surplus/obsolete.

Motion by Adam Carranza, second by Cindy Wu.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Adam Carranza, Christian Diaz, Jacqueline Saldaña, Veronica Sifuentes, Cindy Wu

EQUIPMENT	QUANTITY
DocCam	2
Scanner	2
MacBook	5
Lenovo	5
Charging Cart	2
Aver Media	2
AppleMac	3
TV	44
TV/VCR	2
Projector	5
DesktopAiO	21
Printer	10
VCR	3
Toastmaster Warmer	1

10. PERSONNEL SERVICES

Action: A. Approval of Personnel Actions Report

That the Board of Education of the Mountain View School District approves the Personnel actions.

Certificated Personnel Actions Report

New Hires

Name	Site	Assignment	Effective Date
Aguirre, Alicia	DO	Substitute Teacher	8/13/2021
Benitez, Tanya	DO	Substitute Teacher	

Governing Board Members

Donna Rose
Ernesto Smith
Suzan T. Solomon
Isalah Talley
Brian Walters



NEWHALL SCHOOL DISTRICT

COLLABORATE | INNOVATE | PERSEVERE | EXCEL

Jeff Pelzel
Superintendent

Dee Jamison
Assistant Superintendent
Instructional Services

Sheri Staszewski
Assistant Superintendent
Business Services

Amanda Montemayor
Assistant Superintendent
Human Resources

September 29, 2020

VIA U.S. MAIL & CERTIFIED MAIL,
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED,
& ELECTRONIC MAIL

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: (1) Response of the Newhall School District to the July 31, 2020 Report of the Civil Grand Jury: Regarding A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste.

(2) Recommendation No. 1.12 “All 80 School Districts Located in the County Should Work with Local Public Works and Health Department Officials to Create a Garden and Compost Program in Every School, and Monitor Edible Food Recovery Efforts.”

(3) Recommendation No. 1.13 “All 80 School District Should Develop a Garden / Compost Program That Can Be Available for Students in the Myriad After-School Daycare Options Available on Campus (LACER, After The Bell, STAR, etc.).”

Dear Presiding Judge:

The Newhall School District (“NSD” or “District”) Governing Board thanks the Los Angeles County Grand Jury for its thoughtful report (“Report”) dated July 31, 2020 regarding cutting down on food waste. The District’s Governing Board and administration have taken into consideration the recommendations of the Grand Jury and respond below.

Pursuant to California Penal Code section 933.05 (a)(2), the District agrees in large part with Findings 1.12 and 1.13. It will endeavor to work with local public works and health department officials to explore

the possibility of creating a garden and compost program at school sites where space, staffing, and resources permit. It will investigate the feasibility, in conjunction with public works and health department officials, of developing a garden/compost program available for students as an after-school option.

The District disagrees with the Report to the extent it is not a Respondent in this matter. It was not made aware that this issue was under investigation or examination by the Grand Jury, and it had no opportunity to provide a response as to the measures it has in good faith undertaken, many of them years before the existing mandates, to limit food waste.

The District was not contacted to learn any of the measures that it takes to minimize food waste by any representative of the Grand Jury. Rather, it appears from the text of the report that the primary school contact and basis of evidence for the Report concerning schools was the Los Angeles Unified School District, as is set forth on pages 13 and 14. Thus, pursuant to Government Code section 933.05 (b)(4), these recommendations are neither warranted nor reasonable, however, the District provides the below explanation of the steps that it is already taking that are consistent, in large part, with the Report's recommendations.

The Grand Jury is possibly unaware of the following important information concerning steps that the District has taken since the 1980s to conserve resources and limit food waste: The District is a founding member of the Santa Clarita Valley School Food Services Agency, a joint powers authority established by the Newhall, Castaic, and Sulphur Springs Union School Districts to collectively purchase, prepare, and distribute meals efficiently to children served by its member districts. Presently, the Saugus School District is also a member of the joint powers authority sometime referred to as "Agency" or the newer title, "School Day Cafe." The Agency has a number of practices that it continues to follow to limit both food and packaging waste:

1. Of course, under the current school closures and distance learning protocols, no food is being served directly to students at school. Rather, food is served not only to students but to members in need in the nearby community via a "Grab and Go" method. The Agency serves food in bulk whenever possible, such as a salad bar or a produce stand at lunch time. This greatly limits packaging waste, and may also limit food waste.
2. In times when students are in attendance, the Agency practices what they call, "Offer vs. Serve." This means that students are offered food items, but are not automatically served all available food items for the meal, in order to reduce food waste. Both the National School Breakfast Program and the National School Lunch Program *require* that certain offerings be made to students participating in the nutrition program. Students are allowed by those rules to turn down a certain number of the offerings. The Agency offers for lunch a dairy item, a protein item, a grain item, and two fruit items. Under the national rules, students must select three items, but may turn down the remainder of the offerings.

3. At lunch time, students may select the vegetable offering from the salad bar or from the produce stand, utilizing the Share Table idea mentioned on page 14 of the Report.
4. Since mid-March 2020, schools in the District have been physically closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Families in need pick up prepackaged meals. To save trips and packing materials, they typically pick up breakfast, lunch, and dinner at the same time. Since milk must be offered with each meal, for a family of four picking up three meals, this could be as many as twelve servings of milk. The Agency has applied for and received a waiver thus, if the client does not wish to take the milk, it is not required that they do so, thus saving food waste.
5. In addition to limiting food waste, the Agency has taken conscious steps to limit packaging waste as well. Grab and go meals are provided in a clear thin plastic bag without boxes and without cardboard trays. This limits packaging waste.
6. During school closures in the spring semester due to the pandemic, and in beginning the 2020 – 2021 school year in August, individual school sites served by the Agency will have no food waste, as students will not be present.
7. During regular food production when students are in attendance on campus, the Agency endeavors to maintain food offerings in a frozen state until absolutely needed. Careful records are maintained of what foods are offered and what amounts are selected by students, thus, limiting preparation of excess amounts of food. When food can be safely retained, stored, and offered as an option on the next day menu in addition to the scheduled food offerings, this is done to limit food waste.
8. All retention or storage of food is always in accordance with USDA guidelines. This may cause some amount of food waste.
9. Some school nutrition services offer prepackaged salads. The Agency does not do this, in order to limit food waste. For example, individual elements of a salad are maintained and stored separately rather than being prepackaged in a salad. This allows the ingredients of a salad to be safely retained and used the next day.
10. The Agency keeps detailed production sheets to assess the popularity and volume of food offerings so as to limit ordering and limit the preparation of unnecessary food.

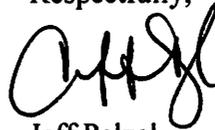
Civil Grand Jury Presiding Judge
September 29, 2020
Page 4

11. During regular times when schools are physically open to students, the cardboard tray or “Boat” on which school lunches are placed is biodegradable. Milk cartons in use are also biodegradable.

This response was adopted by the District’s Governing Board on September 29, 2020.

Please direct any questions to the undersigned.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Pelzel", written in a cursive style.

Jeff Pelzel
Superintendent



Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District

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October 30, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shorridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

Brenna M. Terrones
Assistant Superintendent Administrative Services

Enclosure

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 30, 2020
Page 1

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴ www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

¹⁴⁵ <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
"School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success" (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has been and is being implemented in some of the schools in the District, in those schools that have a garden and compost program. However, current gardening and composting efforts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has been and is being implemented in some of the schools in the District, in those schools that have a garden and compost program. However, current gardening and composting efforts by the schools are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints,

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 30, 2020
Page 2

it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.



Launching a lifetime of learning

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October 4, 2021

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Schools
Raul Maldonado*

To: Michael Cieplik, Continuity Chairperson

From: Raul Maldonado, Superintendent of Schools

Re: A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13

Below you will find the responses to the report.

1.12 All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school, 144 and monitor edible food recovery efforts. 145

The Palmdale School District adopted a new Learning Garden Framework on September 21, 2021. The Palmdale School District Outdoor Learning-Garden Facilities Program has been established to maintain equity when considering establishing an outdoor learning space and or garden to a school campus.

1.13 All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

The school learning gardens will be made available for after school programs. The Learning Garden experience combines core relevant classroom learning objectives with actual hands-on garden development, growth, and assessment practices (as may be relevant). The Program focuses on the importance of plant life on earth, the positive synergy between plant and animal life on earth, and how human behavior can enhance, not inhibit, those synergistic effects for the betterment of our world, our health, and our environment. Emphasis is on farm and garden practices, with an extended reference and implied understanding of the importance of human stewardship for the protection of all plant life around the globe.

Sincerely,

Raul Maldonado
Superintendent of Schools

The mission of the Palmdale School District is to implement our vision with actions and services targeted to students, parents, and staff so our students can live their lives to their full potential.

THOMAS C. MUNDELL (1951-2013)
JAMES A. ODLUM
KARL N. HAWS*
JIM C. MOORE*
MARSHALL L. BRUBACHER
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October 26, 2020

Presiding Judge Kevin C. Brazile
Los Angeles County Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Civil Grand Jury report: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on
Food Waste

Dear Judge Brazile:

This letter constitutes Pomona Unified School District's ("PUSD" or "District") response ("Response") to the 2019-2020 County of Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury Report entitled, "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste" ("Report"). The Report requires a written response from PUSD to all findings and recommendations contained in the Report, in accordance with California Penal Code sections 933(c) and 933.05, on or before October 30, 2020.

CIVIL GRAND JURY FINDINGS

California Penal Code section 933(a) requires a civil grand jury to submit a final report of its findings and recommendations. PUSD is required to examine the report, and, comment upon each grand jury finding in a manner proscribed by Cal. Penal Code section 933.05(a). With regard to the Report, there is nothing designated by the Grand Jury as a "finding." Notably, Model Grand Jury Reports state, "In the Penal Code, the word "finding" is synonymous with "fact."

Because each Grand Jury report is required to contain both findings and recommendations, for purposes of its response, PUSD assumes that the bullet pointed assertions in the Report section entitled "Results of Investigation" constituting page 5 through 18 inclusive, constitute the findings of the Grand Jury, and PUSD will respond accordingly, as required by Penal Code section 933.05 subdivision (a). To the extent these statements were not intended as findings, or to the extent that PUSD does not correctly identify the findings that were intended to be conveyed by the report, PUSD reserves the right to revisit its comments upon request from the Grand Jury.

FINDING

- Landfills are complex operations, with liners, rainwater collection, ground monitoring, and gas collection.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD notes that to the extent this is a finding of the report, it is vague and generalizes all landfills. PUSD has no reason to disagree with this finding.

FINDING

- “Landfills in California are the biggest belchers of methane,” the potent Greenhouse Gas (GHG) that contributes to climate change, according to a 2019 study by research scientists at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, CA. Researchers used an airborne imaging spectrometer to show that 41 percent of emissions in the atmosphere came from landfills, while the dairy, oil & gas industries contributed 26 percent each.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding that the 2019 study by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena states that Landfills are a large source of methane.

FINDING

- Methane, as described in the Countywide Sustainability Plan, “. . . is released . . . by the decay of organic waste in landfills.”

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD has been unable to access the material cited by the Grand Jury, but agrees that methane is released by the decay of organic waste in landfills.

FINDING

- Landfill managers showed us their onsite gas-to-energy system, which captures methane and converts it into electricity that can be used by the facility or sold. Several landfill operators expressed concern that their gas-to-energy operation depends on the organic waste brought to the landfill.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees that several landfill operators expressed concern that their gas-to-energy operation depended on the organic waste brought to the landfill.

FINDING

- Gas capture at landfills creates electricity and revenue for the landfill operator, but also has economic and environmental disadvantages. State officials report that even the best-managed landfills only capture 50% to 80% of the methane gas generated.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees that State officials report that even the best-managed landfills only capture 50% to 80% of the methane gas generated.

FINDING

- Even closed landfills in the County may need to be managed for decades. The South Coast Air Quality Management District held community meetings in the fall of 2019 to alert residents in East Los Angeles about Cogen Landfill, closed in 1959, which was now, 60 years later, showing elevated gas emissions. The County is planning to build a system for managing the remaining methane gas emissions.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees that The South Coast Air Quality Management District held community meetings in the fall of 2019 to alert residents in East Los Angeles about Cogen Landfill, and that a gas control system is being completed, but is unsure who is responsible for the system.

FINDING

- Diverting organic waste from landfills to compost facilities and anaerobic digestion facilities, along with implementing food recovery programs, will significantly reduce methane emissions from landfills, many of which are located in or near disadvantaged communities. Reducing these emissions will have beneficial impacts on climate and public health and will result in avoided social costs. Social costs estimate the health and environmental damage that is avoided by reducing GHGs [Greenhouse Gases], as opposed to representing the cost of achieving the GHG reductions.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees that diverting organic waste from landfills to compost facilities and anaerobic digestion facilities along with implementing food recovery programs, will likely reduce methane emissions from landfills, but is unclear if these actions will result in a net reduction of methane, as this material will be moved elsewhere. Because the social and greenhouse benefits are insufficiently identified in the report, the remainder of the finding is too vague for a response.

FINDING

- According to County officials, the demand for organic waste processing capacity is currently being handled by existing facilities located both in and out of the County. However, looking to the future, County officials said there is a shortfall when it comes to food waste recycling infrastructure, in particular, and more facilities need to be built in Los Angeles County, rather than continuing to rely on out-of-County sources as has been the custom. Landfills we visited had a constant flow of trucks bringing in waste from throughout the County; “tipping fees” were displayed at each front gate, letting the waste hauler know the cost per ton for the material that was being brought for disposal. A 2019 study by Harvard Law School pointed out that banning organics from landfills can lead to a reduction in landfill hauling and tipping costs.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees that the 2019 study by Harvard Law School pointed out that banning organics from landfills can lead to a reduction in landfill hauling and tipping costs. PUSD agrees that County officials said that there is a shortfall when it comes to food waste recycling infrastructure located within the County.

FINDING

- The County Department of Public Works serves the 125 unincorporated areas, and has contracts with 30 authorized waste haulers, including such companies as Athens Services, NASA Services, Waste Management and Waste Resources.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees that the County Department of Public Works serves the 125 unincorporated areas, and likely has contracts with 30 authorized waste haulers, including such companies as Athens Services, NASA Services, Waste Management and Waste Resources, but, while the cited materials contain references to only some of these.

FINDING

- Some waste-hauling companies own or operate landfills in the County or in nearby counties and take material to that landfill.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Most of the 88 cities in the County have a contract with a single waste hauling company; a small number provide their own municipally staffed waste collection services for residential or both residential and commercial.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- In 2016, the City of Los Angeles created 11 franchise zones and awarded exclusive contracts to seven waste haulers to handle the waste for commercial and multifamily properties.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Most communities don't offer a food waste collection service; instead, most offer one for yard and garden waste. In a throwback to the City of Los Angeles' ranching days, the City offers curbside collection of horse manure to its residential horse owners.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- There are more avenues in place for systematic collection of yard/green waste (Appendix 5).

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD is unable to agree with this finding in that it is vague, and PUSD is unable to ascertain exactly what is being stated.

FINDING

- Only 4% of the County's organic waste recycling infrastructure is [sic.] able to accept food waste.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Out of 20 transfer stations in the County, only eight are designated as having capacity to receive separated food waste.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- There are eight composting facilities and 12 facilities called "chip and grind"; all of them process green waste, not food waste.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD is unable to agree in that it was unable to locate the cited table.

FINDING

- The County lists three facilities as providing Anaerobic Digestion, a process by which organic matter, such as food waste or sewage, is broken down in the absence of oxygen to produce biogas and biofertilizer. Only two process food waste: The Joint Water Pollution Control Plant in Carson, and the Kroger Co (Ralphs/Food4Less) facility in Compton which recycles food waste from its own stores (around 300, from Bakersfield to San Diego). This Committee found a patchwork system of managing food waste, whether generated from businesses or residents.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- A consultant hired by the County to examine the changes needed in order to build a strong organic recycling program identified 11 ways the County can do things differently, including:
 - Getting elected officials more involved in supporting and endorsing change
 - Reducing amount of food waste at the source (Appendix 6)
 - Building more capacity at nine anaerobic digestion facilities that can process food waste
 - Simplifying the permitting process to increase food waste processing
 - Creating incentives to start diversion; offer subsidies; modify contracts
 - Adopting ordinances for single family residences and apartment buildings with less than five units, with a process that quantifies, monitors and enforces
 - Emphasize education and public outreach

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees that this finding accurately paraphrases findings from the county hired consultant.

FINDING

- Los Angeles County is close to the largest agricultural production center in the world and has many viable markets for organic materials . . . There is strong statewide policy, financial incentives to assist in the development of facilities, and state incentives for the marketing and sales of the by-products of organic waste recycling (like compost and mulch) . . . However, the biggest disincentive may be the status quo, which is less costly to rate-payers and provides for significant revenue for collection and disposal companies.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees that this finding accurately paraphrases the findings of the cited materials, but notes the limiting language in place that states, “[n]o analysis has been done to quantify the disincentive . . .,” making a cost-benefit analysis of solutions difficult.

FINDING

- In the unincorporated areas of the County, a few businesses currently subscribe to food waste collection services, including four supermarkets that are enrolled in the County’s pilot food waste diversion program.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- The County’s Department of Public Works headquarters in Alhambra serves as a good model for other cafeterias: food waste generated at the employee cafeteria is separated from other trash, composted in special containers outside the cafeteria, with the resulting

compost used to provide nutrient-rich cover to the onsite garden (Appendix 7). Good signage and ongoing employee training are vital to this process.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- For those businesses separating food waste and having arranged its pickup by their waste hauler, the food waste is taken to the Puente Hills Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). The Committee observed that this was a small pile in a corner of the massive facility (Appendix 8). Food waste material arrives from restaurants, grocery stores, and other businesses from the following cities: Arcadia, Baldwin Park, Gardena, Glendale, Industry, La Verne, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Pasadena, Pomona, San Dimas, and Santa Fe Springs. In addition, some commercial businesses in the unincorporated communities of Hacienda Heights and Rowland Heights have made arrangements to have food waste processed at this facility, according to an official at the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (the Districts).

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- At the Puente Hills MRF, a bio separator turns the food waste pile into a type of “slurry” that will then be taken to the Districts’ wastewater treatment plant in Carson. Digesters at the Carson plant use sewage material to turn the food waste slurry into a biogas that provides electricity to the plant, and provides compressed natural gas (CNG) for vehicles that pull up to fuel.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- **City of Los Angeles**--A City official mentioned several pilot programs that deal specifically with food waste:
 - some food service employees at LAX have been trained to separate food waste from the trash.
- 522 homes in the Westchester area have been given special garbage disposals (In-Sink Pilot) that can break down certain food waste for processing at the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant.
- an upcoming pilot planned for 18,000 homes, that will allow food waste to be placed in the green bin for weekly curbside pickup.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- **Manhattan Beach**--Since 2015, the city has offered food waste curbside pickup and recycling to all its businesses and residents, at no extra cost to them.
 - The city contracts with Waste Management for its waste hauling needs. Food waste is taken to the company's CORE food waste recycling facility in Orange and turned into "slurry."
 - The material is then transported to the wastewater treatment plant in Carson.
 - Manhattan Beach residents are billed in a Pay-As-You-Throw system, where 100% of the cost is dependent on the weight of the grey-color bin, which is for regular trash.
- **Culver City**--The city uses its own city staff for waste collection, and contracts with Athens Services for the food waste that is placed in the green bins, along with yard waste to be recycled at its composting facility in Victorville (American Organics), according to a city official.
 - Once a year, Athens brings Culver City 20 tons of the compost material and the city gives most of it away to residents as a gift for gardens.
 - "It is the best-smelling stuff you can imagine; it is so earthy and high-end as a nutrient for the soil," one city official told us. "Our gardeners love it."
- **Claremont**--The city offers its businesses a free food waste recycling program, and hired a new driver to pick up food waste from about 65 businesses that have signed up.
 - The food waste (food scraps, vegetable trimmings, plate scrapings, and spoiled food) is taken to a Burrtec Industries facility in Fontana for recycling.
 - The city is working on expanding the food waste pickup in 2021 to all residents.
- **Redondo Beach**--The city contracts with Athens Services for waste disposal, which offers businesses a food scrap collection program, where food waste can be placed in the green bin, along with yard waste.
 - "A recycling program can reduce your trash service and save you money," according to the city website.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- As of 2016, at least 198 communities in the United States offer curbside food waste pickup. These include cities such as:
 - **Seattle**--offers residents and businesses curbside food waste collection
 - **New York City**--offers certain businesses curbside food waste collection
 - **San Francisco**--in 1996, became the first city in the nation to establish a large-scale food composting program for businesses and residents.
 - **Santa Barbara**--offers businesses and residents food waste pickup, with a fee reduction if less trash goes to the landfill.
 - **Portland**--offers curbside food waste pickup and yard waste that can be combined in the green bin

- **Alameda County**⁸⁴ offers food waste curbside collection in all of its 14 cities (including Berkeley and Oakland) and six unincorporated areas

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Dozens of municipalities have formalized weekly drop-off programs for residential food scraps at central locations, including:
 - **Fort Worth**
 - **Washington D.C.**
 - **Buffalo**
 - **Orlando**
 - **Sweden** banned organic waste from landfills in 2005; less than 1% of household waste goes to landfills; waste-to-energy infrastructure turns food waste and organic waste into biogas that runs more than 200 city buses, as well as garbage collection trucks.
 - **South Korea** has had a Pay-As-You-Throw type system of charging households for waste collection since 2013.⁹¹ Food waste has been banned from landfills since 2005; Seoul's 10 million residents separate their food waste. These policies have led Seoul's food waste to decrease by 10%, or by more than 300 tons a day.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Every school in the 80 school districts in the County has excess edible food and food scraps going to landfills, and County health officials have developed strategies that can help. Cal Recycle also encourages each school district to work with its contracted waste hauling company to implement organics recycling on campus.⁹⁴

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD is unable to find support for the statement that “[e]very school in the 80 school districts in the County has excess edible food and food scraps going to landfills,” in the cited materials. It does agree that Cal Recycle encourages organics recycling on campus.

FINDING

- The Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), the second-largest school district in the country, has a waste hauling contract with Republic Services. This Committee could not find a provision for systematic food waste separation/recycling; the only two bins observed at randomly selected schools were a large blue dumpster and a black dumpster in parking lots.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding, that the committee was unable to find a provision for systematic food waste handling at LAUSD.

FINDING

- LAUSD throws away 600 tons of food waste each week, at a cost of at least \$100,000. In 2017, Gov. Jerry Brown signed a law that allows campuses to collect unopened items and untouched fruit and donate them to food banks.⁹⁸ In addition, there is a program called Share Table (Appendix 6) where unwanted items can be safely offered to those who want them.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- In Los Angeles County, an estimated two million people face food insecurity.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Education officials interviewed by this Committee spoke about some LAUSD schools, where children as young as preschool-age learn about separating food waste, and teachers and volunteer parents use a compost bin onsite in order to “feed” the school garden. However, several education officials stated that many schools do not recycle food waste, and the dumpsters are only for trash and recyclables.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding to the extent it reflects the conversations by the Committee members.

FINDING

- Aside from a school garden increasing healthy eating habits in children,¹⁰¹ the care and maintenance of a garden teaches students about food waste and composting. A County official told this Committee that a garden on every campus would need institutional support from top leadership in order to be sustained.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD believes the first half of the finding misstates the cited material, and finds the second portion of the finding too vague for response.

FINDING

- A County health education official expressed frustration that nutrition education is getting short shrift at schools and recounted a health insurance executive stating: “We keep seeing kids with Type II diabetes, who don’t know the difference between a protein and a carbohydrate.”

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD notes that this finding appears to be anecdotal, and notes that its teaching conforms with relevant grade standards implemented by the state.

FINDING

- A survey sent to all school districts by the County Department of Public Health in 2019 to assess food waste on the 2,206 campuses in the County got a 50% response rate, according to a County health official. A preliminary look at the results showed a wide variety of recommended strategies being used to reduce food waste: from “Offer vs. Serve,” to using the Share Table idea. Only 3% of schools reported composting food scraps onsite or offsite, according to the County health official.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- The County Department of Public Works offers free consultations and materials in a School Garden Program, and has installed gardens at Fishburn Elementary School in Maywood and McKinley Elementary School in San Gabriel.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Even when restaurants want to separate and recycle food waste, they are thwarted: the waste hauler takes it to a landfill anyway (Sweetgreen example)

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD believes that this finding conflicts with earlier findings that certain restaurants took advantage of organic recycling facilities, and therefore believes this finding is vague.

FINDING

- Cafeterias located in some buildings owned and/or managed by the State (case in point, the cafeteria on the ground floor of the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center in Downtown Los Angeles) do not have any visible mechanism for separating/recycling food waste, according to numerous Committee visits per week over a period of several months. According to an interview with a cafeteria employee on November 15, 2019, the only product recycled is cooking oil.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- The Committee also interviewed a waste expert familiar with the workings of the Clara Shortridge Foltz building who said food waste collected from the cafeteria, as well as waste that ends up in the large dumpsters in the loading dock area of the building, is probably going to a landfill.¹¹⁰ “There is just so much contamination in the bins,” the expert told our Committee. “It’s cheaper and easier for companies just to take it to a

landfill. All staff would need training about separating in order for organics recycling to work.” Committee members visited the loading dock area on October 15, 2019, and observed seven large dumpsters, most filled with trash bags that appeared to be unsorted, and blue recycling-designated dumpsters empty and off to the side.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- The expert, who is also familiar with waste collection in the Downtown Los Angeles area, told our Committee that all large companies and agencies in the area are encouraged to recycle food waste, but few do. Waste hauling companies that collect trash have to pay to dump the trash, and they “have to pay more to dump organics, so there needs to be more of an incentive” to get properly-sorted waste to its proper destination.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this expert stated this.

FINDING

- This Committee identified a food vendor company called LunchStop, which offers franchisees the opportunity to operate employee and other types of cafeterias¹¹³ in the County. Some are in courthouses (such as the one in Pasadena and the one at the Edmund D. Edelman Children’s Court) with no visible food waste recycling option that our Committee could determine.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- While many courthouses in Los Angeles County are under the jurisdiction of the State (Judicial Council of California), most cafeterias in these buildings are inspected by the County Department of Public Health. Even in some buildings or facilities where the County has jurisdiction, the cafeteria vendor does not appear to offer food waste separation/recycling, e.g., at the cafeteria operated by a LunchStop franchisee in the Hall of Administration, where the County Board of Supervisors meets. Our Committee also learned that there is no separation/recycling of food waste at the Hollywood Bowl, where the County has contracts with other food vendors.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Some employees at businesses that have special bins throughout the store (Target, Costco, etc.) with special signage to collect food waste told this Committee that those bags are thrown into the regular trash bin in the back. For some managers of large facilities in the City of Los Angeles, there seems to be no cost savings in taking on the

issue of food waste. In fact, there is an added cost for the trouble of separating out food waste and training staff, several managers told this Committee.¹²¹

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- During the course of our investigation, the Committee found that for those who do not live in a city that offers food waste recycling options, residents are left either to do backyard composting themselves, or throw food waste in the trash. In the city of Los Angeles, for residents, it doesn't matter how much trash you generate, the cost is the same, according to the bimonthly bill many of our Jury members receive every month. Residents are charged a flat Solid Resources Fee (SRF) that is applied to the City's Clean Water, Solid Resources, and Watershed Protection. The fee funds the collection of solid waste, landfill costs, and a numerous list of associated costs. "Since the Solid Resources Fee funds more than just refuse collection, the fee is still applied—even if your dwelling produces little, or no, refuse waste," according to the City's LA Sanitation website.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- A City official stated, "it's hard for people to separate food waste; it can be smelly; where do you keep it, etc. We're working on a good way to do it. We have pilot programs." This Committee found strong interest from residents and businesses interviewed. For those residents who are already committed to food waste separation and recycling (whether from their single-family house, or apartment), the only option our Committee found was LA Compost: a nonprofit organization that has a drop-off booth at several weekly farmer's markets relies on volunteers and donations operates several hubs throughout the City where residents can drop off their food waste. In January of 2020, before the Covid-19 Pandemic, only eight of the 32 hubs were open due to growing demand, and not enough capacity during the pandemic, LA Compost continued accepting food waste drop-offs at one of the 26 community gardens throughout the City, and volunteers said that every Sunday, there was a constant stream of people.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Many college campuses in the County have ongoing sustainability initiatives:
 - Cal State Northridge--dining services staff collects kitchen plant food waste and uses it for composting in its garden on campus.
 - Occidental College in Eagle Rock--students have begun composting programs for food waste, but continue to find it challenging to sustain the program as students graduate. In 2016, the campus contracted with waste hauling company Athens

- Services to have food waste taken to the company's composting facility in Victorville.
- Students whose home cities, like Seattle, have curbside compost pickup programs express surprise that fellow students are not as diligent about food separation/recycling.
- The County's Department of Public Works has identified nearly 200 facilities where organic waste should be separated and recycled, from cafeteria kitchen food prep areas ("back of house"); cafeteria dining areas, lunch rooms, employee workstations, landscaping. Educational material has been provided, and compliance is encouraged, according to County officials.
- However, County officials said they don't know how many of the identified entities are meeting the mandate, which requires organic waste recycling as of January 1, 2019, and that more action may be forthcoming once the State outlines regulations around the \$10,000 fine per day. A random check by our Committee calling and visiting a few of the facilities, in conjunction with our conversations with waste haulers, leads us to believe that there is room for improvement in implementing organic waste recycling in these facilities.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS

PUSD is directed to respond to recommendations 1.12 and 1.13 of the Report. The Recommendations and PUSD's responses, per the requirements of Penal Code section 933.05(b), are included herein below.

RECOMMENDATION 1.12:

- All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school, and monitor edible food recovery efforts.

RESPONSE:

The recommendation has been partially implemented by the District, but, while the District will continue to implement portions of the recommendation, it will not be fully implemented in that full implementation is not reasonable with the current level of funding afforded to school districts.

The Pomona Unified School District has some 41 schools and serves approximately 30,000 pre-K12 and 17,000 adult learners. Each campus has its own unique needs and circumstances. Therefore, this recommendation has been and is being implemented in some of the schools in the District. In schools with a garden and compost program, the gardening and composting efforts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks

funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools, as most schools are severely limited regarding in-person contact. Where in-person programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols. Once in-person participation becomes more widely available, students and staff will still be required to scrupulously follow all public health protocols, making group composting and gardening projects difficult at best.

Pomona Unified School District will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies, as well as community and school volunteers to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste, and increase participation in gardening and composting efforts within its current level of funding and available resources.

RECOMMENDATION 1.13:

- All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE:

The recommendation has been partially implemented by the District, but, while the District will continue to implement portions of the recommendation, it will not be fully implemented in that full implementation is not reasonable with the current level of funding afforded to school districts, and the limitations inherent in after-school daycare options available on-campus.

This recommendation has been and is being implemented in some of the schools in the District; in those schools that have a garden and compost program. However, current gardening and composting efforts by the schools are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are fully available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

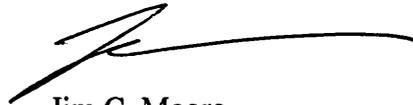
This recommendation assumes after school daycare options which are either not currently in operation, or are curtailed by COVID 19. The current situation renders the prospect of utilizing such programs for gardening and composting problematic. The Districts look forward to additional guidelines as to permissible activities, social distancing, and appropriate adult, student interaction for a time when the school district is able to offer more fully these and other in-person programs. Therefore, the district is unable, at the current time, to accommodate the use of daycare programs for the creation of a composting and gardening activity until such unknown time as these variables may be answered.

Pomona Unified School District will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies, as well as community and school volunteers to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

CONCLUSION

While the foregoing constitutes PUSD's responses to the Civil Grand Jury's Report in accordance with California Penal Code sections 933(c) and 933.05, PUSD looks forward to responding to any additional, follow-up questions the civil Grand Jury may have

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim C. Moore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jim C. Moore

JCM/kc.



**REDONDO BEACH
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

October 25, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Redondo Beach Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

Steven E. Keller, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Board of Education:

Michael Christensen • Raymur Flinn • Brad Serkin • Brad Waller • David Witkin

Student Board Member:

Charles Steerman

Superintendent of Schools:

Dr. Steven Keller



REDONDO BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

144 www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

145 <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf> "School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success" (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has been and is being implemented in some of the schools in the District, in those schools that have a garden and compost program. However, current gardening and composting efforts are voluntary and led by volunteers. All Redondo Beach Unified School District elementary schools have LiveWell Kids gardens provided by Beach Cities Health District (BCHD) and maintained by the Garden Coordinator and Garden Angel volunteers. The LiveWell Kids Garden program provides five interactive lessons per year. Some of the lesson topics include seasonal harvesting and planting, composting, farm to table, among others.

Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

Board of Education:

Michael Christensen • Raymur Flinn • Brad Serkin • Brad Waller • David Witkin

Student Board Member:

Charles Steerman

Superintendent of Schools:

Dr. Steven Keller



REDONDO BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has been and is being implemented in some of the schools in the District, in those schools that have a garden and compost program. However, current gardening and composting efforts by the schools are voluntary and led by volunteers.

Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

The District does not currently offer any state and federally subsidized after school programs on our school campuses. However, there does exist a parent-pay after school program. Because the current garden program has a curriculum with each classroom adopting beds in the garden, it will likely be challenging to “provide access to the garden to the after school program”.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.

Board of Education:

Michael Christensen • Raymur Flinn • Brad Serkin • Brad Waller • David Witkin

Student Board Member:

Charles Steerman

Superintendent of Schools:

Dr. Steven Keller

Rosemead

Re: Rosemead School District Response to Grand Jury Request - A Diet For Landfills

Civil Grand Jury [REDACTED]

Wed 9/29/2021 1:11 PM

To: Alejandro Ruvalcaba [REDACTED]

Thank you for your response.

Thom

Thomas Patrick O'Shaughnessy
Foreperson
2021-2022 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury
(213) 893-0411
[REDACTED]
www.grandjury.co.la.ca.us

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From: Alejandro Ruvalcaba [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, September 29, 2021 12:10 PM
To: Civil Grand Jury [REDACTED]
Subject: Rosemead School District Response to Grand Jury Request - A Diet For Landfills

To Whom It May Concern,

Herein is the Rosemead School District's response to the Grand Jury request for information.

1.12 All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school, and monitor edible food recovery efforts.

Response : The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with a timeframe for implementation.

- The District has held initial meetings with Republic Services Organic Recycling on 9/28/2021
- By November 2021, we will begin planning with our liaisons at LADPH and the City of Rosemead
- By December 2021, we will begin a waste sorting program at two schools with a rollout at other schools in subsequent months
- A student-led process with teacher support will be implemented by March 2022

1.13 All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

Response : The recommendation requires further analysis, with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or head of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency

when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.

- Republic is the city's permitted hauler. Although Republic's is willing to work with Rosemead on the implementation of organic recycling , the composting program will be an undertaking by the district. The district's after school program Coordinator and the Director of Nutrition and Wellness are researching ways to develop the compost program. We will be able to implement the program by April 2022. We have contacted LA Compost - SGV to assist the district with implementing the program.

Please let the District know if you are in need of further information.

Respectfully,

--

Alex Ruvalcaba

Superintendent



Rosemead School District

Encinita ♦ Janson ♦ Muscatel ♦ Savannah ♦ Shuey
3907 Rosemead Blvd., Rosemead, CA 91770

Tel: [REDACTED]

Fax: (626) 312-2906

Email: [REDACTED]

Website: www.rosemead.k12.ca.us

Inspiring and developing the leaders of tomorrow.

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Rowland Heights
CA 91748

(626) 965-2541
FAX (626) 854-8302

www.rowlandschools.org



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David M. Malkin
Angelena Pride

Superintendent of Schools
Julie Saylor Mitchell, Ed.D.

October 27, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: Response to 2019-2020 Los Angeles Grand Jury Report, "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste"

To the Honorable Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

In accordance with California Penal Code section 933.05, the Los Angeles County Grand Jury has requested that the Rowland Unified School District respond to findings and recommendations in the 2019-20 Los Angeles Grand Jury Report entitled, "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste."

Recommendation 1.12 All 80 school districts in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school and monitor edible food recovery efforts.

Response to Recommendation 1.12: The recommendation has not been implemented and due to fiscal constraints and current circumstances, the District does not plan to implement. At this time it is not reasonable to implement a garden and compost program in these unprecedented times. The COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, and as such, all of our schools are still providing instruction in an all distance learning model. All of our time and attention is currently being devoted to ensuring the health and safety of our staff, students, and community. The school district does not have the capacity to devote any of its limited resources to developing a garden or compost program at its schools while the school district is coping with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We will continue to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand efforts to reduce food waste.

Board Vision: The Rowland Unified School District promotes, expects, and accepts nothing short of excellence. We have a collective commitment to be the best school district in California.

Mission: The mission of the Rowland Unified School District, the progressive international community united in learning, is to empower students so that each actualizes his or her unique potential and responsibly contributes to a global society, through a system distinguished by rigorous academics, innovative use of technology, creative exploration, and nurturing learning experiences.

October 27, 2020

Page 2

Recommendation 1.13 All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

Response to Recommendation 1.13: The recommendation has not been implemented and it is not reasonable in these unprecedented times to implement. In addition to the reasons stated in the response to Recommendation 1.12, the California Department of Public Health guidelines and the orders of the county health officer make it impractical and unachievable to implement Recommendation 1.13 at this time.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop programs to educate students on food waste and to ultimately reduce food waste.

Sincerely,



Julie Mitchell, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Board Vision: The Rowland Unified School District promotes, expects, and accepts nothing short of excellence. We have a collective commitment to be the best school district in California.

Mission: The mission of the Rowland Unified School District, the progressive international community united in learning, is to empower students so that each actualizes his or her unique potential and responsibly contributes to a global society, through a system distinguished by rigorous academics, innovative use of technology, creative exploration, and nurturing learning experiences.



SAN GABRIEL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Our Children's Future is our Mission"

408 JUNIPERO SERRA DRIVE • SAN GABRIEL, CALIFORNIA 91776
(626) 451-5400 • FAX (626) 451-5494 • www.sgusd.k12.ca.us

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September 23, 2020

Presiding Judge

Los Angeles Superior Court

Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center

210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of the San Gabriel Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

James Symonds
Superintendent

JS

Enclosure

ADMINISTRATION

JAMES SYMONDS, *Superintendent* • WILLIAM WONG, *Assistant Superintendent, Business Services*
DR. JOAN PEREZ, *Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services* • ROSS PERRY, *Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources*

To: Presiding Judge
Topic: A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste
Date: September 24, 2020
Page 2 of 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴ www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

¹⁴⁵ <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf> "School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success" (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District partially agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has been and is being implemented in some of the schools in the District, in those schools that have a garden and compost program. However, current gardening and composting efforts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. The District will not implement the recommendation. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste

H

=====*San Marino Unified School District*=====

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
TELEPHONE: (626) 299-7000
FAX: (626) 299-7010

1665 WEST DRIVE
SAN MARINO, CALIFORNIA 91108-2594

Date: 10/4/2021

Subject: Response to the Presiding Judge
County of Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury
222 South Hill Street, 6th Floor, Suite 670
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Concerning: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting down of Food waste
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

On behalf of the San Marino Unified School District, (further referred to as the "District") please see responses below:

RECOMMENDATION #1.12

The District agrees with the recommendation but implementing this in a small district will take dedicated volunteers, added labor, and funding. Some of the schools have small teaching gardens but due to fiscal constraints, land space, and dedicated volunteers, it is not possible for each of the four schools in the district to have a garden and composting program.

Additionally the COVID-19 pandemic and the recommended protocol for schools is a major deterrent to starting such a program at this time.

RECOMMENDATION #1.13

The District does not have an afternoon or daycare programs that could fulfill this recommendation.

The principals and teachers however have been diligently teaching students about the importance of not wasting food and how to reduce waste.

Due to the COVID-19 safety precautions, and the School Breakfast and Lunch Meal Pattern requirements students are getting more than they can consume at one meal. This will improve as soon as students are allowed to make their own choices on the lunch line.

Both recommendations will be set for discussed at the next Wellness Committee meeting.

Sincerely,



Dr. Linda de la Torre
Acting Superintendent



JK

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

October 12, 2021

Michel Cieplik
Continuity Chairperson
L.A. County Civil Grand Jury
222 South Hill St., Suite 670
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Response to the 2019-20 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Final Report

Attached please find the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's response to Recommendation Nos. 1.12 and 1.13 of the 2019-20 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Final Report – *A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste*.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at 310.450.8338.

Sincerely,

Richard Marchini

Director of Food and Nutrition Services
Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District

CC: Dr. Ben Drati, Superintendent, SMMUSD
Melody Canady, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Fiscal Services, SMMUSD
Carey Upton, Chief Operations Officer, SMMUSD

RESPONSE TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY REPORT

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

2019-20 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: CUTTING DOWN ON FOOD WASTE

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school, and monitor edible food recovery efforts.

RESPONSE

While we generally agree with this recommendation, we have concerns regarding available funding and physical space available for schools throughout the County to implement it. Our school district currently has gardening programs and composting programs at four of our schools, and we plan to expand it to all of our schools when it is fiscally feasible and the school sites have space to accommodate the program.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

SMMUSD supports the spirit of this program; however, the implementation at all of our school sites would require additional staffing and funding resources. Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate this recommendation at our sites at this time, and we caution that this might be the case at other school districts across the County.



DAVE LUBS
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF BUSINESS SERVICES

September 22, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of South Pasadena Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

Geoff Yantz, ED.D
Superintendent
South Pasadena Unified School District

[dhl]
Enclosure

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
September 22, 2020
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴ www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

¹⁴⁵ <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
“School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success” (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District partially agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has been and is being implemented in some of the schools in the District, in those schools that have a garden and compost program. However, current gardening and composting efforts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
September 22, 2020
Page 3

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

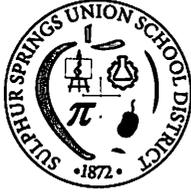
All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. The District will not implement the recommendation. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.



Sulphur Springs Union School District

Serving Grades Preschool – 6

27000 Weyerhaeuser Way, Santa Clarita, CA 91351

661-252-5131 phone 661-252-6849 fax

www.sssd.k12.ca.us

September 23, 2020

VIA U.S. MAIL & CERTIFIED MAIL,
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED,
& ELECTRONIC MAIL

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: (1) Response of the Sulphur Springs Union School District to the July 31, 2020 Report of the Civil Grand Jury: Regarding A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste.

(2) Recommendation No. 1.12 “All 80 School Districts Located in the County Should Work with Local Public Works and Health Department Officials to Create a Garden and Compost Program in Every School, and Monitor Edible Food Recovery Efforts.”

(3) Recommendation No. 1.13 “All 80 School District Should Develop a Garden / Compost Program That Can Be Available for Students in the Myriad After-School Daycare Options Available on Campus (LACER, After The Bell, STAR, etc.)”

Dear Presiding Judge:

The Sulphur Springs Union School District (“SSUSD” or “District”) Governing Board thanks the Los Angeles County Grand Jury for its thoughtful report (“Report”) dated July 31, 2020 regarding cutting down on food waste. The District’s Governing Board and administration have taken into consideration the recommendations of the Grand Jury and respond below.

Pursuant to California Penal Code section 933.05 (a)(2), the District agrees in large part with Findings 1.12 and 1.13. It will endeavor to work with local public works and health department officials to explore the possibility of creating a garden and compost program at school sites where space, staffing, and resources permit. It will investigate the feasibility, in conjunction with public works and health department officials, of developing a garden/compost program available for students as an after-school option.

The District disagrees with the Report to the extent it is not a Respondent in this matter. It was not made aware that this issue was under investigation or examination by the Grand Jury, and it had no opportunity to provide a response as to the measures it has in good faith undertaken, many of them years before the existing mandates, to limit food waste.

The District was not contacted to learn any of the measures that it takes to minimize food waste by any representative of the Grand Jury. Rather, it appears from the text of the report that the primary school contact and basis of evidence for the Report concerning schools was the Los Angeles Unified School District, as is set forth on pages 13 and 14. Thus, pursuant to Government Code section 933.05 (b)(4), these recommendations are neither warranted nor reasonable, however, the District provides the below explanation of the steps that it is already taking that are consistent, in large part, with the Report's recommendations.

The Grand Jury is possibly unaware of the following important information concerning steps that the District has taken since the 1980s to conserve resources and limit food waste: The District is a founding member of the Santa Clarita Valley School Food Services Agency, a joint powers authority established by the Newhall, Castaic, and Sulphur Springs Union School Districts to collectively purchase, prepare, and distribute meals efficiently to children served by its member districts. Presently, the Saugus School District is also a member of the joint powers authority sometime referred to as "Agency" or the newer title, "School Day Cafe." The Agency has a number of practices that it continues to follow to limit both food and packaging waste:

1. Of course, under the current school closures and distance learning protocols, no food is being served directly to students at school. Rather, food is served not only to students but to members in need in the nearby community via a "Grab and Go" method. The Agency serves food in bulk whenever possible, such as a salad bar or a produce stand at lunch time. This greatly limits packaging waste, and may also limit food waste.
2. In times when students are in attendance, the Agency practices what they call, "Offer vs. Serve." This means that students are offered food items, but are not automatically served all available food items for the meal, in order to reduce food waste. Both the National School Breakfast Program and the National School Lunch Program *require* that certain offerings be made to students participating in the nutrition program. Students are allowed by those rules to turn down a certain number of the offerings. The Agency offers for lunch a dairy item, a protein item, a grain item, and two fruit items. Under the national rules, students must select three items, but may turn down the remainder of the offerings.
3. At lunch time, students may select the vegetable offering from the salad bar or from the produce stand, utilizing the Share Table idea mentioned on page 14 of the Report.

4. Since mid-March 2020, schools in the District have been physically closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Families in need pick up prepackaged meals. To save trips and packing materials, they typically pick up breakfast, lunch, and dinner at the same time. Since milk must be offered with each meal, for a family of four picking up three meals, this could be as many as twelve servings of milk. The Agency has applied for and received a waiver thus, if the client does not wish to take the milk, it is not required that they do so, thus saving food waste.
5. In addition to limiting food waste, the Agency has taken conscious steps to limit packaging waste as well. Grab and go meals are provided in a clear thin plastic bag without boxes and without cardboard trays. This limits packaging waste.
6. During school closures in the spring semester due to the pandemic, and in beginning the 2020 – 2021 school year in August, individual school sites served by the Agency will have no food waste, as students will not be present.
7. During regular food production when students are in attendance on campus, the Agency endeavors to maintain food offerings in a frozen state until absolutely needed. Careful records are maintained of what foods are offered and what amounts are selected by students, thus, limiting preparation of excess amounts of food. When food can be safely retained, stored, and offered as an option on the next day menu in addition to the scheduled food offerings, this is done to limit food waste.
8. All retention or storage of food is always in accordance with USDA guidelines. This may cause some amount of food waste.
9. Some school nutrition services offer prepackaged salads. The Agency does not do this, in order to limit food waste. For example, individual elements of a salad are maintained and stored separately rather than being prepackaged in a salad. This allows the ingredients of a salad to be safely retained and used the next day.
10. The Agency keeps detailed production sheets to assess the popularity and volume of food offerings so as to limit ordering and limit the preparation of unnecessary food.

Civil Grand Jury Presiding Judge
September 23, 2020
Page 4

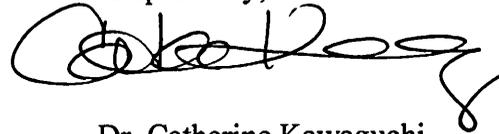
11. During regular times when schools are physically open to students, the cardboard tray or “Boat” on which school lunches are placed is biodegradable. Milk cartons in use are also biodegradable.

12. At this time, the Sulphur Springs Union School District has nine established gardens over seven school sites.

This response was adopted by the District’s Governing Board on September 23, 2020.

Please direct any questions to the undersigned.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Catherine Kawaguchi', written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Catherine Kawaguchi
Superintendent

October 27, 2021

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shorridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

[REDACTED]

Re: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Temple City Unified School District, attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Fricker
Superintendent

[KF]
Enclosure

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 27, 2021
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴ www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

¹⁴⁵ <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
“School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success” (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.

- SY 21-22 created a committee to plan this new garden and compost program.
- Select a pilot school to implement
- Start waste sorting and make changes.
- Plan when to implement at other sites.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The recommendation requires further analysis

This recommendation has not been implemented. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.



Torrance Unified School District

2335 PLAZA DEL AMO
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TELEPHONE (310) 972-6500
www.tusd.org

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TIMOTHY H. STOWE, Ed.D.

October 20, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Torrance Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

Keith Butler, Ph.D.
Chief Business Officer

KB/st
Enclosure

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 20, 2020
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

144 www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

145 <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
"School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success" (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District agrees/partially with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented, but the District intends to implement the recommendation in the future. Current gardening and composting efforts by schools in other districts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 20, 2020
Page 3

The District agrees/partially with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented, but the District intends to implement the recommendation in the future. Current gardening and composting efforts by schools in other districts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.

Walnut Valley Unified School District

"KIDS FIRST - Every Student, Every Day"

Robert Taylor, Ed.D., Superintendent
880 S. Lemon Avenue • Walnut, California 91789 • Tel. (909) 595-1261



October 5, 2021

Re: *A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste*
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Walnut Valley Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,



Matthew A. Torres, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

Enclosure

October 5, 2021

Re: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Walnut Valley Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt J".

Matthew A. Torres, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 5, 2021
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

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“School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success” (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District partially agrees with the recommendation.

The District currently has some schools that either have a garden and compost program, or are exploring the possibility of a garden and compost program. Unfortunately, gardening and composting efforts are or would be led by volunteers. Due to fiscal and facility constraints, it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

Due to fiscal and facility constraints, it is not possible to guarantee a garden and composting program for every school in the District. The District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. The District will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.

October 5, 2021

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Walnut Valley Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Torres".

Matthew A. Torres, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 5, 2021
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

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“School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success” (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District partially agrees with the recommendation.

The District currently has some schools that either have a garden and compost program, or are exploring the possibility of a garden and compost program. Unfortunately, gardening and composting efforts are or would be led by volunteers. Due to fiscal and facility constraints, it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.

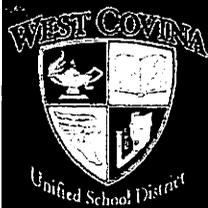
RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

Due to fiscal and facility constraints, it is not possible to guarantee a garden and composting program for every school in the District. The District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. The District will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.



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Superintendent

West Covina Unified School District

August 10, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles County Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Response to 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report
A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste

Dear Presiding Judge:

The West Covina Unified School District ("District") has received the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Grand Jury Report titled "A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste" ("Report"). The District appreciates the Grand Jury's diligence investigating and reporting on the operations of local government agencies.

The District is committed to reducing food waste and teaching our students the value of gardening and composting. The District has made efforts to implement best practices to reduce food waste and teach our students the importance of gardening and composting. The District has a longstanding gardening and compost program at every elementary school in the District. All of our schools have developed and put in place share tables to reduce food waste.

The District has reviewed the Grand Jury's recommendations and the District's responses are below.

Recommendation 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school, and monitor edible food recovery efforts.

District's Response to Recommendation 1.12

This recommendation has been partially implemented. Through a partnership with Hurst Ranch, the District has developed a program that has been in place for the last eight years at all of our elementary schools. The District's *Garden Gourmets* program serves 4th grade classrooms at all of our elementary schools. Participating students visit an offsite location

1717 W. Merced Ave. West Covina California 91790 (626) 939-4600

(Hurst Ranch) on a monthly basis where they learn the basics of gardening and composting under the guidance of a horticulturist. Students are highly encouraged to share their gardening and composting learnings with their families to reach a wider audience. Additionally, parents of participating students are welcome to attend the monthly field trips. The District has effectively implemented *Share Tables* at all of our schools to reduce food waste.

Recommendation 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

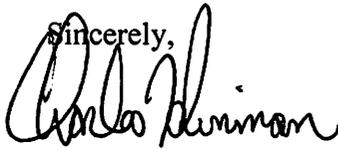
Response to Recommendation 1.13

This recommendation has been partially implemented through our *Garden Gourmets* program at our elementary schools as described above. Unfortunately, we are unable to expand this program to our after-school daycare programs due to limited funding and capacity limits at Hurst Ranch.

Conclusion

We appreciate your recommendations regarding the District's food waste and composting practices. The Report has confirmed our commitment to reducing food waste through our *Share Tables*. The Report has also confirmed the value of our *Garden Gourmets* program. After eight years, our *Garden Gourmets* program is going strong and has greatly benefited our students, staff, and the West Covina Community.

Sincerely,



Charles D. Hinman, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Westside Union School District response for 1.12 and 1.13

Section 933.05 Responses to Findings:

The Westside Union School District agrees with the findings of the report.

The recommendation requires further analysis before implementation.

Currently forty percent of our school sites currently have on campus gardens, however, they have not been maintained since the beginning of the pandemic spurred by School closures due to COVID-19. We will be returning for the 2021-2022 school year on August 4th with in person learning as an option.

Some of the obstacles that we are working with are 1) weather in the Antelope Valley does not allow for year round gardens, with our extreme heat in the summer and extreme cold in the winter. 2) some of our sites have limited gardening space available at this time but conversations have begun on how to meet this concern.

One of our sites has a composting program but it began shortly prior to school closures. Our other sites have not begun composting yet but we will continue to pursue the expansion of this program. One additional effort that we are making is to partner with other local Districts in developing an ongoing disposable organic program. The timeline for the advancement of this program is delayed due to the issues with Covid-19.

Jake Briggs Ed.D.

Director of Fiscal Services

Westside Union School District



1.12 All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

1.13 All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).Response to findings from the County of Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury regarding Cutting down on food waste.



Office of the Superintendent

7211 S. Whittier Ave., Whittier, CA 90602-1189 • 562-789-3075 • Fax: 562-698-6534 • www.whittiercity.net

September 18, 2020

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Member

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shorridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

Superintendent

Maria Martinez-Poulin, Ed.D.

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Whittier City School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

Dr. Maria Martinez-Poulin
Superintendent

[mmp]
Enclosure

OUR MISSION

The mission of the WCSD is to partner with students, parents, and the community to ensure learning so every student reaches his/her optimum potential and has a positive impact on a global society.

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
September 18, 2020
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

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“School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success” (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District partially agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has been partially implemented in a couple of schools in the Whittier City School District, as some schools have a garden program but composting is not a part of it. Prior to COVID-19, gardening efforts were voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties.

In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

In the 2019 – 2020 school year, in collaboration with Waste Management, the Whittier City School District started an organic waste program in order to divert organic material (food waste) from ending up in our landfills. One school in the District has piloted this program but with the school closures due to COVID-19, we have been unable to continue with it. We plan to resume implementation when students resume instruction at the school sites, and we will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
September 18, 2020
Page 3

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District partially agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has been partially implemented in a couple of schools in the Whittier City School District, as some schools have a garden program but composting is not a part of it. Prior to COVID-19, gardening efforts were voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties.

In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

In the 2019 – 2020 school year, in collaboration with Waste Management, the Whittier City School District started an organic waste program in order to divert organic material (food waste) from ending up in our landfills. One school in the District has piloted this program but with the school closures due to COVID-19, we have been unable to continue with it. We plan to resume implementation when students resume instruction at the school sites.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste. In addition, we will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.



William S. Hart Union High School District

October 5, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of the William S. Hart Union High School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

Mike Kuhlman
Superintendent

Enclosure

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴ www.ecocycle.org (accessed 5/2/20)

¹⁴⁵ <https://www.ecocycle.org/files/School%20Compost%20Programs%20Pathways%20to%20Success.pdf>
"School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success" (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

This recommendation has not been implemented. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

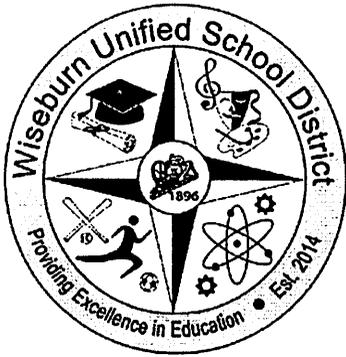
RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

This recommendation will not be implemented. The William S. Hart Union High School District is comprised of junior high and high schools and does not offer daycare programs.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.



WISEBURN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Blake Silvers, Ed.D., Superintendent

Board of Trustees

Israel Mora, President · Neil Goldman, Vice President/Clerk
Roger Bañuelos, Member · JoAnne Kaneda, Member · Nelson Martinez, Member

October 15, 2020

Presiding Judge

Los Angeles Superior Court

Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center

210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: **A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste**
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of Wiseburn Unified School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

Blake Silvers, Ed.D.
Superintendent

DW

Enclosure

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 15, 2020
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

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“School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success” (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has been and is being implemented in some of the schools in the District, in those schools that have a garden and compost program. However, current gardening and composting efforts are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has been and is being implemented in some of the schools in the District, in those schools that have a garden and compost program. However, current gardening and

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 15, 2020
Page 3

composting efforts by the schools are voluntary and led by volunteers. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for every school to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students. Once programs are available, students and staff must scrupulously follow all public health protocols.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.



Wilsona School District

Board of Trustees
Vladimir Gomez
Victoria Green
Kathy Harris
Robert Harris
Anne Misicka

Superintendent
Susan Andreas-Bervel

18050 East Avenue O, Palmdale, CA 93591 ♦ Phone: (661) 264-1111 ♦ Fax: (661) 261-3259

October 23, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Re: A DIET FOR LANDFILLS: Cutting Down on Food Waste
2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of the Wilsona School District (the "District"), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. The report, requires responses from the District to Recommendations 1.12 and 1.13.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Andreas-Bervel".

Susan Andreas-Bervel
Superintendent

Enclosure

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 23, 2020
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

All 80 school districts located in the County should work with local public works and health department officials to create a garden and compost program in every school,¹⁴⁴ and monitor edible food recovery efforts.¹⁴⁵

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"School Compost Programs: Pathways to Success" (accessed 4/3/20)

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. The District will not implement the recommendation. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to design locations for composting and gardening, as well as pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with city and county agencies to expand collaborative efforts to reduce food waste.

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
October 23, 2020
Page 3

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

All 80 school districts should develop a garden/compost program that can be available for students in the myriad after-school daycare options available on campus (LACER, After the Bell, STAR, etc.).

RESPONSE

The District disagrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has not been implemented. The District will not implement the recommendation. Due to fiscal constraints, it is not possible for schools in the District to have a garden and composting program because the District lacks funds to design the facilities for gardening and composting, as well as pay employees to perform additional duties. In addition, the district's daycare options are run by outside contractors. The COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge to creating such programs at schools in the District, as most schools are providing online instruction only to their students.

We will continue to explore ways to collaborate with the schools in the District to develop garden/compost programs that can be available to students with the goals of reducing food waste and educating students about food waste.

2.0 Bail Reform in the County of Los Angeles

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mamie Burleson, Co-Chair

Joseph Sarria, Co-Chair

Angela Blakes, Secretary

Jean Holden

Nirja Kapoor

Irene Shandell-Taylor

Gloria Wilson

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BAIL REFORM IN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

RECOMMENDATION NO. 2.1

The Los Angeles District Attorney's office, City Attorney's office, and Probation Department to consider supporting the elimination of the bail system, and to investigate alternatives to the bail system.

RESPONSE

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office (LADA), respondent, agrees with this recommendation.

The LADA, with its justice partners, is implementing this recommendation.

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office ("LADA") has been deeply involved in the development of an effective alternative to the cash bail system since 2016. The existing monetary bail system needs reform, and the LADA is proactively pursuing change. The LADA envisions a pretrial release procedure that protects public safety, ensures court appearance without disproportionately affecting low-income arrestees, is faithful to the California Constitution, protects victims' rights, and maximizes public resources.

The following summarizes our efforts in the pursuit of bail reform.

In December 2016, the LADA convened a working group to study the myriad issues that arise in the process of reforming the existing cash bail system. The Los Angeles County District Attorney Bail Reform Working Group ("LADA BRWG") conducted extensive research, traveled to various jurisdictions to understand and evaluate existing alternatives to cash bail as implemented in those jurisdictions, and participated in multiple working groups on the creation of a workable non-cash bail system within the County that assesses risk using a data-driven system, and connects arrested persons with services that relate to criminogenic factors. The LADA BRWG consulted with subject matter experts and collaborated with justice partners within the County and throughout the nation to develop effective, efficient, and fair alternatives to cash bail for implementation in Los Angeles County.

The LADA BRWG is also an active member of the Los Angeles County Bail Reform Pilot Proposal Committee (County Committee). The County Committee was formed in 2017 by the Board of Supervisors and chaired by County Counsel. The County Committee is comprised of various County departments, law enforcement agencies, stakeholder groups, court personnel, and advocacy agencies dedicated to the development of an alternative to cash bail. Members of the LADA BRWG attended monthly County Committee meetings, were members of the County Committee's sub-committees and were involved in the pursuit of a workable alternative, sharing its insights and concerns.

Through its membership on the County Committee, the LADA BRWG worked closely with representatives from the Center for Court Innovations ("CCI"), a nonprofit organization that provides guidance to jurisdictions throughout the nation seeking to implement change and improve outcomes in the justice system. Through CCI, the LADA BRWG obtained information about the range of risk assessment tools, both static and dynamic, and the processes by which such tools must be validated, through data review that examines

characteristics, history, and demographics of the person being assessed (the detainee) and the outcomes in each case. Discussions with various stakeholder groups, and their opinions and observations about different risk assessment tools, were valuable sources of information that have assisted the LADA BRWG in developing proposals for implementation of alternatives to cash bail that have a higher likelihood of success and acceptance by the community at large.

Given the unique characteristics of Los Angeles County – its geography and sheer area, as well as the size and diversity of its population and demographics – the LADA BRWG conducted an extensive review of the conditions that exist in Los Angeles County that impact the criminal justice system. This included historical data regarding arrests, offenses, jail populations, charges, as well as outcomes related to retention of detainees in custody and those released from custody. In addition, the LADA BRWG looked closely at policies and practices among the County's law enforcement agencies that impact post-arrest detention decisions and release outcomes. The LADA BRWG recognized quickly that these factors were significant and must be considered in order to develop a pretrial release program that is both workable and fair.

The LADA BRWG looked at the historical development of the cash bail system, applicable legal authorities, peer-reviewed research, published studies about existing programs that supplement or replace cash bail as a release mechanism, and the enabling legislation. The LADA BRWG also considered proposed legislation targeting the replacement of cash bail with an alternative means of assessing risk and ensuring appearance at court hearings. This research was undertaken to ensure a fully-informed perspective on the existing cash bail system and confirmed the unintended unfairness of that system which discriminates based on wealth and imposes collateral consequences on detained individuals that are disproportionate to the crimes for which they are in custody.

One of the first tasks undertaken by the LADA BRWG was the review of legislative proposals in California, including SB 10 (Hertzberg), which was initially introduced in December 2016, and finally chaptered into law in August 2018. The LADA and the LADA BRWG worked closely with Senator Hertzberg and other legislators to develop a legislative proposal that protects public safety, ensures appearance at court hearings, and eliminates the collateral impact of prolonged detention that may not be commensurate with the crime for which the defendant is detained.

While the LADA agreed, in principle, with the goals of SB 10, some of its provisions as initially drafted did not provide adequate protection of the public and others created unworkable timelines. As a result, in June 2017, the LADA BRWG drafted proposed amendments to SB 10 to create a more practical and workable process. The proposal included changes in the timeline and an expanded list of crimes for which a noticed release hearing conducted by a judge is required.

In July 2017, the LADA announced its opposition to the existing language of SB 10 and provided proposed legislative amendments to cure the identified issues. In addition, the LADA BRWG drafted its own legislative proposal which embraced the main concepts of SB 10 and created alternative solutions to the identified issues in the existing legislation. The LADA BRWG identified specific goals necessary to ensure the success of implementing a workable alternative to the existing bail system. The alternative to a cash bail system must:

- Provide non-discriminatory risk assessments for all felony, and certain misdemeanor, arrestees who remain detained;
- Accelerate release for non-serious, non-violent offenders who remain detained ("Eligible Offenses") before arraignment, with the option of posting monetary bail;

- Require that offenders who are charged with serious or violent felony offenses or certain misdemeanor offenses (“Ineligible Offenses”), or who have prior criminal histories, receive a risk assessment before the arraignment hearing, eliminating monetary bail prior to arraignment for this group;
- Provide for judicial discretion to order release, impose conditions of release, or require preventive detention at arraignment for this group;
- Provide flexibility to modify conditions of release or impose additional conditions or preventive detention when there are changed circumstances; and
- Continue to authorize bail deviations and source of funds motions for those persons in custody under existing cash bail provisions.

In addition, the LADA BRWG endorsed the use of risk assessment tools to promote public safety and reduce post-arrest, pretrial incarceration of persons who do not pose a substantial risk to public safety and who are likely to appear in court. The LADA BRWG concluded that a two-tier model that uses both static and dynamic risk assessments best met the needs and conditions within the criminal justice system in Los Angeles County. Hence, the alternative to cash bail must:

- Utilize risk assessment tools that are regularly validated and are not discriminatory;
- Provide for preventive detention of offenders who pose a risk to public safety that cannot be assured by conditions of release;
- Create a pretrial services agency within each county to facilitate, monitor, and enforce conditions of release;
- Permit a condition of release requiring a deposit of collateral/money for low-risk arrestees who pose a minimal flight risk to ensure their return to court for appearances;
- Provide for revocation and forfeiture of collateral upon violation of release conditions; and
- Enable judicial discretion to impose more restrictive conditions, including preventive detention when appropriate.

In collaboration with justice partners, the LADA BRWG identified categories of services for persons eligible for release that would increase future court appearances, would reduce the likelihood of new offenses, and minimize threats to public safety. These services included:

- Reminder systems, through text, email, and phone calls;
- Mental health services;
- Substance abuse treatment and services;
- Anger management and parenting skills;
- Childcare and elder care;

- Transportation;
- Help with homelessness;
- Gang prevention;
- Education; and
- Employment

Further, the LADA BRWG reached consensus with its justice partners that direct linkage connecting the arrested person to available service providers and conditioning release from custody upon mandated participation with the recommended services were essential to ensuring public safety, reducing recidivism, and increasing the likelihood of returning for future court appearances.

Public safety and victim's rights are paramount to the LADA's efforts to promote justice and fairness. The LADA endorses an alternative to the existing cash bail system that:

- Requires that the prosecution team notify victims of detention hearings;
- Gives special consideration to vulnerable victims and victims of domestic violence at the detention hearing, including the right to be heard;
- Requires the court to consider the impact of detention or release upon family members or other vulnerable victims, including physical, economic, and psychological effects;
- Provides for satisfaction of victim restitution orders from bonds posted with the court clerk prior to returning the value to the depositor/arrestee;
- Ensuring that the process for pretrial release is workable, cost-effective, and efficient;
- Calendars the detention hearing at arraignment to avoid multiple hearings and additional expenditures; and
- Provides for implementation in phases and use of a pilot program to minimize costs and permit fine-tuning of procedures, as necessary.

The most important goal of any post-arrest, pretrial release program is fundamental fairness to all parties. The LADA continues to work diligently to ensure a pretrial release system that serves the interests of justice and equity for all. A successful pretrial release system must:

- Provide for the creation of a non-discriminatory risk assessment tool for all detained arrestees;
- Modify the current bail schedule to reflect ranges and consideration of an arrestee's financial resources in setting bail or requiring money to be posted as a collateral condition;
- Return some portion of bail deposits upon the conclusion or initial rejection of the case; and
- Applies bail deposits to fines/restitution/costs of pretrial services upon conviction.

Throughout the process of reviewing state legislation and proposing amendments, the LADA BRWG continued to advocate in favor of these goals. The chaptered SB 10 legislation reflects some of the provisions proposed and advocated by the LADA BRWG. SB 10 is the subject of a referendum (Proposition 25) that will appear on the November 2020 ballot. However, bail reform in Los Angeles County is already being implemented, independent of the outcome of Proposition 25 and SB 10, through the initiation of two major bail reform projects.

The first, the Pretrial Release Evaluation Pilot, is the result of a call for policy and procedure changes by the California Judicial Council (CJC), and subsequent funding by the Governor's Office. In October 2017, the CJC, chaired by the Chief Justice, released its report on Pretrial Detention Reform Recommendation. Following the issuance of the report, and public hearings thereon, the Governor allocated \$75 million to the courts for purposes of implementing bail reform.

The recommendations articulated to expeditiously evaluate and safely release each arrestee while assuring broad judicial discretion in making detention decisions, are wholly consistent with the goals and objectives established by the LADA during its evaluation and development of alternatives to cash bail. In fact, every proposal developed and presented by the LADA BRWG satisfies the recommendations of the CJC.

In January 2018, the *Humphrey*¹ decision was issued, which in many respects underscored the need for bail reform and provided additional impetus to effect change. The LADA continued its collaborative efforts with its justice system partners and its participation with the County Committee in developing an alternative for cash bail in Los Angeles County. In the early months of 2018, the LADA BRWG began meeting with representatives from the Offices of the Public Defender and Alternate Public Defender to find a mutually agreeable process by which a two-tiered system could be created as an alternative to cash bail. Those meetings led to the creation of a Memorandum of Understanding for the Pretrial Release Evaluation Pilot, signed by the District Attorney, the Public Defender, the Alternate Public Defender, and a representative of the Indigent Defense Counsel Committee.

On February 5, 2019, the Board of Supervisors passed a motion titled "Developing Los Angeles County's Models for Pretrial Release." As a result, the LADA BRWG again collaborated with justice partners to develop pilot programs and expand pre-plea diversion programs. In the midst of these efforts, on May 22, 2019, the Los Angeles County Superior Court announced its application for funding pursuant to the California Judicial Council's Pilot Project for Bail Reform.

The Los Angeles County Superior Court Pretrial Release Evaluation Project ("PREP") was formed to create and implement a post-arrest pretrial release system to be tested as a pilot program for Los Angeles County. As a member of the PREP committee, the LADA BRWG actively advocated for a workable and practical system, in collaboration with our justice partners. As a result of this collaboration, in March 2020, a static risk assessment for all post-booking detainees countywide was implemented. In June 2020, the second phase of the PREP pilot (use of a dynamic risk assessment for detainees who remain in custody at arraignment), was launched at the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center. The dynamic assessment provides the court and counsel with an evaluation of the risk posed by the person detained, based upon an interview with the person detained, corroboration of the information obtained, review of the available data (including the criminal charges and criminal history of the defendant), as well as input from the victim of the crime through the investigating law enforcement agency. At a contested hearing, a judge will determine whether the defendant can be released (with or without conditions) or remain detained during the pendency of the criminal case.

¹ *In re Humphrey* (2018) 19 Cal.App.5th 1006.

Concurrent with the development of the PREP pilot, the Bail Project provides an alternative to the posting of traditional cash bail and was launched in collaboration with the defense bar, the court, and the LADA. The Bail Project launched locally at the Compton Courthouse in 2017 in conjunction with students from the UCLA Law School and attorneys from the Public Defender's Office, as a clinic. The Bail Project is a national organization that posts bonds for indigent defendants in custody and provides support throughout the duration of the case with court reminders, transportation, and referrals to voluntary social services. The clinic identifies eligible indigent defendants and exercises the provisions of Penal Code § 1295(a), which permits the posting of 10 percent of the bail amount to be posted directly with the court, rather than requiring full bail to be posted by a surety/bondsman. The funds posted with the court are provided by a revolving fund that is maintained by the Bail Project. This reduces the cost, eliminates the financial burden of bail on the defendant and/or their family, and puts the money directly in the hands of the court. At the same time, the clinic connects defendants with services that may impact the underlying criminogenic factors for the defendant. In addition, the clinic assists defendants with reminders about court appearances and transportation to court.

In November 2019, with the endorsement of the LADA, the Bail Project expanded its operations to include defendants facing charges in the Van Nuys Court. According to statistics compiled by the Los Angeles County Public Defender, as of June 2020, the program posted 136 bonds in Compton and Van Nuys with a 96 percent return-to-court rate. Because of its success, the Bail Project expanded operations throughout Los Angeles County, effective July 6, 2020. The LADA has supported the Bail Project since its introduction in the Compton Court. This program provides an opportunity for low income arrestees to bail out of custody and puts the money in the hands of the court, which can be used to pay fines if imposed, and can be returned if the defendant is exonerated.

Throughout the process, the LADA has proactively pursued alternatives to cash bail, and remains steadfastly committed in the implementation of such projects. Currently, the projects operate within the confines of existing laws, including cash bail. Thus far, the projects and pilots appear to be generating positive outcomes and help eliminate the collateral consequences that prolonged detention causes (e.g., loss of employment and income, lost eligibility for assistance, negative impacts on dependent family members, and exposure to additional criminality that often occurs in a custodial setting).

Even before the concerns of the COVID-19 pandemic, the overcrowding in the Los Angeles County Jail, the collateral consequences of prolonged detention, and the lack of services by which a person involved in criminal conduct might overcome the criminogenic cycle have been concerns that the LADA has actively sought to address. Bail reform is yet another step that must be taken to ensure the fundamental fairness of the criminal justice system. The LADA will continue to proactively seek solutions and participate in meaningful pilot programs in order to develop policies and procedures that assure equal access to justice for victims, for charged defendants, and for the public at large. We will continue to work tirelessly to implement a reformed bail system that is fair and effective, and one that promotes public safety and ensures future court appearances.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PROBATION DEPARTMENT**

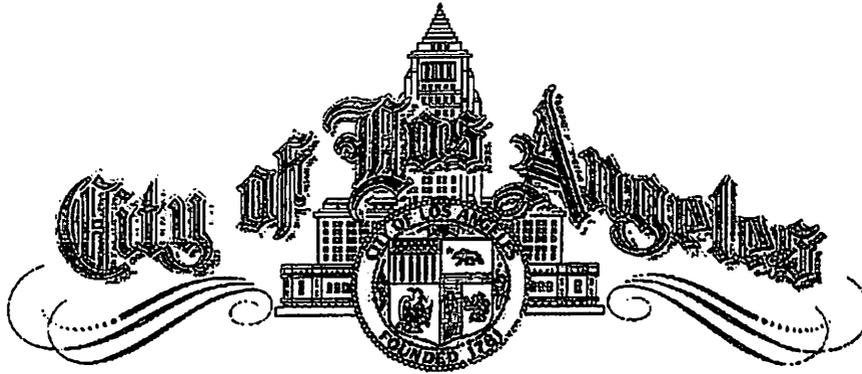
2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BAIL REFORM IN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

RECOMMENDATION NO. 2.1

The Los Angeles District Attorney's office, City Attorney's office, and Probation Department to consider supporting the elimination of the bail system, and to investigate alternatives to the bail system.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. Elimination of the bail system is set for the voters to decide via a referendum this November. Probation supports a fair system that does not disadvantage persons from being released pretrial due to their economic status. Los Angeles County Probation, in partnership with the Superior Court and other justice partners, is currently participating in a pilot designed to safely increase the number of persons released at the pretrial stage by using validated assessments. The data from Los Angeles County and other pilot sites will be analyzed by the State Judicial Council and analyzed to determine the most promising methods of accomplishing bail reform that can be replicated across the State. Probation also supports diversion efforts for persons suffering from mental illness and chronic homelessness when these issues directly contributed to the alleged crimes. Probation has partnered with the Office of Diversion and Reentry (ODR) to pilot such a program which also provides housing assistance to this group.



MICHAEL N. FEUER
CITY ATTORNEY

October 30, 2020

The Honorable Kevin C. Brazile, Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, California 90012

RE: 2019-2020 REPORT ON BAIL REFORM IN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Dear Judge Brazile:

I write in response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury's (CGJ) recently-released final report entitled "Bail Reform in the County of Los Angeles".

The current cash bail system should be replaced with a system focused on an assessment of public safety and flight risk. Indeed, that will occur if California voters enact Proposition 25 next week.

If Proposition 25 fails, my office nonetheless supports exploring and implementing alternatives to the current bail system, eliminating cash bail wherever possible in a manner consistent with public safety. My office and all the criminal justice stakeholders should be included in a discussion around the ongoing development of adequate alternative pretrial assessments and services programming.

The CGJ report makes a single recommendation for the District Attorney's Office, the City Attorney's Office and the Probation Department:

- 2.1 The Los Angeles District Attorney's Office, City Attorney's Office, and Probation Department to consider supporting the elimination of the bail system, and to investigate alternatives to the bail system.

Pursuant to Penal Code section 933(c) and p33.05, the comments noted below address the above recommendation pertaining to the Los Angeles City Attorney.

The Honorable Kevin C. Brazile
October 30, 2020
Page 2

Given the extent and unique nature of my office's role in the Los Angeles criminal justice system, we bring a valuable perspective and we take this opportunity to address some specific aspects of the report.

For example, immediately following a recitation of the number of arrests for felony, misdemeanor and status offenses (1,091,694 statewide and 246,199 county-wide) the CGJ report uses the following quote from former SF Public Defender Jeff Adachi:

Prosecutors have long driven these inequities. Without procedural safeguards in place, they have secured pretrial detention almost automatically by asking for unattainable bail amounts. This is often a pernicious tactic to coerce guilty pleas from people understandably desperate to secure their freedom; prosecutors argue for high bail because a defendant is too dangerous to let out, only to then accept a plea deal that results in immediate release."

This statement certainly does not reflect the practices of my office—in fact, quite the contrary is true. Mr. Adachi's comment is taken out of context, as it was made in reference to a very specific case arising from San Francisco (In re: Humphrey) involving a 65-year old man jailed for stealing a bottle of cologne who ultimately served 300 days in custody because he could not post bail (originally set at \$600,000 and later reduced to \$350,000). In addition, his quote conveys a false sense that this is what is happening in many of the 246,199 arrests in LA County. The reality is that while the current LA County **daily average jail population** is 17,000, the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office **annual custody filings** for all of 2019 were 8,743, and our 2020 annual custody filings to-date number is 3,647.

In fact, the percentage of misdemeanor cases that remain in custody beyond arraignment in the City of Los Angeles is very small and, more often than not, the principal reason misdemeanants stay in custody is there is a felony tail/hold on the defendant. My office is not a contributing factor to the high incarceration numbers cited in the CGJ report. We only argue for bail on our most serious cases (where static risk factors indicate a threat to public safety).

My office fully supports the LA Superior Court's current bail reform pilot mentioned in the CGJ report, and agrees with the Superior Court's stated objectives of increasing the number of inmates who can be safely released pending trial. That is why I signed a multi-agency MOU last October endorsing the implementation of this pilot.

Our office is very familiar with the proposed pre-arraignment risk assessment tool and, more specifically, with the proposed arraignment needs assessment tool. Our Neighborhood Justice Program (NJP), a pre-filing diversion program which helps drive incarceration rates down through recidivism reduction, has been utilizing that same dynamic needs assessment tool, developed by the Center for Court Innovation, since 2014, helping us design engagement plans specifically tailored to each of our pre-filing diversion participant's needs. As part of our participation in the Superior Court pilot's planning phase, NJP hosted personnel from the Probation Department to review how and when NJP staff conducts the assessments and track outcomes.

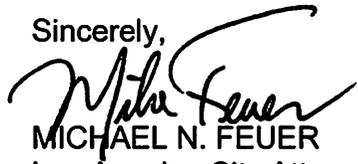
The Honorable Kevin C. Brazile
October 30, 2020
Page 3

In short, I not only agree with the value of this tool towards the development of uniquely tailored engagement plans for the release of in-custody defendants awaiting trial, but advocate that it be considered for out-of-custody defendants as well.

In conclusion, I support the ongoing bail reform efforts of the Superior Court's Bail Reform pilot, and the broader implementation of pre-arraignment static risk assessment tools and arraignment needs assessment tools. Adopting alternatives like these would advance the goals of making the justice system more fair and just, while preserving public safety. These goals are especially pressing now, given the current impact of COVID-19.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



MICHAEL N. FEUER
Los Angeles City Attorney



**JACKIE LACEY
LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

18000 CLARA SHORTRIDGE FOLTZ CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER
210 WEST TEMPLE STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90012-3210 (213) 974-3501

July 13, 2020

Honorable Kevin Brazile, Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, California 90012

**RESPONSES TO THE 2019-2020 LOS ANGELES COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY
REPORTS**

Dear Judge Brazile:

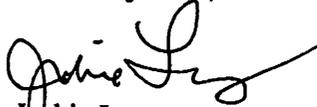
Bail Reform in the County of Los Angeles

I support the elimination of the bail system as recommended by the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury. I have been a strong proponent for bail reform and during the last five years, I have launched efforts to develop an alternative to cash bail with the creation of the Bail Reform Working Group within my office. I have worked closely with legislators and stakeholders to create a fair and just pretrial release process, proactively providing alternative language and statutory proposals that accomplish the shared goals of equitable protection of public safety and revision of an unjust cash bail system.

Children: Not For Sale

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is committed to vigorously prosecuting those who seek to exploit children. As such, I also support the recommendation to increase the number of prosecutors assigned to prosecute these horrendous crimes against children. Since this recommendation addresses a budgetary matter under the authority of the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, it is contingent upon their approval.

Yours in justice,


Jackie Lacey
District Attorney

cng

3.0 Can Technology Eliminate Police Pursuits?

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Alice Beener, Chairperson

Deanne Wall, Co-Chair

John Palos

Jenalea Smith

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
CAN TECHNOLOGY ELIMINATE POLICE PURSUITS?**

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.1

LASD will not pursue vehicles reported stolen that are equipped with vehicle recovery systems.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation will be implemented per the Sheriff's response. The Board defers to the Los Angeles Sheriff Department's (LASD) response for program implementation details.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.3

LASD shall update currently Spike Strip used and logistically equip some patrol vehicles with safer "Nighthawk Remote Tire Deflation Device©."

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis by the LASD who will be evaluating its resource needs. Evaluation is estimated to be completed in the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2020-21. Recommendation for additional resources will be made within the context of the overall budget, numerous funding priorities, and requests.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.5

LASD should hire an additional air crew, which means eight more staff to man a third helicopter on patrol, in the Lancaster/Palmdale area.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis by the LASD who will be evaluating its resource needs. Evaluation is estimated to be completed in the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2020-21. Recommendation for additional resources will be made within the context of the overall budget, numerous funding priorities, and requests.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.6

LASD replacement of helicopters needed as the Eurocopters AS-350 has reached its life expectancy.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis by the LASD who will be evaluating its resource needs. Evaluation is estimated to be completed in Fiscal Year 2020-21. Recommendation for additional resources will be made within the context of the overall budget, numerous funding priorities, and requests.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.8

LASD confirm that all law enforcement officers have maintained the mandated CPT1 and CPT2 courses.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis by the LASD who will be evaluating its resource needs. Evaluation is estimated to be completed in the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2020-21. Recommendation for additional resources will be made within the context of the overall budget, numerous funding priorities, and requests.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.10

LASD follow the lead of the LAPD and implement the use of the BolaWrap 100 restrain technology.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented per the Sheriff's response. The Board defers to the LASD's response.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CAN TECHNOLOGY ELIMINATE POLICE PURSUITS?

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.1

LASD will not pursue vehicles reported stolen that are equipped with vehicle recovery systems.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation will be implemented per the Sheriff's response. The CEO defers to LASD's response for program implementation details.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.3

LASD shall update currently Spike Strip used and logistically equip some patrol vehicles with safer "Nighthawk Remote Tire Deflation Device®."

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis. The CEO defers to LASD's response for details of the analysis.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.5

LASD should hire an additional air crew, which means eight more staff to man a third helicopter on patrol, in the Lancaster/Palmdale area.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis. The CEO defers to LASD's response for details of the analysis.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.6

LASD replacement of helicopters needed as the Eurocopters AS-350 has reached its life expectancy.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis. Evaluation is estimated to be completed in Fiscal Year 2020-21. Recommendation for additional resources will be made within the context of the overall budget, numerous funding priorities, and requests.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.8

LASD confirm that all law enforcement officers have maintained the mandated CPT1 and CPT2 courses.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis. Evaluation is estimated to be completed in Fiscal Year 2020-21. The CEO defers to LASD's response for details of the analysis.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.10

LASD follow the lead of the LAPD and implement the use of the BolaWrap 100 restrain technology.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The CEO agrees with the response provided by the Board.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
SHERIFF

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CAN TECHNOLOGY ELIMINATE POLICE PURSUITS?

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.1

LASD will not pursue vehicles reported stolen that are equipped with vehicle recovery systems.

RESPONSE

The Department partially agrees with this recommendation. This recommendation has been implemented. By Department policy, we can initiate a pursuit of a known stolen vehicle, but only for a reasonably short period. When it is determined the vehicle is only wanted for an infraction or misdemeanor crime (including California Vehicle Code (CVC) violations; or any crime not classified as a serious felony, the pursuit shall be cancelled. Even though the suspect vehicle may be equipped with a vehicle recovery system, until we determine there was no other serious offense or felony, we would then terminate the pursuit.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.3

LASD shall update currently Spike Strip used and logistically equip some patrol vehicles with safer "Nighthawk Remote Tire Deflation Device®."

RESPONSE

The Department partially agrees with this recommendation. The Department needs further analysis regarding the recommendation to update the currently used Spike Strip and logistically equip some patrol vehicles with safer, "Nighthawk Remote Tire Deflation Device®." The analysis is expected to take six months. At this time, any recommendation of providing additional financial support will be made within the context of the Department's overall budget, numerous funding priorities and requests.

Prior to the use of the current tire deflation device used by the Department, Stop Stick, a remote tire deflation device was used. The device was heavy and bulky, taking up much of the limited trunk space in the patrol vehicles. Another disadvantage to the device was, once deployed the batteries were often dead and the device would not work as intended. Testing and research will need to be made on the "Nighthawk Remote Tire Deflation System" to see if it would meet the Department needs in a real world setting.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.5

LASD should hire an additional air crew, which means eight more staff to man a third helicopter on patrol, in the Lancaster/Palmdale area.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with this recommendation. This recommendation will require further analysis. The analysis is expected to take six months. At this time, any recommendation of providing additional financial support will be made within the context of the Department's overall budget, numerous funding priorities, and requests.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.6

LASD replacement of helicopters needed as the Eurocopters AS-350 has reached its life expectancy.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with this recommendation. This recommendation will require further analysis. The analysis timeline is currently dependent upon the outcome of the supplemental budget phase in September of 2020. At this time, any recommendation of providing additional financial support will be made within the context of the Department's overall budget, numerous funding priorities, and requests. All requests, estimates, and lease rates for a new fleet of AS-350-B2 helicopters, to replace our aging fleet, have been submitted to the CEO. In the meantime, we are continuing with the mandatory twelve-year inspections and refurbishments of our current fleet.

All requests, estimates, and lease rates for a new fleet of AS-350-B2 helicopters, to replace our aging fleet, have been submitted to the CEO. At this time, the request has been deferred to the supplemental budget phase in September for approval. In the meantime, we are continuing with the mandatory twelve-year inspections and refurbishments of our current fleet.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.8

LASD confirm that all law enforcement officers have maintained the mandated CPT1 and CPT2 courses.

RESPONSE

The Department partially agrees with this recommendation. This recommendation will require further analysis. The analysis is expected to take six months. At this time, any recommendation of providing additional financial support will be made within the context of the Department's overall budget, numerous funding priorities and requests. Due to the expansive number of recruit academy classes combined with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic outbreak in early 2020, the Training Bureau was unable to remain up to date with CPT courses for compliance.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.10

LASD follow the lead of the LAPD and implement the use of the BolaWrap 100 restrain technology.

RESPONSE

The Department disagrees with this recommendation. This recommendation will not be implemented. LASD tested and evaluated the Bola-Wrap and did not recommend its use for this Department.

:

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

MICHEL R. MOORE
Chief of Police



ERIC GARCETTI
Mayor

P.O. Box 30158
Los Angeles, CA 90030
Telephone: (213) 486-0150
TTY: (877) 275-5273
Ref #: 12.1.2

September 24, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Honorable Presiding Judge:

This letter is in response to the July 31, 2020, Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report, "Can Technology Eliminate Police Pursuits?" The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) responses to the Civil Grand Jury's recommendations are as follows:

Recommendation 3.2- "LAPD will not pursue vehicles reported stolen that are equipped with vehicle recovery systems."

RESPONSE: The Department disagrees partially with the finding as it requires further analysis and the recommendation will not be implemented unless further analysis is done.

This recommendation would require that officers know with certainty that a vehicle in question was in fact equipped with a recovery system. It would require solid commitments from vehicle manufacturers to work in tandem with law enforcement to provide logistical and technical support to assist officers in both identification and follow up response to equipped vehicles. It does nothing to address apprehension of suspects and only serves as a property recovery service. This will have no impact on criminal activity or statistics, due to the suspects still being able to continue illegal activities unabated. The goal of a pursuit is to apprehend the suspect, reducing criminal activity within communities and improving quality of life for citizens within them, not just the recovery of the victim's vehicle.

A better implementation would be to work with manufacturers to effect operational parameters of the vehicle once it is stolen, preventing it from being driven once stolen/reported. This could be facilitated by an open line of communication between law enforcement and vehicle manufacturers, allowing the activation and use of recovery systems to be put into effect, even prior to law enforcement discovering the victim's vehicle during patrol functions.

Additionally, the Department's pursuit policy already contains guidance and limits as to how pursuits are initiated, managed, and terminated. Considerations of the severity of the crime committed, danger to officers, suspects, and the public are the prime factors of the "Balance Test." The constant assessment of the legal need to apprehend the suspect versus the risk to all persons involved is the prime reasonability of any law enforcement officer who engages in a pursuit. The "Balance Test" is a tool the officers and/or supervisors use to decide whether to engage in or terminate a pursuit.

Recommendation 3.4- "LAPD shall update currently used Spike Strip and logistically equip some patrol vehicles with safer "Nighthawk Remote Tire Deflation Devices."

RESPONSE: The Department disagrees with the finding and the recommendation will not be implemented.

The Nighthawk remote tire deflation device have not been tested by the Department to determine viability in its application within the Department operational environment and geographical areas.

Based on initial data, this device would not necessarily constitute an upgrade over the current device in use. For example, according to published data, the effective range of the Nighthawk system is limited to approximately 24 feet, while the currently used Stop Stick brand devices have an approximate deployment radius of 80 feet, which makes the Stop Stick potentially more flexible in deployment given the width of some streets within the city (exceeding 40 feet per direction).

The current cost of the Nighthawk systems (listed as \$2,995 per device), plus cost of use, approximately \$195 per deployment, would require a significant financial investment by the Department. This cost would be further increased by the cost of training operators. Replacement sticks are replaced free of charge once impacted; however, replacement remote triggers have a cost of approximately \$600 per unit.

Lieutenant Michael J. McCarthy, Michigan State Police Department, assigned to the Precision Driving Unit-Training Division, advised that their Department had purchased some of the Nighthawk units, but that the remote triggers appeared to not function properly, and operators were unable to evaluate the devices. He added that they have already had six Stop Stick deployments during the month of August (as of August 18, 2020). Thus indicating a preference for the Stop Stick over the Nighthawk.

The Department is continually looking into and evaluating devices that can assist officers in stopping pursuits and apprehending suspects, including an evaluation of the Grappler brand of vehicle pursuit termination device.

As of the First Quarter of 2020, the Department had 37 pursuits year to date. The Stop Stick was deployed once and resulted in the stopping of the suspect's vehicle.

Recommendation 3.7- "LAPD confirm that all law enforcement officers have maintained the mandated CPT1 and CPT2 courses."

RESPONSE: The Department agrees with this finding and the finding has been implemented.

This recommendation has been, and continues to be, met in accordance with POST Regulation 1500. Perishable Skills Program requirements are part of this regulation (CPT1 Arrest and Control and CPT2 Driver Training/Awareness), with many officers exceeding the minimum hour requirements.

Recommendation 3.9 - "LAPD install Wi-Fi at the LAPD Ahmanson Recruit Training Center for assistance with cadet training."

RESPONSE: The Department agrees with this finding and the recommendation will be implemented.

There is currently no active Wi-Fi at the Ahmanson Recruit Training Center. The addition of Wi-Fi has been requested and, according to the Department's Information Technology Bureau, installation should be completed by the end of 2020.

It should be noted that, upon review of the Grand Jury's source document titled, "Can Technology Eliminate Police Pursuits," page 12 refers to Department pursuit policy, Manual Section, Volume 1/555.10, which incorrectly states the following:

"Officers shall not initiate a pursuit based only:

- * On an infraction, misdemeanor evading (including failure to yield) or*
- * Reckless driving in response to enforcement action by Department personnel or if*
- * Felony has occurred, is occurring or is about to occur, employees may pursue a suspect vehicle"*

The actual pursuit policy of the Department (Los Angeles Police Department Manual 1/555.10) states the following:

555.10. INITIATION OF A VEHICLE PURSUIT. *Officer shall not initiate a pursuit based only on an infraction, misdemeanor evading (including failure to yield), or reckless driving in response to enforcement action taken by Department personnel.*

Officers may pursue felons and misdemeanants, including law violators who exhibit behaviors of illegally driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol. If reasonable suspicion or probable cause exists that a misdemeanor (with the exception of misdemeanor evading or reckless driving in response to enforcement action by Department personnel) or felony has occurred, is occurring or is about to occur, employees may pursue a suspect vehicle."

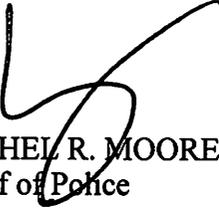
Presiding Judge

Page 4

12.1.2

If you have any questions, please contact Captain II Peter J. Casey, Serial No. 30155,
Commanding Officer of In-Service Training Division, at [REDACTED].

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MICHEL R. MOORE', written over the typed name.

MICHEL R. MOORE
Chief of Police

5.0 DNA 4 Those Forgotten

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mamie Burleson
Joel "Hapi" Floyd
Jean Holden
Nirja Kapoor
Marina LaGarde
John Palos
Irene Shandell-Taylor
Judith Whitman

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
DNA 4 THOSE FORGOTTEN**

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5.1

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors provide funds to the Department of Children and Family Services to facilitate DNA testing of children in foster care at the time of detainment into protective custody.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. In agreement with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), the Board does not support DNA testing of children at the time of detainment into protective custody. DCFS has detailed legal concerns on obtaining DNA without consent from children/parents. From the DCFS response:

DNA may not be collected from a person absent consent of the person from whom the DNA is to be taken, absent a court-ordered warrant based on probable cause, or an exception to the warrant requirement. Children, given their minor status, are not legally allowed to consent to such collection, thus, consent by the parents—or individual who has the power to consent for the child—or a court order authorizing the collection of the DNA must be obtained.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5.2

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors explore the terms of a contract with Ancestry.com in locating blood relatives.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. In agreement with DCFS, the Board does not support exploring a contract with Ancestry.com in locating blood relatives due to the legal concerns about taking DNA samples from children and the potential liability of using a DNA profiling service and possible errors.

In addition, DCFS has a robust family finding program, Permanency Partners Program (P3). This program is comprised of retired and part-time social workers that work with case. DCFS is also working to expand their Upfront Family Finding program, which works aggressively to locate and engage with relatives at the time of detention.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5.3

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors work with the Department of Children and Family Services to include DNA availability for children who are beginning the transition from protective care to independent living. This would augment the current County familial location success rates.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. In agreement with DCFS, the Board does not support facilitating DNA availability through its services for youth transitioning to independent living. DCFS has legal concerns about establishing such a practice. The department will instead continue to expand their family finding efforts for all children/youth in its care.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DNA 4 THOSE FORGOTTEN

RECOMMENDATION 5.1

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors provide funds to the Department of Children and Family Services to facilitate DNA testing of children in foster care at the time of detainment into protective custody.

RESPONSE

DCFS is not in agreement with this finding and does not support facilitating DNA testing of children in foster care. This recommendation will not be implemented.

Legal Concerns

Children, like adults, have a constitutional right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures as guaranteed by the 4th Amendment, and incorporated in the 14th Amendment, to the U.S. Constitution. Invasions of the body, including nonconsensual extractions of bodily material for DNA profiling, are searches entitled to the protections of the 4th Amendment. (*People v. Robinson*, (2010) 47 Cal. 4th 1104, 1119-1120, citing to *Skinner v. Railway Labor Executives' Assn.* (1989) 489 U.S. 602, 616–617, 109 S.Ct. 1402, 103 L.Ed.2d 639.)

DNA may not be collected from a person absent consent of the person from whom the DNA is to be taken, absent a court-ordered warrant based on probable cause, or an exception to the warrant requirement. Children, given their minor status, are not legally allowed to consent to such collection, thus, consent by the parents—or individual who has the power to consent for the child—or a court order authorizing the collection of the DNA must be obtained.

Social workers do not have the authority to waive a child's constitutional rights and give consent for a DNA extraction simply because a child was detained and taken into protective custody. In most instances, especially during the reunification phase of the court proceeding, the child's parent(s) will retain the right to make medical decisions and thus decisions about DNA sampling. In other instances, where it is in the child's best interest to have a substitute medical decision maker, the Juvenile Court may appoint someone other than a parent to serve as the holder of the child's rights, and that person or entity may be imbued with the authority to give, or withhold, consent regarding medical decisions, which would include DNA sampling. In either case, if petitioned by a party to the proceedings to provide DNA sampling, the Juvenile Court can make the decision to authorize or deny a request for DNA sampling which would require all parties to be provided notice and the opportunity to be heard to ensure due process is provided.

When assessing the feasibility of extending DNA sampling to all children who enter child welfare, it is also critical to consider that DNA sampling could subvert public policy and increase risk to some children. Safe surrendered children illustrate one of these situations. The State's Safe Surrender law is intended to reduce the deaths of newborn babies due to abandonment at, or near, the time of birth. To encourage safe surrender,

the child's parent is allowed to surrender the baby confidentially. If parents are not allowed to safely surrender their baby in confidence, they may try to avoid notoriety and stigmatization by dangerously abandoning the baby in precisely the manner that the safe surrender law seeks to avoid. The State's Safe Surrender Baby Brochure explains that the law "[p]ermits the parent(s) or other person with lawful custody to safely and confidentially surrender a baby within three days of birth." (Emphasis added, Safe Surrender Baby Brochure, PUB 400, available on the California Department of Social Services website: <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/ocap/safely-surrendered-baby/ssb-publications>) Furthermore, State law rigorously conceals the identity of a parent who safely surrenders their child by keeping it from the child welfare agency. Under existing State law, "[p]ersonal identifying information that pertains to a parent or individual who surrenders a child shall be redacted from any medical information provided to child protective services or the county agency providing child welfare services." (Cal. Health and Safety Code sect. 1255.7(d)(2).) Therefore, the DNA sampling of a safely surrendered child would risk revealing the parent's identity to the child protective agency, and that would erode the strong public policy favoring confidentiality, which underlies the Safe Surrender law. So, sweeping DNA profiling of foster children could deter a parent from making a safe surrender thereby increasing the risk of child death should that parent choose to unsafely abandon the newborn.

In other instances, DNA sampling is unnecessary, such as when a child remains in the home of a parent, or where a Nonrelative Extended Family Member (NREFM) is identified as the preferred placement option, or when viable relative placement options have already been identified. It is also worth remembering that relatedness in the legal sense is narrower than relatedness in the biological sense. For example, to determine Aid to Families with Dependent Children eligibility (a funding source for relative placement), a relative is defined as "an adult who is related to the child by blood, adoption, or affinity within the fifth degree of kinship, including stepparents, stepsiblings, and all relatives whose status is preceded by the words "great," "great-great," or "grand" or the spouse of any of these persons even if the marriage was terminated by death or dissolution." (Welf. & Inst. Sect. 11400.) Therefore, it may be of little or no value to use DNA profiling to identify relatives of the sixth or greater degrees of relatedness, especially when nearer relatives are already known.

Putting aside the critical constitutional legal barriers to obtaining DNA samples from all youth who enter the child welfare system, further dire concerns arise when one examines the Equity issues in such a proposal.

Equity Issues

When considering the moral, ethical, and equity issues surrounding the DNA sampling of foster youth, it is necessary to address ethical issues of informed consent, privacy, confidentiality, and disproportionality.

As stated above, children and adults share the right to privacy, which includes the right to make an informed, independent decision about whether to have DNA extracted from their bodies, and whether and to whom their genetic test results may be shared. There is nothing more private than personal genetic information. Absent obtaining a warrant from a court, DNA sampling should only be conducted where legal, informed consent can be obtained.

In child welfare cases, ethical consideration must be given in the following instances:

- What if a gene for a certain disease is identified—who, if anyone, is informed? What if the child/youth does not wish to know of genetic predispositions? Is the child then forced to seek medical treatment? Should identified relatives then be notified of those results?
- What if a child believes a presumptive parent is their biological parent and DNA disproves that? Is the child to be told? Is the information to be withheld? Who decides? And whom is the information shared with? Under what conditions? How are they held accountable?
- How is DCFS expected to confirm the accuracy of the results? Who is held accountable for unforeseen and unfortunate experiences that may arise from sharing a child's/youth's DNA on a website that gives individuals around the world access to this vulnerable population? What are the proposed remedies for breaches in confidentiality or for inappropriate disclosures?

Further, there are concerns that the use of uniform DNA sampling of children will not only violate the confidentiality of children/youth in care, but also that of their relatives. If DCFS children are tested, their unique and private identifying information will be put into a genetic database and into the ether with little control. When genetic "matches" are identified, matched "relatives" are notified of the identities of the youth, allowing opportunities for the "relatives" to contact them. These "relatives" of whom little is known and the access that the connection leaves the already vulnerable children as potential prey to the dangers of being exploited. This could lead to youth being contacted by individuals who threaten their well-being and could potentially lead to such dangers as identity theft, sex or labor trafficking, or make them a victim of another crime.

Disproportionality

With respect to disproportionality, the following table provides a snapshot of the demographic breakdown of the DCFS, Los Angeles County jail, and Los Angeles County general populations:

Ethnicity	Percentage of DCFS Population	Percentage of Los Angeles County's Jail Population	Percentage of Los Angeles County Population
White	12%	15%	26.33%
Hispanic	57.8%	53%	48.43%
Black	23.4%	29%	7.88%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.8%	< 3%	14.62%
American Indian/ Alaskan Native	0.3%	< 3%	0.20%
Other	4.7%	< 3%	2.51%
Total	100%	100%	99.97%

*Data Source: July 2020 DCFS Fact Sheet; Los Angeles County Almanac, Crime and Justice: Los Angeles County Jail System by the Numbers (2019 data); and 2018 Census Estimate per Los Angeles County Almanac

To examine the equity issues, one must look at the historical use of genetic testing and its effect on communities of color. An example of genetic discrimination that disproportionately affected African-Americans occurred until the 1970s. Several states in the US required mandatory testing for sickle cell disease among African-Americans. Then, because this is a recessive trait, carriers of the disease were identified and told of the risks of having children who may be carriers as well. As a result, birthrates fell.

More recently, law enforcement has utilized a family member's DNA data to identify criminal defendants. By utilizing DNA data, law enforcement is able to identify the families of suspects. This not only identifies actual defendants, but also raises the concern for ensnaring innocents into an investigation and creating a cloud of suspicion over them. The range of possible harms include increasing surveillance on minority communities, exacerbating racial disparities, perpetuating the idea of guilt by association, and aiding the disruption of family dynamics as individuals get investigated—regardless of their actual involvement with crimes. Further, familial searches elicit concerns about the disproportionate impact on communities of color because they are disproportionately in contact with law enforcement.

Systematic DNA testing of all youth entering the child welfare system does nothing to reduce racial disproportionality and the concurring disparities, but rather cultivates institutionalized racism and problematic practices that contribute to greater inequity.

Efforts to Identify Kin and Relative Placements

As described, adopting a DNA testing component for DCFS foster youth may actually place children and youth at greater risk of harm and yield negative unintended consequences. In addition, DCFS already has two effective family-finding programs in place that accomplish what the Civil Grand Jury's recommendations are hoping to achieve. In recent years, the Department augmented existing efforts to help its children and youth establish supportive relationships and connections with relatives to help them navigate the challenges of transitioning to adulthood.

In May 2016, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors enacted a motion mandating DCFS and the Probation Department to:

- Develop a plan to increase relative and NREFM placements and the overall role of relatives;
- Establish an Upfront Family Finding (UFF) program based on current legislation, models, and best practices from other jurisdictions in partnership with Community-Based Organizations (CBOs); and
- Develop a single countywide protocol for UFF with coordination by DCFS Permanency Partners Program (P3) and Probation's Public Child Welfare, with a timeline and estimated budget for program implementation, training, and policy development.

UFF

In response to the motion, DCFS developed the UFF pilot program in keeping its focus on children placed in non-relative care at the time of detention. UFF's approach includes a deliberate effort on increasing relative placements, engaging relatives in providing non-placement supports, and collaborating with CBOs to provide additional supports to relatives. As part of the UFF program, dedicated staff conduct active searches for family members using search engines like CLEAR, which aggregates public records pulled from sources such as phone companies, utility companies, motor vehicle registrations, real-time incarceration information, and consumer credit bureaus, to quickly locate possible connections/associates to the person in question. Thus CLEAR is a critical resource for UFF's focus and success.

DCFS piloted UFF in two regional offices in October 2016. After an evaluation completed by Child Trends in 2018, DCFS added UFF to eight additional offices, where it is now operational at 10 DCFS sites. With respect to efficacy of the program, based on recent data from the Office of Child Protection (OCP), 81 percent of the

children referred to UFF from January to June 2020, were placed with kin. This rate is consistent with UFF data previously collected and reported by OCP. Given the pilot's success, DCFS is in the process of assessing the feasibility of expanding UFF across all its Regional Offices.

Permanency Partners Program (P3)

After recognizing the significant impact familial support has on the well-being of children in care, in 2004 DCFS developed P3 for Family-Finding on existing cases. The P3 program is comprised of retired and part-time social workers who work collaboratively with case-carrying Children's Social Workers (CSWs) to conduct family findings. Originally developed to locate possible supports for "long-staying" youths who had little to no connections, the program expanded in several DCFS Regional Offices to allow for the initiation of UFF services for children upon their entry into care.

The P3 program seeks to locate and engage children/youths' relatives, NREFMs, and chosen family by conducting individual interviews with children/youths, parents, and any available relatives. P3 CSWs engage individuals located through letters, phone calls, FaceTime, and face-to-face visits in efforts to broaden knowledge of those who may be able to support the families. Additionally, P3 CSWs conduct thorough reviews of case records, reports, and files to engage/re-engage those family members that may have previously been known (and forgotten) to DCFS.

P3 CSWs also utilize computer-based search databases in their mining process. Currently, P3 CSWs use the following databases: CLEAR, Seneca, Leader Replacement Service (LRS), and Global Locate. In addition, P3 CSWs also use social media (Facebook, for example) in efforts to locate potential relatives. These search mechanisms do not require the invasiveness of gathering DNA samples and allow for trained social workers to help connect/reconnect with a safe and trauma-responsive approach.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5.2

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors explore the terms of a contract with Ancestry.com in locating blood relatives.

RESPONSE

DCFS is not in agreement with the finding and this recommendation will not be implemented.

As DCFS is not in agreement with this recommendation, it is not prudent to pursue a DNA profiling services contract. Further, *Ancestry.com* and *23 and Me* use standard contracts which would not be suitable for County use in serving the foster child population. *Ancestry.com's* standard terms and conditions disclaim all warranties. (*Ancestry.com* Standard Terms and Conditions, Section 8.) Similarly, *23 and Me* provides its services "as is." (*23 and Me* Standard Terms and Conditions section 23.) Therefore, there would be little if any legal recourse were the DNA profiling results wrong or unreliable.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5.3

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors work with the Department of Children and Family Services to include DNA availability for children who are beginning the transition from protective care to independent living. This would augment the current County familial location success rates.

RESPONSE

DCFS is not in agreement with the finding and does not support facilitating DNA testing of children in foster care. This recommendation will not be implemented.

As stated in the Response portion to Recommendation 5.1, DCFS has legal concerns and is not in support of participating in a process that can lead to precipitating or perpetuating equity divides. DCFS has adopted an effective Family-Finding program and is assessing the department-wide expansion.

6.0 FREE AT LAST

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Carolyn Cobb, Chair

Mike Padilla

John Palos

Jenalea Smith

Larry Sullivan

LeRoy Titus

Judith Whitman

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FREE AT LAST

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.2

Provide information inside the lobby about rehabilitative classes and training through signage regarding the services provided at the ROC.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation has been implemented. The Board defers to the Probation Department's response for further information on the implementation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.3

The County should include robust post-release educational opportunities and incentives to encourage those under supervision to continue with their education.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The Probation Department has developed several collaborative programs with other agencies. The Board defers to the Probation Department's response for further information on the implementation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.4

Ensure supportive services are provided to meet the needs of the participants, e.g., in areas of housing, transportation, clothing, employment, and education.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The Board defers to the Probation Department's response for further information on the implementation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.5

INVEST has been funded for a two-year period, and we recommend that funding be continued beyond the successful completion of the initial pilot program.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation requires further analysis to determine the impact on the Probation Department's operations based on the additional County funding required to accomplish this recommendation. The Board defers to the Probation Department's response for further information.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.6

INVEST clients need additional access to community college training programs.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The Probation Department has developed several collaborative programs with other agencies. The Board defers to the Probation Department's response for further information on the implementation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.7

In-depth training was requested by senior staff regarding the availability of job training and employment programs, and we concur that it should be provided.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. The Board defers to the Probation Department's response for further information on the implementation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.8

Provide Five Keys programs to inmates with an emphasis on continuing their education upon release.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented as the Probation Department has no jurisdiction over inmates in custody. The recommendation should be referred to the Sheriff's Department.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FREE AT LAST

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.1

The ROC should be replicated in the remaining Four Supervisorial Districts of the County of Los Angeles.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation requires further analysis to determine the impact on the Probation Department's operations based on the additional County funding required to accomplish this recommendation. The CEO defers to the Probation Department's response for further information on the analysis.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.2

Provide information inside the lobby about rehabilitative classes and training through signage regarding the services provided at the ROC.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The CEO defers to the Probation Department's response for further information on the implementation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.3

The County should include robust post-release educational opportunities and incentives to encourage those under supervision to continue with their education.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The Probation Department has developed several collaborative programs with other agencies. The CEO defers to the Probation Department's response for further information on the implementation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.4

Ensure supportive services are provided to meet the needs of the participants, e.g., in areas of housing, transportation, clothing, employment, and education.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation has been implemented. The CEO defers to the Probation Department's response for further information on the implementation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.5

INVEST has been funded for a two-year period, and we recommend that funding be continued beyond the successful completion of the initial pilot program.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation requires further analysis to determine the impact on the Probation Department's operations based on the additional County funding required to accomplish this recommendation. The CEO defers to the Probation Department's response for further analysis.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.6

INVEST clients need additional access to community college training programs.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The Probation Department has developed several collaborative programs with other agencies. The CEO defers to the Probation Department's response for further information on the implementation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.7

In-depth training was requested by senior staff regarding the availability of job training and employment programs, and we concur that it should be provided.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. The CEO defers to the Probation Department's response for further information on the implementation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.8

Provide Five Keys programs to inmates with an emphasis on continuing their education upon release.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented as the Probation Department has no jurisdiction over inmates in custody. The recommendation should be referred to the Sheriff's Department.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PROBATION DEPARTMENT

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FREE AT LAST

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.1

The ROC should be replicated in the remaining Four Supervisorial Districts of the County of Los Angeles.

RESPONSE

Agree. Recommendation is in the process of being implemented. A decade ago, Adult Operations developed a plan to create Community Reentry Centers (CRC) at each of the five Supervisorial Districts. The Developing Opportunities and Offering Reentry Solutions (DOORS) is the first installment on the planned CRCs and opened its doors in June 2019 after a 19-month building project. Implementation plans and construction are underway at Martin Luther King Behavioral Health Center (MLK-BHC) (District 2) and in Van Nuys (District 3) at our East San Fernando Valley (ESFV) locations. Future locations will be designated as resources are identified and allocated.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.2

Provide information inside the lobby about rehabilitative classes and training through signage regarding the services provided at the ROC.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The Department has developed signage for the lobby and entrance areas. Work is underway to display rehabilitative classes, training, and schedule of programs. The Department coordinates with East Los Angeles College (ELAC), Rio Hondo College and Mt. San Antonio College (Mt. SAC) who provide Educational opportunities to probation clients. The colleges provide signage with program and contact information for participation, which are displayed in the lobby. As resources are identified and allocated, the use of the mounted TV for DOORS program and training opportunities will be displayed in a loop.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.3

The County should include robust post-release educational opportunities and incentives to encourage those under supervision to continue with their education.

RESPONSE

Agree. Recommendation has been implemented. Educational opportunities are critical to rehabilitative efforts and integral to client case plans. The Department worked with the Superior Court and developed a Court to College Program at Cerritos College for Probation's adult clientele. Expansions to ELAC and Mt. SAC have also been implemented. DOORS incorporates educational opportunities through the service provider Five Keys which provides anger management services, domestic violence prevention services and high school education programs. In addition, the INVEST (Innovative Work Solutions) program is currently co-located at American Job Center of California (AJCC) locations on LA Trade Tech College and South West College

campuses. Active efforts to extend academic opportunities to INVEST clients and other justice involved participants are being undertaken as funding is identified.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.4

Ensure supportive services are provided to meet the needs of the participants, e.g. in areas of housing, transportation, clothing, employment, and education.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented insofar as practical with existing resources. The potential for expansion with additional funding will be taken in the broader consideration of the context of the budget and Departmental priorities. Most area offices have clothing closets for clients to utilize if needed or in preparation for job interviews. The Department has also partnered with the Office of Diversion and Reentry (ODR) to provide resources related to housing, substance abuse services, mental health services, education and other systems navigation services.

The Department has established INVEST. The program is a collaboration with Workforce Development and Aging Community Services (WDACS), multiple Workforce Investment Boards, and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) to provide a pathway to career training and job placement. Funding for INVEST expires in 2022.

In addition, the Department is in the process of partnering with the City of Long Beach to implement a pilot project to provide more intensive/targeted services to those released from County jail to address homelessness by assigning a Deputy Probation Officer (DPO) to the Multi-Service Center in the City of Long Beach. The DPO will be providing linkages to services which includes housing, employment, and education.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.5

INVEST has been funded for a two-year period, and we recommend that funding be continued beyond the successful completion of the initial pilot program.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The Department remains committed to the full implementation of the INVEST program and the collaboration with WDACS, ODR, and the AJCCs. Operations were recently expanded to provide services to additional areas of the County and the Department along with its partners continues to explore avenues to maintain funding and improve efficiencies in the delivery of INVEST services and to ensure the program remains sustainable. The INVEST Program is fully funded through FY 2021-22 and program expansions are in process. A full evaluation which is currently underway, should demonstrate the positive outcomes the program is having on our clients and society that would provide information for the Board of Supervisors to make an informed decision.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.6

INVEST clients need additional access to community college training programs.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been partially implemented. Clients that we serve, including INVEST clients, would benefit from the opportunity to access to community college training programs. With Probation's limited SB 678 resources, this program will sunset at the end of FY 2021-22. Additional funding for this

program will be taken in the broader consideration of the context of the budget and Departmental priorities to augment existing grants and education endowments, and allow for maximum client participation.

The Department continues to work with local community colleges to connect educational opportunities to clients. East Los Angeles College (ELAC), Rio Hondo and Mt. SAC community colleges have provided several educational programs for clients including college degrees, certificate programming, paid internships, technical degrees, job placement and vocational studies. All programming is free including enrollment, tuition, books, tutoring, transportation and in some cases laptop computers. During COVID-19 clients can connect with the colleges for educational counseling and enrollment through distance learning.

In addition to Court to College involvement with ELAC, Rio Hondo, and Mt. SAC community colleges, and the INVEST co-location on LA Trade Tech and Southwest College, Probation personnel have been engaged in planning discussions with representatives from the Los Angeles Community College (LA/COC) regional consortium of 28 Community Colleges to expand and enhance access to educational and training options for our justice involved population, working closely with the INVEST and Prison to Employment (P2E) programs as existing resources permit.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.7

In-depth training was requested by senior staff regarding the availability of job training and employment programs, and we concur that it should be provided.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. The Adult Coordinated Optimal Rehabilitative Efforts (CORE) Bureau is developing training for all Field Staff focusing on client engagement and referral efforts in support of the work-flow, job training and employment programs offered through the INVEST Program in collaboration with WDACS.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.8

Provide Five Keys programs to inmates with an emphasis on continuing their education upon release.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. Recommendations related to custody should be directed to LASD.

7.0 HASHTAG: OUR KIDS MATTER

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Leroy R. Titus, Chair

Carolyn Cobb

Mike Padilla

John Palos

Jenalea Smith

Larry Sullivan

Judith Whitman

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
HASHTAG: OUR KIDS MATTER

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.6

Provide professional counseling to the juveniles during their time while confined in the Hope and Mind Centers.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation has been implemented. The CEO defers to the Probation Department's response for further information on the implementation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.12

Ensure juvenile records are available to LACOE teaching staff for review.

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. The recommendation will not be implemented as LACOE instructors are not identified under the California Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 827 as individuals authorized to receive case records.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
HASHTAG: OUR KIDS MATTER

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.3

The development and implementation of a cognitive behavioral program at all juvenile facilities to teach the juveniles to recognize behavioral patterns such as anger control, conflict resolution, communications skills, working in a diverse environment, and achieving a person plan of action.

RESPONSE

The Department of Mental Health (DMH) agrees with the recommendation. The recommendation has been implemented.

The juvenile camp programs implemented this recommendation as part of the Integrated Treatment Model and the LA Model. Additionally, as part of individual therapy in both the juvenile halls and camps, the recommendation outlined above is a frequent component of the treatment plan developed between the youth and the clinician. Coincidentally, this is a treatment component frequently addressed by psychiatrists.

It should be noted that in accordance with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Department of Public Health (DPH) guidelines for COVID-19, services to youth have needed to be modified over the past five months. Tele-psychiatry and tele-health platforms have been developed and implemented. Youth at juvenile halls continue to have a short length of stay, which is not sufficient time for effective cognitive behavioral programming.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.5

Group sessions to learn communication skills should be implemented on an ongoing basis.

RESPONSE

DMH agrees with the recommendation. The recommendation has been implemented.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, group treatment was regularly conducted in the Probation Camps as part of the Integrated Treatment Model and the LA Model. Given the current COVID-19 pandemic, group sessions continue in settings where the session can be safely conducted in accordance with CDC and DPH guidelines. Both group and individual formats can be utilized to work with youth on developing effective communication skills.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.6

Provide professional counseling to the juveniles during their time while confined in the HOPE and Mind Centers.

RESPONSE

DMH agrees with the recommendation. The recommendation has been implemented.

When youth go to the HOPE Center to regain their composure, DMH clinical staff respond. Use of the HOPE Center varies greatly and depending upon the facility, often there are no youth in the HOPE Center. When Campus Kilpatrick was temporarily re-located to Challenger Memorial Youth Center, the HOPE Center was re-named the Mindfulness Center. Now that Campus Kilpatrick has returned to Malibu, there isn't a separate HOPE center in that facility by design. DMH clinical staff work with youth in both the halls and camps as part of individualized mental health treatment plans to better understand the circumstances which can lead to escalation of behavior and to practice skills to better navigate similar circumstances in the future.

RECOMMENDATION 7.10

The treatment model at DKC should be implemented at other juvenile detention facilities to create a culture of care rather than a culture of control.

RESPONSE

DMH agrees with the recommendation. The recommendation has been partially implemented.

The Probation camps implemented the Integrated Treatment Model over the past 10 years and Dorothy Kirby Center (DKC) was one of the facilities that implemented this model. Furthermore, it should be noted that DKC has housed youth with high mental health needs and the program model reflects this. Capitalizing on the design of the Integrated Treatment Model, when Campus Kilpatrick opened, the LA Model was implemented. Probation, Los Angeles County of Education, DMH, and Juvenile Court Health Services worked closely together on both models. The Probation camps due to their longer length of stay allow for a more enriched implementation of a culture of care. However, within the Probation juvenile halls, the implementation of a culture of care will by necessity look different due to the high turnover and short length of stay. Despite this, there are efforts underway to implement aspects of the LA Model in the juvenile halls.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PROBATION DEPARTMENT

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HASHTAG: OUR KIDS MATTER

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.1

Since OC spray is being phased out, Probation should investigate the use of BolaWrap75 which enables officers to restrain resisting subjects during juvenile altercation from a distance without using bodily force.

RESPONSE

Partially Disagree. This recommendation requires further analysis to be completed in 6 months. The BolaWrap is a device that is intended to immobilize and control resistive/non-compliant persons. However, the device has limitations and restrictions requiring consideration before its use. Although reasonable efforts should be made to target the lower extremities or lower arms of a person, given the dynamics of situation, the tether could potentially wrap around a person's neck or head causing serious injury. The BolaWrap also contains a tether with two 4 pronged hooks at each end of the tether. These hooks could penetrate the skin of a person when the BolaWrap is deployed. Additionally, the BolaWrap is equipped with a laser that if used inappropriately and directed into the eyes, it may permanently impair a person's vision. Therefore, the use of the BolaWrap device to increase safety and security in the facilities has to be explored further to ensure that the implementation of the device does not unintentionally injure persons and the County is not being exposed to any legal liability.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2

The Committee recommends an outside professional cleaning service be contracted to regularly clean the lavatories and shower areas at all camp facilities because the cleaning chemicals might be misused and hazardous to human health.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. Contract custodial services have been provided at all camp facilities as of March 2020, which include restrooms and shower areas.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.3

The development and implementation of a cognitive behavioral program at all juvenile facilities to teach the juveniles to recognize behavioral patterns such as anger control, conflict resolution, communication skills, working in a diverse environment, and achieving a personal plan of action.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The Department utilizes cognitive behavioral interventions as part of the therapeutic model within the Residential Treatment Services Bureau (RTSB), also known as camps, for post-adjudicated youth. Youth that are detained in juvenile halls, have less dosage (frequency and duration) of programming than those in camps, but are provided with individual mental health interventions that are cognitive behavioral in nature. Department of Mental Health (DMH) clinicians facilitate Adapted Dialectic Behavioral Therapy and Seeking Safety; both are cognitive behavioral therapies (CBT).

Departmental staff facilitate CBT groups in Resilience and Intergroup Solidarity Education (RISE) and Youth Engaged in Leadership and Learning (YELL). Both curriculums are predicated on CBT. In addition, the Behavior Management Program (BMP) is being redesigned to align with the principles of Positive Youth Development to improve the social emotional domains of problem solving and emotional management. The BMP incentivizes and reinforces the skills acquired during CBT groups and youth are rewarded for demonstrating those skills and prosocial behavior.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.4

Vocational training programs such as plumbing, automobile repair, computer repair, carpentry, culinary arts and upholstery should be offered at the camps.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. Probation Education Services sponsors various vocational training programs in our camps. These include culinary arts in partnership with Mission College at Campus Kilpatrick, Automotive technology at Dorothy Kirby Center in partnership with Los Angeles Trade Tech college, and Logistics in partnership with United Parcel Service (UPS) and East Los Angeles College at Camps Afferbaugh, Paige and Dorothy Kirby Center.

In collaboration with WDACS, youth in our camps have an opportunity to participate in Probation's camp employment program. Every year approximately 250 youth in our camps and halls are provided with an opportunity to work up to 120 paid hours in our residential centers. The 120 hours includes 20 hours of paid Personal Enrichment Training (PET) facilitated by trained Probation Education Services Staff. In addition, participants in this program receive an employment transition plan; as well as, employment support through the AJCC locations in their local communities.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.5

Group sessions to learn communication skills should be implemented on an on-going basis.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. As indicated, the Department's Community Health Workers and Probation Officers facilitate youth groups, as well as the DMH, and contracted agencies. Adapted Dialectic Behavioral Therapy, Seeking Safety, RISE, YELL, include teaching and motivating youth to perform prosocial behaviors. The Department also has contracts and non-financial Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) with several community-based providers who facilitate groups (e.g., Spoken Word, Drama, Music) to teach youth how to resolve conflict, and regulate their emotions. The Department has established an MOU with the City of Los Angeles's Gang Reduction Youth Development (GRYD), to provide healing circles and transformative mentoring facilitated by contracted agencies who hire persons with lived experiences. The Department is also releasing a work order to expand Credible Messenger healing circles for youth in the halls and camps who do not reside within the City of Los Angeles catchment areas. The Department has also established a public-private partnership with the California Community Foundation (CCF) to re-grant Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) funds to community-based providers to deliver youth development services. Some of these grantees are delivering services to youth in custody.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.6

Provide professional counseling to the juveniles during their time while confined in the HOPE and Mind Centers.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The Department offers counseling to youth by DMH staff in the juvenile halls' and camps' Healing Opportunities and Positive Engagement (HOPE) Centers. Dorothy Kirby Center also provides counseling by DPOs who specialize in treatment and counseling. They assist the youth by conducting a Behavior Chain Analysis to examine their behavior and identify triggers and vulnerability factors that link to unwanted behaviors. Describing the emotions, thoughts and body sensations that occur immediately before, during, and after negative behaviors can provide guidance to staff and youth to explore where, when and how to intervene in the behavioral cycle to make unwanted behaviors less likely to occur again.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.7

Microwave ovens should be made available at DKC inside the cottages, which the residents may use to make popcorn and other treats.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. All living units at DKC are equipped with microwaves.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.8

The air-exchange system at DKC is not adequate for the facility; therefore, it needs to be replaced.

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. This recommendation requires further analysis to be completed in 6 months. Probation's Management Services Bureau (MSB) will work with their maintenance provider and perform an assessment of Dorothy Kirby Center's HVAC system. Should the assessment determine that there are air flow deficiencies, MSB will work with Administrative Services Bureau to identify funding to repair or replace the system.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.9

A security checkpoint at entry and a carded gate-entry system needs to be installed at DKC.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis to be completed in 6 to 9 months, due to the complexity of the project and funding restrictions. A single point of access, with control measures in place, will provide for additional safety and mitigate any liability that the County may incur as a result of physical or property damage. Additionally, the added overwatch of security guards or a key card at the entrance will enhance the interior security and safety of all that is currently provided by the Probation officers on site. Probation's MSB will work with Juvenile Institution's management to identify viable security checkpoint and carded gate-entry systems and assess whether there is funding to pursue.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.10

The treatment model at DKC should be implemented at other juvenile detention facilities to create a culture of care rather than a culture of control.

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. The Department started the paradigm shift to a culture of care in 2008 with Camps Redesign. All staff were trained in evidence-based practices in corrections which included Core Correctional Practices (CPC), Principles of Effective

Interventions, Motivational Interviewing, Adolescent Stages of Development, and Trauma Informed Practices. In 2018, Juvenile Operations revised its mission statement to "It is the mission of Juvenile Probation to promote and support healthy youth development that is trauma-responsive, strength-based and culturally competent by partnering with families and the community."

On June 21, 2019, the Department submitted an action plan to the Board of Supervisors, entitled "Embracing the Future," requesting resources to develop a youth centered therapeutic milieu. This plan was predicated on the Youth in Custody Practice Model (YICPM) Initiative, with technical assistance provided by Trauma Expert, Dr. Monique Marrow. Expansion with additional funding will be taken in the broader consideration of the context of the budget and Departmental priorities. The youth in juvenile hall are there for a limited time which does not include the time or staffing resources to establish a therapeutic relationship with the youth and the family. However, the Department continues to advocate and support a "culture of care," by adopting a Positive Youth Development framework, and train staff in de-escalation techniques, Crisis Communications, Behavior Management, and Rapport-Based Supervision.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.11

Assign DPOs inside every classroom to ensure the safety of educators and juveniles alike.

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. This recommendation has been partially implemented as DPOs are assigned to select classrooms. The Department assigns DPOs to specific classrooms that have youth attending from various wings/dorms or that have continuous behavioral concerns. Additionally, all camps have a DPO assigned as a School Liaison during school hours that respond to any classroom or counsel youth as needed.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.12

Ensure juvenile records are available to LACOE teaching staff for review.

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. This recommendation will not be implemented. Currently the Department does not share juvenile records to teaching staff, as teachers are not identified under Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 827 as individuals authorized to receive case records. However, a Superintendent of a school or a designee in the district where the youth attends school is authorized to receive and/or discuss juvenile case records. The superintendent or designee may make a request by submitting a "Declaration in Support of Access to Juvenile Records" form accompanied by presentation of proper identification. A representative from Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) is assigned to Camps Headquarters to assess and develop an education plan for youth once they receive a camp order. This information is incorporated into the youth's case plan and shared during the Initial Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meeting, along with any safety/behavioral concerns. MDTs occur throughout the duration of the youth's camp commitment, and educators are invited to attend. The MDT is designed to discuss a youth's progress towards treatment goals and strategies to address negative behaviors. Additionally, should a youth be suspended from class, the teacher is required to make contact with the parent. The parent is often the best source of information to identify the root cause of negative behavior, and effective strategies to mitigate those behaviors.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.13

Create an avenue for high school graduates to participate in the Court to College Program.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. Juvenile Probation does not participate in the Court to College program; however, post-secondary programming takes place at all Residential Treatment Services Bureau (RTSB) and Detention Services Bureau (DSB) juvenile residential facilities. Programming consists of both onsite, online and hybrid style instruction. College course offerings vary by semester. All credit courses offered through our Los Angeles Community College District Partners are University of California (UC)/California State University (CSU) transferable. Education services staff serve as proctors working alongside college instructors. Youth in the college program are provided with the required course textbooks, access to technology and attend weekly study groups.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.14

Expand the Court to College program to include all community colleges.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. College instruction is currently available in all of Probation's Residential Treatment Services Bureau camps through Probation Education Services. College courses are offered through Los Angeles Mission College, ELAC, Los Angeles Trade Tech, Glendale Community College and University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Students in our program will be registered through the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD). Students in the LACCD system are eligible to continue taking courses at any of the nine community colleges in Los Angeles County.

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
LOS ANGELES COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
HASHTAG: OUR KIDS MATTER

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.4

Vocational training programs such as plumbing, automobile repair, computer repair, carpentry, culinary arts and upholstery should be offered at the camps.

RESPONSE

LACOE agrees with this recommendation. LACOE continues to offer career technical education programming to all students where facilities and staffing are available. Around the time of the Civil Grand Jury's visit to Dorothy Kirby Center (DKC), LACOE had set up a culinary arts classroom in a living cottage. However, due to the closure of Camp Scott, a cadre of girls transitioned to DKC and L.A. County Department of Probation had to utilize the living unit, thus causing LACOE to shut down the culinary arts classroom. During August 2020, the DKC population increased from 35 students to over 70, causing even more shortage of space.

In addition to our existing vocational training programs in culinary arts and graphic arts, LACOE continues to develop alternatives to ensure all students have access to vocational training. Currently, LACOE is actively implementing OSHA certification training at each of our sites. The following certificates will be offered to students:

- OSHA 10-Hour General Industry
- OSHA 10-Hour Construction Industry
- OSHA 10-Hour General Industry (Health Care)
- OSHA 10-Hour General Industry (Agriculture)
- OSHA 10-Hour General Industry (Automotive)
- OSHA 10-Hour General Industry (Culinary)
- OSHA 10-Hour General Industry (Manufacturing)
- OSHA 10-Hour General Industry (Cosmetology)
- Cyber Safety Awareness Training

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.11

Assign DPOs inside every classroom to ensure the safety of educators and juveniles alike.

RESPONSE

LACOE partially agrees with this recommendation. LACOE does not have jurisdiction to implement this recommendation. Probation assigns staff to specific classrooms that have youth attending from various wings/dorms or who have continuous behavioral concerns. Additionally, all camps have a Probation staff assigned as a school liaison during school hours that responds to classrooms or provides counsel to youth

as needed. LACOE does believe Probation staff should be in the classrooms, and/or systems need to be improved, as there have been many safety issues that staff and students face. LACOE has voiced the safety concerns to Probation and has articulated this need.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.12

Ensure juvenile records are available to LACOE teaching staff for review.

RESPONSE

LACOE partially agrees with this recommendation if it only pertains to school student records. All school student records are accessible and provided through the Aftercare process. All teaching staff have access to school student records. On occasion, LACOE staff has requested juvenile court records and mental health records, which are not allowable. If a request has to do with criminal or mental health records, LACOE does not agree with the dissemination of these records to LACOE staff, because Probation does not share juvenile records to teaching staff, as teachers are not identified under Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 827 as individuals authorized to receive case records. However, a superintendent of a school or a designee in the district where the youth attends school is authorized to receive and/or discuss juvenile case records. The superintendent or designee may make a request by submitting a "Declaration in Support of Access to Juvenile Records" form accompanied by presentation of proper identification. A representative from LACOE is assigned to Camps Headquarters to assess and develop an education plan for youth once they receive a camp order. This information is incorporated into the youth's case plan and shared during the Initial Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meeting, along with any safety/behavioral concerns. MDT meetings occur throughout the duration of the youth's camp commitment, and educators are invited to attend. The MDT meeting is designed to discuss a youth's progress toward treatment goals and strategies to address negative behaviors.

8.0 Home Sweet Home

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jenalea Smith, Chair
Rebecca Hunter, Co-Chair
Deanne Walls, Secretary
Gordon Jefferson
Nirja Kapoor
Mike Padilla
Heather Preimesberger
Joseph Sarria
Irene Shandell-Taylor

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HOME SWEET HOME

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.1

Streamline and standardize zoning laws and municipal codes across all municipalities in the County. As part of the process, allow for more flexibility in increasing affordable housing options.

RESPONSE

Partially disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented, because the County does not have jurisdiction over the incorporated municipalities, and the County Department of Regional Planning only has jurisdiction over the Unincorporated Area of the County. However, the County supports the goal of the recommendation to increase the supply of affordable housing in Los Angeles County. As such, the Board has recently approved housing ordinances and supports flexibility in increasing affordable housing options in the Unincorporated Area of the County.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.3

Reduce, standardize, and clearly document (make transparent) developer fees across all municipalities within the County. This includes publishing the fees associated with every project.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented, because the County does not have jurisdiction over the incorporated municipalities. Additionally, the County Department of Regional Planning only has jurisdiction over the Unincorporated Area of the County.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.5

Support replacing the current State Housing Element law with a model that states that 10 percent of housing stock in all municipalities must be income-restricted (low-income). A city is considered out of compliance if less than 10 percent of their housing stock is income-restricted. And, if a city is out of compliance, developers can bypass many local reviews when building low-income housing.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. Existing Board policy supports local control. Board policy specifically states to "oppose any abridgement or elimination of the Board of Supervisors' powers and duties" and "oppose legislation that infringes upon County Board of Supervisors' local land use decision making." Further, the Board's Legislative Agenda does not include any policies regarding reforming the State's Housing Element law. Furthermore, the recommendation would result in local jurisdictions planning for significantly less affordable housing than under the current Housing Element Law. Additionally, the County Department of Regional Planning only has jurisdiction over the Unincorporated Area of the County.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.8

Increase the percentage of Measure H funds for housing vouchers to those who are severely rent-burdened and to adequately subsidize Board and Care homes.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The CEO Homeless Initiative (HI) disagrees with the Committee's recommendation. Measure H funds are not currently used to pay for vouchers for severely rent burdened individuals and families or to subsidize Board and Care homes. Due to the limited amount of Measure H revenue, any funds diverted to vouchers for the recommended uses would result in curtailments of existing critical services/rental subsidies for families and individuals who are literally living on the streets. The CEO-HI continues to work with homeless and affordable housing advocates and stakeholders in addressing the important needs of very low-income renters and vulnerable clients in Board and Care homes; however, Measure H is not the appropriate funding source for the Committee's recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.9

Employ additional resources to create greater access for unsheltered individuals in the City and County of Los Angeles to showers and hygiene provisions.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The Committee recommends providing more showers for homeless individuals based on its determination that, outside of showers provided through the City of Los Angeles, only two other locations provide about 140 showers per week in total. This is based on outdated and incorrect information. The Shower of Hope operates at more than 20 locations throughout the County, providing showers every day to unsheltered individuals. In addition, San Fernando Rescue Mission offers showers four times a week, at different locations each time. Moreover, the County provided Measure H funding to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) to purchase two additional shower trailers and conduct an RFP to find operators for the trailers. The selected providers will commence services in October 2020. While there are certainly more shower services available than the Committee indicates, there is an even greater need for such facilities. Nonetheless, given resource constraints, CEO-HI believes that the current allocation of funds for this program is appropriate.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.10

Provide additional public toilets in the City and County of Los Angeles (the UN standard recommends 2000 toilets Countywide).

RESPONSE

Agree. The implementation of this recommendation will be pursued as the CEO-HI recognizes the need for more public toilets, but the recommended option of the "Portland Loo," which costs \$90,000 per toilet, would seriously strain existing resources and result in far fewer people being permanently housed. To provide the number of toilets recommended by the Committee would cost nearly \$180 million. The Portland Loo model is constructed in a way that may reduce the need for security at public toilet locations, which is an important consideration. At the existing four locations where the County and Flood Control District have placed toilets for people experiencing homelessness (in response to the Hepatitis A outbreak that occurred in 2018), the toilets are monitored by security guards, which vastly increases the costs of the toilets. Nonetheless, the Portland Loo option is still extremely costly. The CEO-HI will pursue other options prior to expending resources that are desperately needed to house people. This could include partnerships with cities and private businesses to increase access to existing toilet facilities.

Additionally, the County notes that sanitation is a municipal responsibility; as a result, any County role around providing toilets is limited to the unincorporated areas and the Flood Control District.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.11

Build USC Pods in vacant lots owned by the County and City of Los Angeles.

RESPONSE

Agree. This specific recommendation will not be implemented but efforts to the meet the Committee's intended goal of using innovative housing solutions have been and will continue to be pursued. In fact, in 2018, the CEO-HI launched a \$ 5 million Housing Innovation Challenge, to solicit creative, scalable permanent housing solutions for those experiencing homelessness. Proposals could be innovative construction methods and/or financing mechanisms. Out of 53 total submissions, four \$1 million grants and one \$500,000 grant were awarded to proposals that could deliver permanent housing faster and more cost-effectively.

Additionally, the LAHSA issues regular Notices of Funding Availability (NOFAs) for permanent housing for people experiencing homelessness. The developers of the USC Pods could submit their proposal in response to these NOFAs.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.12

Build tiny homes in vacant lots owned by the County and City of Los Angeles.

RESPONSE

Agree. This specific recommendation will not be implemented but efforts to the meet the Committee's intended goal of using innovative housing solutions have been and will continue to be pursued. In fact, in 2018, the CEO-HI launched a \$ 5 million Housing Innovation Challenge, to solicit creative, scalable permanent housing solutions for those experiencing homelessness. Proposals could be innovative construction methods and/or financing mechanisms. Out of 53 total submissions, four \$1 million grants and one \$500,000 grant were awarded to proposals that could deliver permanent housing faster and more cost-effectively.

Additionally, the Los Angeles County Development Authority issues regular NOFAs for permanent housing for people experiencing homelessness. The developers of the tiny homes could submit their proposal in response to these NOFAs.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HOME SWEET HOME

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.1

Streamline and standardize zoning laws and municipal codes across all municipalities in the County. As part of the process, allow for more flexibility in increasing affordable housing options.

RESPONSE

Partially disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented, because the County does not have jurisdiction over the incorporated municipalities, and the County Department of Regional Planning only has jurisdiction over the Unincorporated Area of the County. However, the County supports the goal of the recommendation to increase the supply of affordable housing in Los Angeles County. As such, the Board has recently approved housing ordinances and supports flexibility in increasing affordable housing options in the Unincorporated Area of the County.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.3

Reduce, standardize, and clearly document (make transparent) developer fees across all municipalities within the County. This includes publishing the fees associated with every project.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented, because the County does not have jurisdiction over the incorporated municipalities. Additionally, the County Department of Regional Planning only has jurisdiction over the Unincorporated Area of the County.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.4

Remove the non-TOC related provisions from Los Angeles Measure JJJ.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. This recommendation requires change to a voter-approved measure that would need to be decided by voters.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.5

Support replacing the current State Housing Element law with a model that states that 10 percent of housing stock in all municipalities must be income-restricted (low-income). A city is considered out of compliance if less than 10 percent of their housing stock is income-restricted. And if a city is out of compliance, developers can bypass many local reviews when building low-income housing.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. Existing Board policy supports local control. Board policy specifically states to "oppose any abridgement or elimination of the Board of Supervisors' powers and duties" and "oppose legislation that infringes upon County Board of Supervisors' local land use decision making." Further, the Board's Legislative Agenda does not include any policies regarding reforming the

State's Housing Element law. Furthermore, the recommendation would result in local jurisdictions planning for significantly less affordable housing than under the current Housing Element Law. Additionally, the County Department of Regional Planning only has jurisdiction over the Unincorporated Area of the County.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.6

Support CEQA reform:

- o Disallow serial, duplicative lawsuits that challenge projects that have successfully completed the CEQA process
- o Require all entities that file CEQA lawsuits to fully disclose their identities and their environmental interest
- o Outlaw CEQA proceedings from extending beyond nine months
- o Prevent judges from tossing out an entire project based on a few deficiencies in an environmental impact report; allow developers to remedy via a "fix-it-ticket"
- o Ensure those who bring CEQA actions and lose, pay court costs and attorney's fees of the prevailing party

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis that would be reassessed on an annual basis. Further, as this recommendation would make numerous changes to CEQA, agreement with this recommendation is a matter of Board policy determination. Additionally, the Board Legislative Agenda supports streamlining the permitting process and amending CEQA to exempt interim housing and shelters.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.7

Support SB 1079, up for vote in the California Legislature in November 2020.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation will not be implemented because County advocacy on legislation that would impose civil fines is a matter of Board policy determination. If passed by the Legislature by August 31, 2020, SB 1079 must be signed or vetoed by the Governor by September 30, 2020. As the Board is scheduled to consider this recommendation on September 29, 2020, there will not be enough time for the Board to weigh in on this legislation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.8

Increase the percentage of Measure H funds for housing vouchers to those who are severely rent-burdened and to adequately subsidize Board and Care homes.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The CEO Homeless Initiative (HI) disagrees with the Committee's recommendation. Measure H funds are not currently used to pay for vouchers for severely rent-burdened individuals and families or to subsidize Board and Care homes. Due to the limited amount of Measure H revenue, any funds diverted to vouchers for the recommended uses would result in curtailments of existing critical services/rental subsidies for families and individuals who are literally living on the streets. The CEO-HI continues to work with homeless and affordable housing advocates and stakeholders in addressing the important needs of very low-income renters and vulnerable clients in Board and Care homes; however, Measure H is not the appropriate funding source for the Committee's recommendation.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES LOS ANGELES HOMELESS SERVICES AUTHORITY

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HOME SWEET HOME

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.8

Increase the percentage of Measure H funds for housing vouchers to those who are severely rent burdened and to adequately subsidize Board and Care homes.

RESPONSE

Partially disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented.

LAHSA agrees that there is critical need to expand the supply of permanent rental subsidy for persons experiencing, and at risk-of, homelessness, across Los Angeles County. Presently, permanent rental subsidies are made available with Measure H funding via the County's D7 strategy, which is administered by the County Department of Health Services. The County of Los Angeles is already increasing its annual proportion of D7 funding.

However, LAHSA disagrees with the recommendation to use Measure H funding for this purpose, as availability of Measure H funding is not sufficient to make available for rent-burdened persons and/or persons requiring Board and Care. Further, while there are persons experiencing homelessness who require Board and Care and/or persons at-risk of homelessness who require Board and Care, LAHSA does not agree that it is the responsibility of limited County homelessness dollars to be utilized to adequately subsidize Board and Care, as the number and volume of persons in need of this particular service is beyond the scope of what Measure H can provide. LAHSA agrees that homelessness cannot be adequately addressed without the creation of additional housing, creation of additional Board and Care, and the subsidization of both.

As referenced, the County of Los Angeles is already increasing its proportion of Measure H funds in support of the D7 strategy. However, LAHSA recommends that efforts to create additional housing, additional subsidy, and expansion of Board and Care is best researched in conjunction with partnering agencies that develop, manage, and fund permanent and affordable housing, such as HACLA, HCID, and LACDA, as well as the County Department of Health Services and Department of Mental Health, who have expertise in Enhanced Residential Care and Board and Care housing options.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.9

Employ additional resources to create greater access for unsheltered individuals in the City and County of Los Angeles to showers, and hygiene provisions.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented.

LAHSA, in conjunction with funding partners from the City and County, has expanded hygiene and sanitation projects (such as mobile shower, mobile laundry, etc.) in recent years.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.10

Provide additional public toilets in the City and County of Los Angeles (the UN standard recommends 2000 toilets Countywide).

RESPONSE

Partially agree. Further analysis to determine implementation date will be completed by February 2021.

LAHSA agrees that additional public restrooms are needed to meet the recommendations of the UN report. However, LAHSA disagrees that it is the responsibility of the homeless response delivery system to provide, supply, fund, and operate public restrooms. LAHSA recommends that this finding is best funded, implemented, and operated by City and County Public Works departments, as parts of general public infrastructure.

LAHSA does not wish to speak towards implementation as this is not a strategy LAHSA is pursuing. LAHSA advises that City and County Public Works departments are best suited to analyze and report back on this strategy.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.11

Build USC Pods in vacant lots owned by the County and City of Los Angeles.

RESPONSE

Partially agree, though this recommendation will not be implemented by LAHSA.

LAHSA finds the Pod Village concept to be a promising concept to explore. However, LAHSA advises that housing for homeless persons must be appropriate to accommodate persons with disabilities and disabling conditions, as well as support aging in place. Further, LAHSA advises that permanent housing for homeless persons must be designed in efforts to ensure fair and equitable housing opportunities, that homeless persons have access to the same quality and standards of housing as the general population. LAHSA advises that further research is required to ensure that Pods developed as permanent housing can meet the criteria referenced above.

As referenced in the response above, LAHSA advises that this strategy requires further research to ensure that Pod housing developed as permanent housing for homeless persons can be created in such fashion that it is accessible according to ADA/ADAA standards, meets Fair Housing requirements, and the minimum life, health, and safety standards of City and County permitting and code enforcement entities.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.12

Build tiny homes in vacant lots owned by the County and City of Los Angeles

RESPONSE

Partially agree, though this recommendation will not be implemented by LAHSA.

LAHSA agrees that surplus property, as well as un-used and/or under-utilized parcels of land owned by City, County, and State present opportunities for expedited development, and as such are well suited for exploration as future permanent and affordable housing locations. However, LAHSA advises that, similarly to the Pod Village concept expressed above, that housing built for homeless persons must be designed to

accommodate persons with disabilities as well as to accommodate aging in place. Further, that housing must meet Fair Housing requirements of being of equitable in quality and standards of housing for the general public.

As referenced in the response above, LAHSA advises that this strategy requires further research to ensure that "tiny homes" developed as permanent housing for homeless persons can be created in such fashion that it is accessible according to ADA/ADAA standards, meets Fair Housing requirements, and the minimum life, health, and safety standards of City and County permitting and code enforcement entities.



Secretary of the Senate

ROOM 3044, STATE CAPITOL
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

ERIKA CONTRERAS
[REDACTED]

(916) 651-4171

December 2, 2021

Thomas O'Shaughnessy, Foreperson
2021-22 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury
222 South Hill Street, 6th Floor, Suite 670
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Response to Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report "*Home Sweet Home*"

Dear Mr. O'Shaughnessy:

I write regarding recent correspondence you have sent to several Members of the California State Senate seeking a response to certain recommendations made by the 2019-20 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury in the report titled "Home Sweet Home." The Senate appreciates the civil grand jury's work on this matter of great importance. However, as I informed the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury in my letter dated September 28, 2020, to Judith Krimmel, a civil grand jury does not have the authority to require Members of the Legislature to respond to the recommendations in its reports.

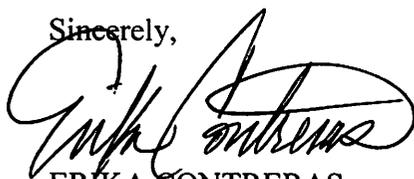
To reiterate the information provided in that previous letter, the Penal Code makes clear that a civil grand jury performing its "watchdog" function is limited to conducting investigations of public agencies and officials at the *local* level. For example, Section 925 of the Penal Code grants a civil grand jury the authority to investigate "the operations . . . of *the county*." Furthermore, the code section cited in your letter clearly provides that the civil grand jury will prepare reports on *local* matters and request responses from *local* public agencies and officials. (See Pen. Code, § 933(a) ["Each grand jury shall submit to the presiding judge of the superior court a final report of its findings and recommendations *that pertain to county government matters* during the fiscal or calendar year."]; Pen. Code, § 933(c) ["No later than 90 days after the grand jury submits a final report on the operations of *any public agency subject to its reviewing authority*, the governing body of the public agency shall comment to the presiding judge of the superior court on the findings and recommendations pertaining to matters under the control of the governing body"]) These code sections, which define the scope of a civil grand jury's authority, neither grant a civil grand jury the authority to investigate state

government operations nor require state elected officials to respond to a report's recommendations.

Moreover, by purporting to require a state legislator to respond to the report's recommendations, the civil grand jury is exceeding the authority granted to it by the Legislature. (See *People v. Superior Court (1973 Grand Jury)* (1975) 13 Cal. 3d 430, 437 ["Although (the grand jury's) powers are broad, they are carefully defined and limited by statute, and the grand jury has no inherent investigatory powers beyond those granted by the Legislature."].) It is also violating of the separation of powers in the California Constitution by attempting to require a Member of the Legislature to respond to policy recommendations that very well may be the subject of future legislation. (See Cal. Const., art. III, § 3 ["The powers of state government are legislative, executive, and judicial. Persons charged with the exercise of one power may not exercise either of the others except as permitted by this Constitution."].) Because the grand jury is part of the judicial branch, it cannot compel a Member of the Legislature to respond to recommendations implicating powers granted exclusively to the Legislature.

The California State Senate commends the civil grand jury for its efforts to investigate and report on homelessness and housing within Los Angeles County. The Legislature has recently passed a number of important pieces of legislation related to these issues. The Senators are committed to continuing this work, but, for the reasons identified above, the civil grand jury process is not the appropriate forum for them to do so.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Erika Contreras', written in a cursive style.

ERIKA CONTRERAS
Secretary of the Senate

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Assembly
California Legislature



AUTUMN R. BURKE
ASSEMBLY MEMBER, SIXTY-SECOND DISTRICT

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FAX (310) 412-6354

Michael Cieplik
Continuity Chairperson
Civil Grand Jury
222 South Hill Street, Suite 670
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Civil Grand Jury Final Report:

Dear Hon. Chairperson Cieplik,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide a response to the Civil Grand Jury's recommendations on the Home Sweet Home Report.

Civil Grand Jury Recommendations:

- 8.5 Support replacing the current State Housing Element law with a model that states that 10% of housing stock in all municipalities must be income-restricted (low-income).

Response: I agree in principle.

A city is considered out of compliance if less than 10% of their housing stock is income-restricted.

Response: I agree in principle.

And, if a city is out of compliance, developers can bypass many local reviews when building low-income housing.

Response: I disagree. Developers will simply target cities that may be out of compliance. As a result, developers may be tempted to build substandard housing when they are aware that cities will not have the opportunity to review their developments.

- 8.6 Support CEQA reform:

Disallow serial, duplicative lawsuits that challenge projects that have successfully completed the CEQA process

Response: I agree in principle.

Require all entities that file CEQA lawsuits to fully disclose their identities and their environmental interest

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AUTUMN R. BURKE
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SIXTY-SECOND DISTRICT

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Response: I agree in principle.

Outlaw CEQA proceedings from extending beyond nine months

Response: I agree in principle.

Prevent judges from tossing out an entire project based on a few deficiencies in an environmental impact report; allow developers to remedy via a "fix-it-ticket"

Response: I agree in principle.

Ensure those who bring CEQA actions and lose, pay court costs and attorney's fees of the prevailing party

Response: I disagree.

8.7 Support Senate Bill 1079, up for vote in the California Legislature in November 2020

Response: The Governor signed Senate Bill 1079 into law on September 28, 2020.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Autumn Burke".

AUTUMN BURKE
Assemblywoman, 62nd District

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Assembly California Legislature



LUZ M. RIVAS
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, THIRTY-NINTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
BUDGET
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 3 ON
RESOURCES AND TRANSPORTATION
JOBS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
THE ECONOMY
LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
REVENUE AND TAXATION
JOINT COMMITTEE
CHAIR: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET
SPECIAL COMMITTEE
CO-CHAIR: ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE
ETHICS

July 27th, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shorridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Home Sweet Home Report

Dear Judge Foltz:

This letter is in response to the letter dated July 8, 2020 from the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury regarding the 2019-2020 Home Sweet Home Report. After further research and clarification, I agree wholly with findings.

Recommendation 8.5 supports replacing current state housing element law with a model that states that 10% of housing stock in all municipalities must be income restricted (low-income). If a city is out of compliance, developers can bypass many local reviews when building low-income housing.

Recommendation 8.6 supports CEQA reform by disallowing serial, duplicative lawsuits that challenge projects that have successfully completed the CEQA process. The recommendation would also require all entities that file CEQA lawsuits to fully disclose their identities and their environmental interest. It would outlaw CEQA proceedings from extending beyond nine months. It would prevent judges from tossing out an entire project based on a few deficiencies in an environmental impact report; allow developers to remedy via a "fix-it-ticket". This recommendation will ensure those who bring CEQA actions and lose; pay court costs and attorney's fees of the prevailing party

Recommendation 8.7 support Senate Bill 1079, which is up for vote in the California Legislature in November 2020.

Thank you for your review. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact my Office at (818)504-3911.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luz M. Rivas".

LUZ RIVAS
Assemblywoman, 39th District

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SENATOR.HERTZBERG@SENATE.CA.GOV

California State Senate

SENATOR ROBERT M. HERTZBERG
MAJORITY LEADER

REPRESENTING THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY



COMMITTEES
NATURAL RESOURCES
AND WATER
ELECTIONS AND
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS
ENERGY, UTILITIES
AND COMMUNICATIONS
GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE
JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT

October 23, 2020

VIA EMAIL

Kevin C. Brazile, Presiding Judge
Los Angeles County Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Response to Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report "Home Sweet Home"

Dear Judge Brazile:

I am responding to the July 8, 2020 letter from Foreperson Judith Krimmel of the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury regarding its recent report entitled "Home Sweet Home." I convey my sincere congratulations and gratitude to the grand jury for its work that produced this critical report. I have long shared the grand jury's commitment to the issue of homelessness; working to forever eradicate it from our state throughout my tenure as Speaker of the California State Assembly and in my current role as California's Senate Majority Leader,

Notwithstanding this shared objective, as a preliminary matter, I must also refer Foreperson Krimmel and her colleagues to the letter sent to the grand jury by the Secretary of the Senate, Erika Contreras, and the Chief Administrative Officer of the Assembly, Debra Gravert, dated September 28, 2020. In that letter, Ms. Contreras and Ms. Gravert, on behalf of the entire California Legislature, notified Ms. Krimmel that the grand jury does not have the legal authority to require Members of the State Legislature to respond to the recommendations in its report. As California's Senate Majority Leader, and as an attorney for more than 40 years, I fully support and subscribe to this position.

However, though not obligated to respond, I want to provide voluntarily some input to the grand jury given my passion for, and record on, the issue of homelessness. Below are responses to Recommendations 8.5, 8.6 and 8.7 of the civil grand jury's report – those directed to the state legislators. As my response is voluntary, it may differ from the format prescribed in Penal Code 933.05(a), (b.)

RECOMMENDATION 8.5

Support replacing the current State Housing Element law with a model that states that 10% of housing stock in all municipalities must be income-restricted (low-income). A city is considered out of compliance if less than 10% of their housing stock is income-restricted. And, if a city is out of compliance, developers can bypass many local reviews when building low-income housing.

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 8.5

Recent legislation, advocacy and executive action has already enabled housing element related reforms to a significant degree. The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) perennially advocates for affordable housing funding for construction of homes affordable to households at all income levels. The State of

California Housing and Community Development Department (HCD) notes that the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is already responsible for “allocating a lower proportion of housing need to an income category when a jurisdiction already has a disproportionately high share of households in that income category, as compared to the countywide distribution of households in that category from the most recent American Community Survey.”

In 2019, I supported AB 139 (Quirk-Silva) and AB 1485 (Wicks), which authorized local governments to produce inclusive housing within specific limits determined during calculation of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA). Additionally, that year, HCD and California’s Department of General Services (DGS) met with representatives from the League of California Cities (League) regarding potential use of vacant state-owned property following implementation of Executive Order N-06-09, which focused on repurposing vacant land and buildings into potential housing and multi-purpose sites pursuant to ministerial review.

This meeting between the League and the Administration provided attendees with tools on how to find state-owned property that could be viable for cost-effective housing developments used to meet their RHNA mandates. SCAG is responsible for adopting a RHNA allocation methodology for the period beginning June 30, 2021 and ending October 15, 2029. I supported Executive Order N-06-09 and the related League and SCAG efforts, which are all still in the early stages of implementation.

RECOMMENDATION 8.6

Support CEQA reform:

- Disallow serial, duplicative lawsuits that challenge projects that have successfully completed the CEQA process
- Require all entities that file CEQA lawsuits to fully disclose their identities and their environmental interest
- Outlaw CEQA proceedings from extending beyond nine months
- Prevent judges from tossing out an entire project based on a few deficiencies in an environmental impact report; allow developers to remedy via a “fix-it-ticket”
- Ensure those who bring CEQA actions and lose, pay court costs and attorney’s fees of the prevailing party

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 8.6

While low-income housing is critical as one part of solving homelessness, we must be wary of continuously chipping away at the crucial environmental protections enshrined in CEQA. According to the Los Angeles Times, “California law already sets goals of wrapping up CEQA law suits.” Testimony provided to the Senate Judiciary and Environmental Quality Committees by the Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP) confirmed that CEQA has a number of streamlining provisions and “qualifying projects can bypass the need for a Neg Dec, Mitigated Neg Dec, or EIR.” Their report to the committees noted that the “Class 32 categorical exemption for infill projects is widely used” and that “an agency that uses ministerial permits, rather than discretionary ones, avoids CEQA for those types of projects.”

Additionally, the AEP report concluded that “the Legislature has created a number of CEQA streamlining or tiering mechanisms, including exemptions within transit priority areas, sustainable community and environmental assessments [sic].” SB 288 (Wiener) exempts sustainable transportation projects from CEQA for the next two years, and SB 974 (Hurtado), which streamlined drinking water improvements in disadvantaged communities. I supported both of these measures, which passed out of the Legislature and were only recently signed by the Governor.

In 2019, I coauthored AB 1197 (Santiago), which applies only to the City of Los Angeles, but could make a huge impact across Los Angeles County by aiding the City's efforts to quickly build shelters and affordable

housing. The bill operates as a waiver of CEQA requirements for shelters and housing that is funded by Government agencies and local funding streams, such as Measure HHH and H. Although the law sunsets in 2025, the Legislature routinely considers bills aimed at CEQA reform, and assesses the efficacy of those passed in previous sessions. CEQA reform has also been of interest to Governor Newsom, who mentioned it in his 2020 State of the State address.

The COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the need for government to step in and directly and systemically address the homelessness crisis as a statewide emergency. Governor Newsom delivered Project Roomkey (now Project Homekey) as a short-term response to the crisis, but the need for long-term housing solutions in our State still persists. Passing meaningful legislation that provides exemptions to CEQA could be an important component to speed up the production of shelters and affordable units. I eagerly await the implementation of AB 1197 in Los Angeles as a possible model for the rest of the state.

RECOMMENDATION 8.7

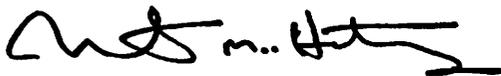
Support Senate Bill 1079, up for vote in the California Legislature in November 2020 [sic].

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 8.7

I supported SB 1079 (Skinner) in the Senate, which was signed by Governor Newsom on September 28, 2020. In an effort to prevent future foreclosure crises, the measure changes the process of how homes are sold at auctions after a foreclosure and provides a safeguard to keep foreclosed homes in the hands of the local governments rather than large corporations. Specifically, SB 1079 includes “a trio of provisions intended to mitigate against blight, vacancy, and the transfer of residential property ownership from owner-occupants to corporate landlords in the event that California experiences a wave of foreclosures.” The measure will not take effect until January 1, 2021.

I genuinely commend the effort put forth by the grand jury in producing this critical work, and look forward to increased cooperation between all levels of government in implementing creative solutions to once and for all relegate homelessness to the ash heap of California history.

Sincerely,



ROBERT M. HERTZBERG
Senate Majority Leader, Eighteenth District

CC: Judith Krimmel, Foreperson, 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 7

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October 19, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles County Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, California 90012

Re: Home Sweet Home Response to Recommendation No. 8.13
by Respondent Caltrans

Dear Presiding Judge:

The 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury published a report (Report) based on findings prepared by the Home Sweet Home Committee (Committee) regarding homelessness in the County of Los Angeles. The report provides recommendations based on the findings of the Committee. Recommendation No. 8.13 is specific to the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

Recommendation No. 8.13 states, "Make all vacant Caltrans housing low-income."

Pursuant to California Penal Code, Section 933.05(a), Caltrans responds to Recommendation No. 8.13 by stating that it disagrees wholly with the recommendation for the following reasons:

1. The Report identifies 163 vacant homes owned by Caltrans in the County of Los Angeles. This is incorrect. Caltrans currently owns 105 vacant homes in the county of Los Angeles.
2. Of the 105 vacant homes, 22 have been committed to the City of Los Angeles as part of an agreement with the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA).
3. Of the remaining vacant homes, 10 will be required by Caltrans as relocation housing, when the currently occupied homes are sold pursuant to the Roberti Act and the Affordable Sales Program Regulations

Mr./Ms./Honorable Full Name

Date

Page 2

(Regulations). The Regulations establish that if the estimated lender required repairs for each home exceeds the value in return for a property, Caltrans may be required to find a replacement property for the current occupants. Caltrans conducted an analysis and determined that there were suitable vacant properties in Caltrans inventory that would be acceptable as replacement properties. This will allow Caltrans to avoid having to find replacement properties in the private market.

4. The remaining 73 vacant homes are deteriorated; many have issues related to mold, asbestos and lead, and are not in a habitable nor safe condition for human habitation. On the average, the cost of repair is a minimum of \$100K per vacant property to meet the habitability requirements. This is due to the age of the properties and the prevailing wage requirements that Caltrans is lawfully bound to follow.

Pursuant to California Penal Code, Section 933.05(b), Caltrans responds that it will take the following action regarding Recommendation No. 8.13:

The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not feasible. Of the 105 vacant homes in the County of Los Angeles, Caltrans has already committed 32 properties for other uses. The remaining 73 vacant houses are in a state of complete disrepair and it is cost prohibitive for Caltrans to make these properties safe for human habitation.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



JOHN C. BULINSKI
District 7 Director

9.0 Hospitals on Ventilators

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jean Holden, Co-Chair
Larry Sullivan, Co-Chair
Hind Baki
Gordon Jefferson
Heather Preimesberger
Irene Shandell-Taylor
Jenalea Smith

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
HOSPITALS ON VENTILATORS**

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9.1

The Board of Supervisors, Department of Public Health, and Department of Health Services should undertake a complete review of current hospitals' (County, Public, and Private) ability to meet SCAG's County growth projections for the upcoming 20 years.

RESPONSE

Disagree as related to non-County facilities as the County does not have any authority over private hospitals located in the County. This recommendation will not be implemented.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9.2

The Board of Supervisors and the Department of Health Services should assess how Measure B funds are being distributed, and look into whether Measure B, or any other funds, can be used to assist hospitals to upgrade infrastructure to meet seismic standards.⁶⁸ (Appendix 5)

RESPONSE

Agree. Implementation of this Recommendation is an ongoing process per the response provided by the Department of Health Services (DHS).

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9.3

The Board of Supervisors, EMS, and the Department of Health Services should consider the COVID-19 pandemic and ensure sufficient funding such that all medical facilities within the County have adequate supplies (masks, hand sanitizer, ICU ventilators, etc.) for any future crises.

RESPONSE

Agree. DHS indicates that implementation of this recommendation is ongoing, but it should be noted that each healthcare entity has an obligation to plan adequately for emergency preparedness as a shared responsibility.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9.4

This Committee recommends that the Board of Supervisors, EMS, DHS, and the department of Public Health provide a report specifically outlining how Measure B funds are being used to update the Bioterrorism Preparedness Plan so that the County will always have enough medical equipment on hand to deal with global emergencies.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. Measure B allows for use related to bioterrorism preparedness which is distinct and apart from response to infectious disease, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. The County continues to advocate through legislative avenues to seek out federal and State revenues to assist with COVID response.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9.5

The Committee recommends that the County Measure B Advisory Board add a member position in order to have a representative from one of the 13 non-County hospitals, preferably the Chief Financial Officer from one of those hospitals. (Appendix 4)

RESPONSE

Disagree as this recommendation has already been met with current member representation as further described in DHS' response. This recommendation will not be implemented.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9.6

The Board of Supervisors should disclose hospital risk to the public; appropriate disclosure should be displayed at primary entrances of SPC-1⁶⁹ building to inform the public and hospital staff about the earthquake risks posed by each building.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The County does not currently own or operate any hospital buildings that are under the SPC-1 category.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9.7

The Board of Supervisors should develop a 10-year business plan for replacing hospital buildings closed due to the 2020 SPC-1 seismic retrofit mandate.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The County of Los Angeles has already completed the replacement of SPC-1 buildings for the Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center in 2019. The County of Los Angeles does not currently own or operate any hospital buildings that are under the SPC-1 category.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HOSPITALS ON VENTILATORS

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9.1

The Board of Supervisors, Department of Public Health, and Department of Health Services should undertake a complete review of current hospitals' (County, Public, and Private) ability to meet SCAG's County growth projections for the upcoming 20 years.

RESPONSE

DHS and DHS-EMS disagree with the finding to the extent that it assumes the Department of Health Services has authority over private hospitals located in the County.

DHS and DHS-EMS will not implement this recommendation as Private (either for-profit or not-for-profit), State, and Federal run hospitals are not under the jurisdiction of the Board of Supervisors nor the Department of Health Services. Licensing of hospitals is a function of the California Department of Public Health. The County, therefore, has no control over the ability or independent decisions of such hospitals to increase their bed numbers and/or build new facilities, nor decisions to close their facilities.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9.2

The Board of Supervisors and the Department of Health Services should assess how Measure B funds are being distributed, and look into whether Measure B, or any other funds, can be used to assist hospitals to upgrade infrastructure to meet seismic standards.⁶⁸ (Appendix 5)

RESPONSE

DHS agrees with this recommendation. This recommendation is in process of being implemented.

The LA County Board of Supervisors (Board) will continue to serve as the advisory and approval body with respect to the distribution of Measure B funds. We believe the primary intent of Measure B has been fulfilled by maintaining the number of trauma centers and emergency rooms in existence as of 2003 statistics, adding new trauma centers such as at California Hospital Medical Center, Antelope Valley Hospital, and Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center as well as the "24/7" air medical transport program, and by improving and enhancing trauma and emergency care. To adopt a countywide strategy for ensuring objective, needs-based allocation of future unspent and unallocated Measure B funds, the Board approved the creation of the Measure B Advisory Board (MBAB) consisting of representatives from the public and private sectors, to review and prioritize funding request proposals and make recommendations to the Board for funding these proposals. Through this process, MBAB continuously makes recommendations to the Board as additional unallocated Measure B funds become available.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9.3

The Board of Supervisors, EMS, and the Department of Health Services should consider the COVID-19 pandemic and ensure sufficient funding such that all medical facilities within the County have adequate supplies (masks, hand sanitizer, ICU ventilators, etc.) for any future crises.

RESPONSE

DHS and DHS-EMS agree with this recommendation. Implementation of this Recommendation is an ongoing process.

Funding for emergency preparedness and procurement of emergency supplies and equipment has been provided to the healthcare community through the Federally supported Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP). Any increase to the HPP funding would be supported by the Board of Supervisors. The County's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency manages the HPP, which coordinates with hospitals and other healthcare entities throughout the County on emergency preparedness, response, and recovery. The EMS Agency and hospitals have used HPP funds to procure and store medical equipment, masks, sanitizer, gowns, and ventilators.

It is important to note, however, that under the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Conditions of Participation, each healthcare entity has an obligation to plan adequately for disasters, making emergency preparedness a shared responsibility.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9.4

This Committee recommends that the Board of Supervisors, EMS, DHS, and the department of Public Health provide a report specifically outlining how Measure B funds are being used to update the Bioterrorism Preparedness Plan so that the County will always have enough medical equipment on hand to deal with global emergencies.

RESPONSE

DHS and DHS-EMS disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented as jurisdiction for this recommendation falls under the department of Public Health.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9.5

The Committee recommends that the County Measure B Advisory Board add a member position in order to have a representative from one of the 13 non-County hospitals, preferably the Chief Financial Officer from one of those hospitals. (Appendix 4)

RESPONSE

DHS disagrees with the finding/assumption that EMS has oversight of Measure B Funds. (Background, p. 194.) The Measure B Advisory Board (MBAB) was formed in 2018 as the result of a motion passed by the Board of Supervisors on July 11, 2017. The EMS Agency, among others, serves as a member of, but does not have oversight authority over, the MBAB. The MBAB's role is advisory only to the Board. Therefore, EMS has neither the authority nor the oversight responsibility over the expenditure of Measure B Funds. (See Board of Supervisors Statement of Proceedings, July 11, 2017, Item 3, Chief Executive Officer's Report Dated July 3, 2017.)

This recommendation is already implemented. The MBAB membership already includes a "Representative of non-County trauma hospitals, as appointed by the Hospital Association of Southern California," and a

"Surgeon practicing at a trauma hospital in the County as appointed by the Southern California chapter of the American College of Surgeons." (See Appendix 4) Furthermore, an Emergency Room nurse as appointed by the California Nurses Association was added by Board amendment to the motion, which adds to the non-County trauma hospital representation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9.6

The Board of Supervisors should disclose hospital risk to the public; appropriate disclosure should be displayed at primary entrances of SPC-1⁶⁹ building to inform the public and hospital staff about the earthquake risks posed by each building.

RESPONSE

DHS disagrees. This recommendation will not be implemented as jurisdiction for this recommendation falls under the department of the CEO.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9.7

The Board of Supervisors should develop a 10-year business plan for replacing hospital buildings closed due to the 2020 SPC-1 seismic retrofit mandate.

RESPONSE

DHS disagrees. This recommendation will not be implemented as jurisdiction for this recommendation falls under the department of the CEO.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HOSPITALS ON VENTILATORS

RECOMMENDATION NO 9.1

The Board of Supervisors, Department of Public Health, and Department of Health Services should undertake a complete review of current hospitals' (County, Public, and Private) ability to meet SCAG's County growth projections for the upcoming 20 years.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will not be implemented, as it falls under the State jurisdiction. The Department of Public Health (DPH) agrees that a review of current area hospitals' ability to meet anticipated population growth is important to understanding whether existing capacity can meet future needs. However, as the state has the regulatory authority over hospitals, we believe that this should be performed under state direction. This may be an especially important piece in COVID-19 recovery, as there were significant gaps in the medical system that were identified during the pandemic in California.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9.3

The Board of Supervisors, EMS, and the Department of Health Services should consider the COVID-19 pandemic and ensure sufficient funding such that all medical facilities within the County have adequate supplies (masks, hand sanitizer, ICS ventilators, etc.) for any future crises.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. DPH continues to advocate for increased federal preparedness funding and assuring that a sufficient portion of COVID-19 disaster recovery dollars are earmarked for rebuilding emergency medical supply and equipment caches that were depleted during the pandemic. In addition, efforts should be devoted to strengthening the national supply chain that hospitals and healthcare entities are reliant upon by identifying more efficient procurement, rebuilding domestic manufacturing capabilities, and ensuring and maintaining an effective cache storage and distribution system to prevent shortages in future emergencies.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9.4

This Committee recommends that the Board of Supervisors, EMS, DHS, and DPH provide a report specifically outlining how Measure B funds are being used to update the Bioterrorism Preparedness Plan so that the County will always have enough medical equipment to deal with global emergencies.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will not be implemented. While DPH does not have direct oversight of the Measure B funding, DPH would support a review of Measure B funding and provision of a report on bioterrorism preparedness and response activities initiated by the Measure B Advisory Board by December 31, 2020.



Health Services
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

August 25, 2020

**Los Angeles County
Board of Supervisors**

Hilda L. Solis
First District

Mark Ridley-Thomas
Second District

Shella Kuehl
Third District

Janice Hahn
Fourth District

Kathryn Barger
Fifth District

TO: Sachi A. Hamai
Chief Executive Officer

FROM: Christina R. Ghaly, M.D.
Director

**SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CIVIL GRAND JURY REPORT**

Attached is the Department of Health Services' (DHS) response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury (CGJ) Report Sections:

- *"Hospitals on Ventilators"*
Recommendation Numbers 9.1 – 9.7

DHS and DHS' Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency disagree with Recommendation 9.1 to the extent that it assumes DHS and DHS-EMS have any authority over public and private hospitals located in Los Angeles County (LA County) or decisions to increase their bed numbers, build or close their facilities.

DHS and DHS-EMS also disagree with Recommendation 9.5 as the EDHS-EMS has neither authority nor oversight responsibility over the expenditure of Measure B funds. In addition, this Recommendation is already in place.

DHS and DHS-EMS defer to the Department of Public Health for response to Recommendation 9.4, and to the Chief Executive Office for response to Recommendations 9.6 and 9.7.

We concur with and have initiated and/or taken corrective actions to address Recommendation Numbers 9.2 and 9.3.

- *"LA-HOP (Los Angeles Homeless Outreach Portal)"*
Recommendation Numbers 10.1.c and 10.1.d

DHS and DHS-EMS defer to LA County Fire for response to Recommendation 10.1.c as the First Responders – Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and Paramedics referenced in the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) Organization's September 30, 2019, Report (CGJ Report Appendix 2) work for the fire departments and ambulance companies, not EMS.

Christina R. Ghaly, M.D.
Director

Hal F. Yee, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.
Chief Deputy Director, Clinical Affairs

Nina J. Park, M.D.
Chief Deputy Director, Population Health

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Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Sachi A. Hamai
August 25, 2020
Page 2

DHS disagrees with Recommendation 10.1.d as DHS outreach teams are already assigned onsite at DHS hospital campuses to assist homeless clients. DHS also has an existing system for LA County hospitals to refer clients to DHS Housing for Health for access to interim and permanent housing.

- *"In Remembrance of Those Who Walked Amongst Us"*
Recommendation Number 11.2.

We concur with and have initiated corrective actions to address Recommendation 11.2.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please let me know or your staff may contact Maria Lorena Andrade-Guzman at [REDACTED] or Loretta Range at [REDACTED].

CRG:nm

Attachments

c: Hal F. Yee, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.
Arun Patel, M.D.
Cathy Chidester
Cheri Todoroff
Jorge Orozco
Allan Wecker
Maria Lorena Andrade-Guzman

10.0 LA-HOP (Los Angeles Homeless Outreach Portal)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Gordon Jefferson, Chair
Mike Padilla, Co-Chair
Jenalea Smith, Secretary
Rebecca Hunter
Joseph Sarria

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LA-HOP (LOS ANGELES HOMELESS OUTREACH PORTAL)

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.1

Update procedures by these organizations to use LA-HOP to report homelessness:

- a. Los Angeles Police Department
- b. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
- c. Emergency Medical Services
- d. County Hospitals
- e. City and County Fire Departments
- f. Currently, these organizations use various alternate avenues to connect to homeless services. However, the desired outcome is to have all agencies report through the LA-HOP portal in order to maintain a consistent database.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The CEO Homeless Initiative (HI) will engage LAHSA, the agency that administers LA-HOP on behalf of the CEO-HI, to work on development of updated procedures to ensure a uniform approach across all entities for the use of LA-HOP.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.2

Increase exposure of LA-HOP to the general public by having LAHSA advertise via:

- a. Newspapers
- b. County Agency Publications
- c. Los Angeles City Publications
- d. Libraries
- e. County Events
- f. Houses of Worship Events
- g. Community Service Organizations
- h. Radio and Television Broadcasts
- i. Social Media
- j. Public Service Announcements
- k. Billboards

To encourage maximum usage of LA-HOP, the Committee recommends that LAHSA initiate an incentive program with the above-listed organizations. These incentives can be organizational achievement awards and/or monetary rewards.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented for the following reasons: 1) during the foreseeable future, increasing the exposure of LA-HOP is not recommended because the increased referrals would divert resources from proactive outreach that is critical during the COVID-19 pandemic, and 2) providing incentives to maximize usage of LA HOP is not an appropriate approach as it may encourage unnecessary filings based on reward/recognition over merit.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LA-HOP (LOS ANGELES HOMELESS OUTREACH PORTAL)

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.1

10.1 Update procedures by these organizations to use LA-HOP to report homelessness:

- a. Los Angeles Police Department
- b. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
- c. Emergency Medical Services
- d. County Hospitals
- e. City and County Fire Departments
- f. Currently, these organizations use various alternate avenues to connect to homeless services. However, the desired outcome is to have all agencies report through the LA-HOP portal in order to maintain a consistent database.

RESPONSE

The Consolidated Fire Protection District (District) of Los Angeles County agrees with the recommendation and will implement the recommendation within the next 90 days. The District has been engaged with partner agencies to address the homelessness crisis on multiple fronts to include the homeless living in very high fire severity zones and those in need of housing to mitigate the spread COVID-19. The District will further address the homelessness crisis by engaging with the LA-HOP portal/application to report homelessness and provide awareness of LA-HOP to all District employees.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES**

**2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
LA-HOP (LOS ANGELES COUNTY HOMELESS OUTREACH PORTAL)**

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.1

10.1 Update procedures by these organizations to use LA-HOP to report homelessness:

- a. Los Angeles Police Department
- b. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
- c. Emergency Medical Services
- d. County Hospitals
- e. City and County Fire Departments
- f. Currently, these organizations use various alternate avenues to connect to homeless services. However, the desired outcome is to have all agencies report through the LA-HOP portal in order to maintain a consistent database.¹⁷

RESPONSE

DHS and DHS-EMS disagree with this recommendation.

This recommendation will not be implemented. DHS and DHS-EMS defer to the LA County Fire Department for response to Recommendation 10.1.c as the "First Responder, 4%" referenced in the LAHSA Organization's September 30, 2019, Report (CGJ LA-HOP Report Appendix 2) are EMTs and Paramedics who work for the fire departments and ambulance companies, not the EMS Agency.

DHS contracts with over sixty (60) outreach teams and these team's partner with LAHSA and other outreach teams to respond to LA-HOP reports throughout Los Angeles County. DHS has outreach teams assigned to DHS hospital campuses who are onsite assisting homeless clients. Requiring DHS hospitals to route client reports through LA-HOP could result in delays for clients to receive services. In addition, DHS has an existing system for County hospitals to refer clients to DHS Housing for Health for access to interim and permanent housing.

For these reasons, Recommendation 10.1.d will not be implemented.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES LOS ANGELES HOMELESS SERVICES AUTHORITY

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LA-HOP (LOS ANGELES HOMELESS OUTREACH PORTAL)

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.1

Update procedures by these organizations to use LA-HOP to report homelessness:

- a. Los Angeles Police Department
- b. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
- c. Emergency Medical Services
- d. County Hospitals
- e. City and County Fire Departments
- f. Currently, these organizations use various alternate avenues to connect to homeless services. However, the desired outcome is to have all agencies report through the LA-HOP portal in order to maintain a consistent database.

RESPONSE

Partially disagree. This recommendation requires further analysis to be completed by February 2021.

Thank you for flagging the importance of these critical stakeholders. LA-HOP is designed to connect vulnerable, unconnected people to the outreach system; it is not designed nor staffed to triage and connect all people experiencing homelessness to other parts of the system. We agree that strategic use of LA-HOP among other street-based entities is important, most notably law enforcement. This will require continuous education on the system and its strategic use, which we currently do but requires continued investment. We must highlight the term "strategic use" of LA-HOP as it is critical to ensure the volume of requests allows for prompt dispatch. This is because 1) outreach capacity is limited (see below) and 2) outreach teams are already proactively working assigned areas and people found in these zones. Regarding an enhanced partnership with EMS, there are potential HIPAA constraints that must be navigated to allow for these entities to make referrals. We look forward to continuing to explore with City and County Fire to allow for this.

Regarding hospitals, they have access to a direct referral pipeline for shelter beds. Further, LAHSA has funded a number of hospital liaisons to support better triaging of homeless individuals to needed resources.

It's important to note that due to COVID-19, outreach teams have shifted its work to efforts to protect people on the streets with wellness checks and testing. This has impacted the ability to respond to requests for outreach, with significant delays in some Service Planning Areas (SPA).

Lastly, LAHSA created a helpful page to help connect people to various services, including other access points, safe parking, winter shelter, Veteran services, among many others. Please visit <https://www.lahsa.org/get-help>

Will continue to discuss with EMS on use and HIPAA challenges.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.2

Increase exposure of LA-HOP to the general public by having LAHSA advertise via:

- a. Newspapers
- b. County Agency Publications
- c. Los Angeles City Publications
- d. Libraries
- e. County Events
- f. Houses of Worship Events
- g. Community Service Organizations
- h. Radio and Television Broadcasts
- i. Social Media
- j. Public Service Announcements
- k. Billboards

To encourage maximum usage of LA-HOP, the Committee recommends that LAHSA initiate an incentive program with the above-listed organizations. These incentives can be organizational achievement awards and/or monetary rewards.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented for the following reasons: 1) we do not believe more traffic to the site is helpful as increased volume could create important bandwidth issues for outreach teams. Instead, as mentioned above, it's important to instead focus on more strategic use of the system by key partners in specific cases; 2) the outreach system has significant coverage of the unsheltered population through its proactive provision of service as they are out in the field in their assigned areas in order to find and support tens of thousands of unsheltered individuals; and 3) outreach teams know where encampments are, know the individuals who reside here, and are well-placed to provide services. LA-HOP is a helpful adjunct to identify people in need but is not a replacement for identifying and addressing needs via outreach teams' proactive work.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.3

In order to be easily identifiable to people in need, LAHSA outreach workers should have a distinctive uniform or vest.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented.

LAHSA Outreach teams have always worn very distinct uniforms and wear their LAHSA ID. Please see below for an example of their uniforms.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SHERIFF

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LA-HOP (LOS ANGELES HOMELESS OUTREACH PORTAL)

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.1

Update procedures by these organizations to use LA-HOP to report homelessness:

- a. Los Angeles Police Department
- b. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
- c. Emergency Medical Services
- d. County Hospitals
- e. City and County Fire Departments
- f. Currently, these organizations use various alternate avenues to connect to homeless services. However, the desired outcome is to have all agencies report through the LA-HOP portal in order to maintain a consistent database.

RESPONSE

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department agrees with this recommendation. This recommendation has been partially implemented and will be fully implemented during Fiscal Year 2020-21. The LA-HOP flyer and a discussion of its contents and purpose were added to the LASD First Responder Homeless Training class in July of 2018. The course is currently being taught as part of the 32-hour Crisis Intervention Training (FOCUS) and field patrol school. To date, over 2,500 Department members, 1,000 civilian personnel from independent cities, homeless outreach workers, community groups, and 60 police officers from various departments have been trained.

The Department will add the LA-HOP informational flyer to all of its social media platforms countywide. LASD will also create and distribute a Field Operations Newsletter to Department members describing LA-HOP and its purpose. It further will direct Department members to utilize the portal to report those experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles County.



Health Services
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

August 25, 2020

Handwritten initials: "JL" and "CEO".

**Los Angeles County
Board of Supervisors**

Hilda L. Solis
First District

Mark Ridley-Thomas
Second District

Sheila Kuehl
Third District

Janice Hahn
Fourth District

Kathryn Barger
Fifth District

TO: Sachi A. Hamai
Chief Executive Officer

FROM: Christina R. Ghaly, M.D.
Director

SUBJECT: **RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CIVIL GRAND JURY REPORT**

Attached is the Department of Health Services' (DHS) response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury (CGJ) Report Sections:

Christina R. Ghaly, M.D.
Director

Hal F. Yee, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.
Chief Deputy Director, Clinical Affairs

Nina J. Park, M.D.
Chief Deputy Director, Population Health

- *"Hospitals on Ventilators"*
Recommendation Numbers 9.1 – 9.7

DHS and DHS' Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency disagree with Recommendation 9.1 to the extent that it assumes DHS and DHS-EMS have any authority over public and private hospitals located in Los Angeles County (LA County) or decisions to increase their bed numbers, build or close their facilities.

DHS and DHS-EMS also disagree with Recommendation 9.5 as the EDHS-EMS has neither authority nor oversight responsibility over the expenditure of Measure B funds. In addition, this Recommendation is already in place.

DHS and DHS-EMS defer to the Department of Public Health for response to Recommendation 9.4, and to the Chief Executive Office for response to Recommendations 9.6 and 9.7.

We concur with and have initiated and/or taken corrective actions to address Recommendation Numbers 9.2 and 9.3.

- *"LA-HOP (Los Angeles Homeless Outreach Portal)"*
Recommendation Numbers 10.1.c and 10.1.d

Handwritten note: "#10."

DHS and DHS-EMS defer to LA County Fire for response to Recommendation 10.1.c as the First Responders – Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and Paramedics referenced in the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) Organization's September 30, 2019, Report (CGJ Report Appendix 2) work for the fire departments and ambulance companies, not EMS.

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Los Angeles, CA 90012

Tel: (213) 288-7901

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Sachi A. Hamai
August 25, 2020
Page 2

DHS disagrees with Recommendation 10.1.d as DHS outreach teams are already assigned onsite at DHS hospital campuses to assist homeless clients. DHS also has an existing system for LA County hospitals to refer clients to DHS Housing for Health for access to interim and permanent housing.

- *"In Remembrance of Those Who Walked Amongst Us"*
Recommendation Number 11.2.

We concur with and have initiated corrective actions to address Recommendation 11.2.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please let me know or your staff may contact Maria Lorena Andrade-Guzman at [REDACTED] or Loretta Range at [REDACTED].

CRG:nm

Attachments

c: Hal F. Yee, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.
Arun Patel, M.D.
Cathy Chidester
Cheri Todoroff
Jorge Orozco
Allan Wecker
Maria Lorena Andrade-Guzman

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT



MICHEL R. MOORE
Chief of Police

ERIC GARCETTI
Mayor

P. O. Box 30158
Los Angeles, Calif. 90030
Telephone: (213) 486-0150
TDD: (877) 275-5273
Ref #: 1.11

September 24, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor – Room 11-506
Los Angeles, California 90012

Honorable Presiding Judge:

This letter is in response to the July 31, 2020, Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury report, “LA-HOP (Los Angeles Homeless Outreach Portal).” The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) offers the following responses to the recommendation:

Recommendation 10.1: “Update procedures by these organizations to use LA-HOP to report homelessness: The Los Angeles Police Department.”

RESPONSE: The Los Angeles Police Department agrees with this finding and the recommendation will be implemented as soon as possible.

The LAPD has a long working relationship with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA). Over time the LAPD has sought out ways to work more closely with LAHSA and expand their efforts to house vulnerable individuals in the City. The Department’s Homeless Coordinator’s Office had a plan to train members of the Department (with the assistance of LAHSA) to utilize the LA-HOP Portal. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the training has been temporarily postponed. Zoom meetings are being discussed as a possibility to facilitate this training.

The Department is discussing how to get access to the LA-HOP application on Department-issued cellular telephones, so officers can easily access the Portal while in the field. Although there is no expected date for the completion of this training, homelessness is a priority to the Department and this training on accessing the LA-HOP Portal is on the forefront of LAPD’s list of training.

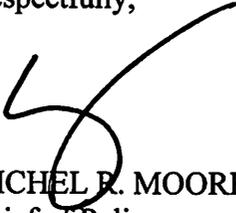
Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles County Superior Court

Page 2

1.11

Should you have any questions or require further information, please contact Commander Donald R. Graham Jr., Department Homeless Coordinator, at [REDACTED].

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'M' followed by a loop and a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

MICHEL R. MOORE
Chief of Police

11.0 In Remembrance of those Who Walked Amongst Us

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Nirja Kapoor, Chair
Gloria Wilson, Co-Chair
Hind Baki
Jean Holden
Rebecca Hunter
Heather Preimesberger
Irene Shandell-Taylor
Leroy Titus
Judith Whitman

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
IN REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE WHO WALKED AMONGST US**

RECOMMENDATION NO. 11.1

The Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner to explore providing the additional option of a comfort animal for those waiting to interface with staff.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation requires further analysis. The Board defers to the Medical Examiner-Coroner's response for further information on the analysis.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 11.2

The Department of Health Services and Medical Examiner-Coroner to hold the Ceremony for the Unclaimed Dead on a day where street parking is available by ensuring the ceremony is not scheduled at a day or time when street cleaning will be occurring, and vehicles are prohibited from parking on the street.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The Board defers to the Medical Examiner-Coroner's response for further information on the implementation.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES (DHS)

**2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
IN REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE WHO WALKED AMONGST US**

RECOMMENDATION NO. 11.2

The Department of Health Services and Medical Examiner-Coroner to hold the Ceremony for the Unclaimed Dead on a day where street parking is available by ensuring the ceremony is not scheduled at a day or time when street cleaning will be occurring, and vehicles are prohibited from parking on the street.

RESPONSE

DHS agrees with this recommendation. This recommendation will be implemented.

LAC+USC Medical Center's Office of Decedent Affairs will work with the Medical Examiner-Coroner's Office to ensure the annual Ceremony for the Unclaimed Dead is scheduled on a day and time that does not have street parking restrictions due to street cleaning.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER**

**2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
IN REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE WHO WALKED AMONGST US**

RECOMMENDATION NO. 11.1

The Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner to explore providing the additional option of a comfort animal for those waiting to interface with staff.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with this recommendation. This recommendation will require additional analysis. The analysis is expected to take six months. At this time, any recommendation of providing additional services will be made within the overall context of budget priorities as well as the operational impacts of the coronavirus pandemic.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 11.2

The Department of Health Services and Medical Examiner-Coroner to hold the Ceremony for the Unclaimed Dead on a day where street parking is available by ensuring the ceremony is not scheduled at a day or time when street cleaning will be occurring, and vehicles are prohibited from parking on the street.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with this recommendation and will implement it in conjunction with Department of Health Services. The DMEC office will work with the Department of Health Services' Office of Decedent Affairs to ensure the annual Ceremony for the Unclaimed Dead is scheduled on a day and time that does not have street parking restrictions due to street cleaning.



Health Services
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

August 25, 2020

oll
CEO

**Los Angeles County
Board of Supervisors**

Hilda L. Solis
First District

Mark Ridley-Thomas
Second District

Sheila Kuehl
Third District

Janice Hahn
Fourth District

Kathryn Barger
Fifth District

TO: Sachi A. Hamai
Chief Executive Officer

FROM: Christina R. Ghaly, M.D.
Director

**SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CIVIL GRAND JURY REPORT**

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Director

Hal F. Yee, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.
Chief Deputy Director, Clinical Affairs

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Recommendation Numbers 10.1.c and 10.1.d

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#11

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- *"In Remembrance of Those Who Walked Amongst Us"*
Recommendation Number 11.2.

We concur with and have initiated corrective actions to address Recommendation 11.2.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please let me know or your staff may contact Maria Lorena Andrade-Guzman at [REDACTED] or Loretta Range at [REDACTED].

CRG:nm

Attachments

c: Hal F. Yee, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.
Arun Patel, M.D.
Cathy Chidester
Cheri Todoroff
Jorge Orozco
Allan Wecker
Maria Lorena Andrade-Guzman

12.0 “Maybe I Voted?”

Note: “Maybe I Voted?” was submitted to the Board of Supervisors early for a vote on their agenda for August 4, 2020, and was passed, due to the upcoming November 2020 elections.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jean Holden, Co-Chair
Marina LaGarde, Co-Chair
Judith Whitman, Co-Chair
Kirja Kapoor
Mike Padilla
Heather Preimesberger



SACHI A. HAMAI
Chief Executive Officer

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

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Fifth District

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

August 04, 2020

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

37 August 4, 2020

CELIA ZAVALA
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

RESPONSES TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY INTERIM REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS - "MAYBE I VOTED?" (ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

Approval of the Los Angeles County (County) responses to the recommendations of the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury (CGJ) Interim Report "Maybe I Voted?" and the transmittal of responses to the CGJ, as well as the Superior Court, upon approval by the County Board of Supervisors (Board).

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Approve the responses to the recommendations of the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Interim Report "Maybe I Voted?" that pertain to County government matters under the control of the Board.
2. Instruct the Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors to transmit copies of this report to the Civil Grand Jury, upon approval by the Board.
3. Instruct the Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors to file a copy of this report with the Superior Court, upon approval by the Board.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Section 933 (b) of the California Penal Code establishes that the county boards of supervisors shall comment on grand jury findings and recommendations which pertain to county government matters under control of those boards.

On June 5, 2020, the 2019-2020 Civil Grand Jury released its Interim Report "Maybe I Voted?" containing findings and recommendations directed to the Board, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), and Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (RR/CC). The CEO and RR/CC has reported back on the Civil Grand Jury recommendations and these responses are attached as the County's official response to the 2019-2020 Civil Grand Jury Interim Report "Maybe I Voted?"

Recommendations that make reference to non-County agencies have been referred directly by the Civil Grand Jury to those entities.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommendations and responses are consistent with all three of the County Strategic Plan Goals.

Goal No. 1 - Make Investments that Transform Lives:

We will aggressively address society's most complicated social, health, and public safety challenges. We want to be a highly responsive organization capable of responding to complex societal challenges – one person at a time.

Goal No. 2 - Foster Vibrant and Resilient Communities:

Our investments in the lives of County residents are sustainable only when grounded in strong communities. We want to be the hub of a network of public-private partnering agencies supporting vibrant communities.

Goal No. 3 - Realize Tomorrow's Government Today:

Our increasingly dynamic, and complex environment, challenges our collective abilities to respond to public needs and expectations. We want to be an innovative, flexible, effective, and transparent partner focused on advancing the common good.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Any additional costs will be considered in the appropriate budget phase.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Certain Civil Grand Jury recommendations may require additional financing resources. The Department will assess the need for additional funding during the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget cycle and beyond, as appropriate.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

N/A

CONTRACTING PROCESS

N/A

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

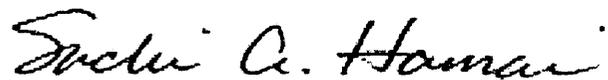
8/4/2020

Page 3

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

N/A

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sachi A. Hamai". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

SACHI A. HAMAI

Chief Executive Officer

SAH:FAD

TJM:CT:ma

Enclosures



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

SACHI A. HAMAI
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
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First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

SHEILA KUEHL
Third District

JANICE HAHN
Fourth District

KATHRYN BARGER
Fifth District

July 16, 2020

To: Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Janice Hahn

From: Sachi A. Hamai 
Chief Executive Officer

2019-2020 LOS ANGELES CIVIL GRAND JURY INTERIM REPORT "MAYBE I VOTED?"

Attached are responses to the 2019-2020 Civil Grand Jury Interim Report "Maybe I Voted?"

Attachment A represents the Board of Supervisors, Attachment B represents the Chief Executive Officer's responses, and Attachment C represents the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's responses.

If you have any questions regarding our responses, please contact me, or your staff may contact Cheri Thomas by phone at [REDACTED] or by email at [REDACTED].

SAH:FAD
TJM:CT:ma

Attachments

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY INTERIM REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY INTERIM REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
MAYBE I VOTED?

RECOMMENDATION NO. 12.1

The Committee recommends that all schools that are designated as a Vote Center must have a separate secure area with a separate entrance so that the public does not come in contact with the children.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (RR/CC) already works with schools to identify a facility/room on each campus that satisfies operational needs while strictly maintaining student safety. The California State Legislature has adopted policies encouraging the use of schools as voting locations. The RR/CC has no record of incidents where student safety or election integrity has been compromised by locating voting operations in a school. Imposing additional requirements may result in the inability of schools, which voters know have long served as polling places in Los Angeles County, to participate as vote centers. Schools are a critical partner/source for vote centers.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 12.2

The Committee recommends that the Registrar submit to the Board, with a copy to the Committee, a written document outlining the specifics of the security and chain-of-custody protocols of the ballots and the entire VSAP system at each Vote Center.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The RR/CC maintains documented chain-of-custody protocols and procedures plans. County Counsel has reviewed the protocols and plans and has advised that the contents should not be made public. Doing so may put the security of the voting system at risk.

The VSAP Voting System Use Procedures, which are filed with the Secretary of State, address compliance with legally required chain-of-custody provisions. The Use Procedures were reviewed by the Secretary of State as part of the voting system's certification.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.3

The Committee recommends that the Registrar submit a specific written plan that guarantees the resolution of all 51 conditions issued by the State. (See Conditional Certifications, Secretary of State.) This plan shall be submitted to the Board and the Committee for their review within 90 days of receipt of this report.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The Secretary of State oversees the County's adherence to certification conditions. All voting systems certifications issued by the Secretary of State are conditional. A number of the conditions referenced above are boilerplate conditions for all voting systems in California. Some of the conditions referenced in the certification required action prior to and during the election. Others require date-specific, post-election action and/or reporting. The County is fully complying with the conditions and any required report will be made public. Any conditions requiring review and testing by the Secretary of State are in process, and the system will be subject to re-certification prior to the November 2020 General Election.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.4

The Committee recommends that, at the end of an election period, each poll worker complete a survey about their experience with the processes that are in place for staffing, training, equipment, supplies, security, and voter interaction. Surveys shall be sent to the Board for action in two weeks.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. Three election worker surveys were completed following the March 2020 election: one was specific to training; one was more general to Election Worker experiences across the board; and another was specifically targeted to Vote Center leads. The complete survey results are in the publicly available RR/CC report to the Board of Supervisors.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.5

The Committee recommends that the Registrar increase County lead staff at Large Vote Centers from one employee to two. Insufficient lead staff substantially decreases efficiency of the voting process.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. The Board of Supervisors defers to the RR/CC for details on implementation.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.6

The Committee recommends the Registrar require one IT tech stationed at each Vote Center location on Election Day. If possible, an IT tech would be assigned the entire November General Election period at Large Vote Centers.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis to be completed by the end of July 2020. The Board of Supervisors defers to the RR/CC for details on the analysis.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.7

The Committee recommends, that in addition to the mail-in option, the Registrar have an alternate means of voting throughout the County for the next three general elections. The VSAP must be deemed secure and operating properly, at that time, for the County to continue using it.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. California Elections Law requires, and the RR/CC will continue, to provide in-person voting options in addition to mailing a ballot to every eligible registered voter in each election. In-person, accessible voting using Ballot Marking Devices is available at RR/CC headquarters in Norwalk as early as 29 days prior to an election and at Vote Centers for 11 days.

For the November 2020 General Election, due to the ongoing State of Emergency caused by COVID-19, the Governor has issued an Executive Order amending the requirement for Vote Centers to be opened for a minimum of four days instead of eleven days, while encouraging counties to open Vote Centers earlier where feasible and as conditions allow to encourage voter access and participation. The RR/CC is reviewing data and working with community stakeholders to develop a comprehensive plan for the General Election based on the Governor's Executive Order.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.8

The Committee recommends that the Registrar clearly identify where the drop-off locations are for mail-in ballots. Signage at Vote Centers did not indicate a drop-box location for completed ballots, nor a sign that those with completed ballots were not required to stand in line.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. The Board of Supervisors defers to the RR/CC for details on implementation.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.9

The Committee recommends that Curbside Voting and a reserved handicap parking space be clearly identified at each Vote Center, with signage indicating the phone number to call. In addition, instructions on Curbside Voting must be clearly explained in election materials prior to the election period.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. The Board of Supervisors defers to the RR/CC for details on implementation.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.10

The Committee recommends that on the weekend before Election Day, and on Election Day, transportation throughout the County be free to the voting public so that those individuals without transportation can make it to a Vote Center. This is critical to voter participation.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The County already works with transportation partners to encourage free transportation to voting sites. That decision ultimately lies with each transportation agency. The Los Angeles Metro Transit Board authorized free transit for voting on Election Day in March 2020. The RR/CC reached out to private ride-share services (Lyft and Uber) as part of an effort to provide Election Day discounts for rides to Vote Centers during the March 2020 election.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.11

The Committee recommends that at each Large Vote Center there be adequate and sufficient e-Polls in order to prevent bottleneck/congestion/chaos at check in.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation requires further analysis to be completed in July 2020. The Board of Supervisors defers to the RR/CC for details on the analysis.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.12

The Committee recommends that all workers assigned to use the e-Poll have basic electronic skills which will enable the worker to quickly and effectively locate the name of the voter.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. The Board of Supervisors defers to the RR/CC for details on implementation.

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY INTERIM REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY INTERIM REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAYBE I VOTED?

RECOMMENDATION NO. 12.1

The Committee recommends that all schools that are designated as a Vote Center must have a separate secure area with a separate entrance so that the public does not come in contact with the children.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The CEO agrees with the response provided by the Board of Supervisors.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 12.2

The Committee recommends that the Registrar submit to the Board, with a copy to the Committee, a written document outlining the specifics of the security and chain-of-custody protocols of the ballots and the entire VSAP system at each Vote Center.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The CEO agrees with the response provided by the Board of Supervisors.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.3

The Committee recommends that the Registrar submit a specific written plan that guarantees the resolution of all 51 conditions issued by the State. (See Conditional Certifications, Secretary of State.) This plan shall be submitted to the Board and the Committee for their review within 90 days of receipt of this report.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The CEO defers to the response provided by the Board of Supervisors.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.4

The Committee recommends that, at the end of an election period, each poll worker complete a survey about their experience with the processes that are in place for staffing, training, equipment, supplies, security, and voter interaction. Surveys shall be sent to the Board for action in two weeks.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The CEO agrees with the response provided by the Board of Supervisors.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.5

The Committee recommends that the Registrar increase County lead staff at Large Vote Centers from one employee to two. Insufficient lead staff substantially decreases efficiency of the voting process.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. The CEO defers to the RR/CC for details on implementation.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.6

The Committee recommends the Registrar require one IT tech stationed at each Vote Center location on Election Day. If possible, an IT tech would be assigned the entire November General Election period at Large Vote Centers.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis to be completed by the end of July 2020. The CEO defers to RR/CC's response for details on the analysis.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.7

The Committee recommends that in addition to the mail-in option, the Registrar have an alternate means of voting throughout the County for the next three general elections. The VSAP must be deemed secure and operating properly, at that time, for the County to continue using it.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The CEO agrees with the response provided by the Board of Supervisors.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.8

The Committee recommends that the Registrar clearly identify where the drop-off locations are for mail-in ballots. Signage at Vote Centers did not indicate a drop-box location for completed ballots, nor a sign that those with completed ballots were not required to stand in line.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. The CEO defers to the RR/CC for details on implementation.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.9

The Committee recommends that Curbside Voting and a reserved handicap parking space be clearly identified at each Vote Center, with signage indicating the phone number

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY INTERIM REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES REGISTRAR RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY INTERIM REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAYBE I VOTED?

RECOMMENDATION NO. 12.1

The Committee recommends that all schools that are designated as a Vote Center must have a separate secure area with a separate entrance so that the public does not come in contact with the children.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The RR/CC already works with schools to identify a facility/room on each campus that satisfies operational needs while strictly maintaining student safety. The California State Legislature has adopted policies encouraging the use of schools as voting locations. The RR/CC has no record of incidents where student safety or election integrity has been compromised by locating voting operations in a school. Imposing additional requirements may result in the inability of schools, which voters know have long served as polling places in Los Angeles County, to participate as vote centers. Schools are a critical partner/source for vote centers.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 12.2

The Committee recommends that the Registrar submit to the Board, with a copy to the Committee, a written document outlining the specifics of the security and chain-of-custody protocols of the ballots and the entire VSAP system at each Vote Center.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The RR/CC maintains documented chain-of-custody protocols and procedures plans. County Counsel has reviewed the protocols and plans and has advised that the contents should not be made public. Doing so may put the security of the voting system at risk.

The VSAP Voting System Use Procedures, which are filed with the Secretary of State, address compliance with legally required chain-of-custody provisions. The Use Procedures were reviewed by the Secretary of State as part of the voting system's certification.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.3

The Committee recommends that the Registrar submit a specific written plan that guarantees the resolution of all 51 conditions issued by the State. (See Conditional Certifications, Secretary of State.) This plan shall be submitted to the Board and the Committee for their review within 90 days of receipt of this report.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The Secretary of State oversees the County's adherence to certification conditions. All voting systems certifications issued by the Secretary of State are conditional. A number of the conditions referenced above are boilerplate conditions for all voting systems in California. Some of the conditions referenced in the certification required action prior to and during the election. Others require date-specific, post-election action and/or reporting. The County is fully complying with the conditions and any required report will be made public. Any conditions requiring review and testing by the Secretary of State are in process and the system will be subject to re-certification prior to the November 2020 General Election.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.4

The Committee recommends that, at the end of an election period, each poll worker complete a survey about their experience with the processes that are in place for staffing, training, equipment, supplies, security, and voter interaction. Surveys shall be sent to the Board for action in two weeks.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. Three election worker surveys were actually completed following the March election; one was specific to training, one was more general to Election Worker experiences across the board and another was specifically targeted to Vote Center leads. The complete survey results are in the publicly available RR/CC report to the Board of Supervisors.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.5

The Committee recommends that the Registrar increase County lead staff at Large Vote Centers from one employee to two. Insufficient lead staff substantially decreases efficiency of the voting process.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. This issue is addressed in the publicly available RR/CC report to the Board of Supervisors. The RR/CC, in conjunction with the outside, independent consultant hired in response to a request by the Board of Supervisors, is evaluating the staffing model. The RR/CC and the outside, independent consultant found that most of the staffing issues were the result of a late start to recruitment, inefficient recruitment, and the lack of a tracking tool. The RR/CC, in conjunction with the aforementioned entities above, is adjusting staffing levels at vote centers and is developing a web-based wait time tracking tool for voters use in the November General Election.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.6

The Committee recommends the Registrar require one IT tech stationed at each Vote Center location on Election Day. If possible, an IT tech would be assigned the entire November General Election period at Large Vote Centers.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis to be completed by the end of July 2020. The RR/CC is evaluating its Field Tech Support model; however, the department has committed to the assignment of Field Support Tech at a minimum ratio of no fewer than one per two Vote Centers. This issue, including the potential outsourcing of this function, is discussed in greater detail in the publicly available RR/CC report to the Board of Supervisors.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.7

The Committee recommends, that in addition to the mail-in option, the Registrar have an alternate means of voting throughout the County for the next three general elections. The VSAP must be deemed secure and operating properly, at that time, for the County to continue using it.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. California Elections Law requires, and the RR/CC will continue to provide in-person voting options in addition to mailing a ballot to every eligible registered voter in each election. In-person, accessible voting using Ballot Marking Devices is available at RR/CC headquarters in Norwalk as early as 29 days prior to an election and at Vote Centers for 11 days.

For the November 2020 General Election, due to the ongoing State of Emergency caused by COVID-19, the Governor has issued an Executive Order amending the requirement for Vote Centers to be opened for a minimum of four days instead of eleven days, while encouraging counties to open Vote Centers earlier where feasible and as conditions allow to encourage voter access and participation. The RR/CC is reviewing data and working with community stakeholders to develop a comprehensive plan for the General Election based on the Governor's Executive Order.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.8

The Committee recommends that the Registrar clearly identify where the drop-off locations are for mail-in ballots. Signage at Vote Centers did not indicate a drop-box location for completed ballots, nor a sign that those with completed ballots were not required to stand in line.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. There is a Line Monitor at each Vote Center and that person has been trained to direct voters who simply want to drop off a voted ballot. The RR/CC is exploring how to add more signage. Additional information on ballot drop-off options will be included in the Vote by Mail ballot packets mailed to each voter in all future elections.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.9

The Committee recommends that Curbside Voting and a reserved handicap parking space be clearly identified at each Vote Center, with signage indicating the phone number to call. In addition, instructions on Curbside Voting must be clearly explained in election materials prior to the election period.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. The RR/CC already provides a reserved handicap spot and signage with a telephone number for curbside voting on Election Day. We will evaluate how to make signage more visible and to validate the availability of curbside voting at all Vote Centers. The RR/CC is evaluating all election materials to determine applicable areas to more clearly explain the availability of Curbside Voting.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.10

The Committee recommends that on the weekend before Election Day, and on Election Day, transportation throughout the County be free to the voting public so that those individuals without transportation can make it to a Vote Center. This is critical to voter participation.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The County already works with transportation partners to encourage free transportation to voting sites. That decision ultimately lies with each transportation agency. The Los Angeles Metro Transit Board authorized free transit for voting on Election Day in March 2020. The RR/CC also reached out to private ride-share services (Lyft and Uber) as part of an effort to provide Election Day discounts for rides to Vote Centers during the March 2020 election.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.11

The Committee recommends that at each Large Vote Center there be adequate and sufficient e-Polls in order to prevent bottleneck/congestion/chaos at check in.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation requires further analysis. The RR/CC has committed to deploying no less than five e-pollbooks at each Vote Center, which will be enough to handle voting even during periods of heavy voter turnout. The RR/CC is evaluating the need for more e-pollbooks at larger Vote Centers. The RR/CC is working with its e-pollbook vendor, KnowInk, to speed up the processing and synching speed of e-pollbooks. That analysis and associated system modifications will be completed and KnowInk will submit the system to the Secretary of State for review and approval in July 2020. The publicly available RR/CC report to the Board of Supervisors addresses this topic in greater detail.

RECOMMENDATION NO.12.12

The Committee recommends that all workers assigned to use the e-Poll have basic electronic skills which will enable the worker to quickly and effectively locate the name of the voter.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. The RR/CC is upgrading the training curriculum and will be expanding training in areas identified as problematic in March 2020, as outlined in the publicly available RR/CC report to the Board of Supervisors.



Metro

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

213.922.2000 Tel
metro.net

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

September 3, 2020

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA Metro) Response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury Report Entitled "Maybe I Voted"

Dear Presiding Judge:

On May 28, 2020, LA Metro received the Interim Report by the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury entitled: "Maybe I Voted?" The report includes information regarding the extensive onsite and offsite research completed by the Civil Grand Jury "Maybe I Voted" Committee along with 12 recommendations that require responses in accordance with Penal Code Sections 933.05 (a) and (b). Specifically, recommendation 12.10 listed below applies to LA Metro. Our formal response is also listed below.

Recommendation 12.10

The Committee recommends that on the weekend before Election Day, and on Election Day, transportation throughout the County be free to the voting public so that those individuals without transportation can make it to a Vote Center. This is critical to voter participation.

Response

On February 21, 2019, LA Metro presented to the Metro Executive Management Committee (EMC) and Operations, Safety & Customer Experience Committee (OSCEC) a staff recommendation requesting approval to make free transit permanent for LA Metro on regular federal and statewide elections (Attachment A). The staff recommendation was approved based on Metro's review and analysis of free transit offered the year before on Election Day, Tuesday, November 6, 2018 (from 12:00 am to 11:59 pm) for Metro bus, rail and bike service to encourage voter turnout and deliver greater transportation access to get to polls throughout Los Angeles County. Therefore, as of 2019, Metro is authorized to offer free transit permanently on federal and statewide election days.

Metro believes our action to offer free transportation on the Metro system is reasonable; responsive to the spirit of the finding of the grand jury; and sustainable within resources. Additionally, since Metro does not make fare policy for other municipal transit operators in the

county, Metro will need time to engage our municipal operator partners to determine whether and how they may or may not elect to participate in offering free transit on statewide election days and/or the weekend before Election Day.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James T. Gallagher". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

James T. Gallagher
Chief Operations Officer
LA Metro



Metro's mission is to provide world-class transportation for all.



Board Report

File #: 2018-0820, File Type: Motion / Motion Response

Agenda Number: 22.

**OPERATIONS, SAFETY, AND CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE COMMITTEE
EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 21, 2019**

SUBJECT: ELECTION DAY FREE TRANSIT SERVICE MOTION 40 RESPONSE**ACTION: APPROVE RECOMMENDATION****RECOMMENDATION**

APPROVE the recommendation to make free transit permanent on regular federal and statewide election days in response to Motion 40 entitled Free Transit on Election Day.

ISSUE

On Thursday, October 18, 2018, Motion 40 was introduced by Directors Garcetti, Kuehl, Ridley-Thomas and Garcia (Attachment A) requesting staff to:

- A. Provide transit services free of fare on the November 6, 2018 election day;
- B. Partner with Access Services to examine providing enhanced and/or reduced-fare services on November 6, 2018 election day; and
- C. In consultation with the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, report back to the Board by the February 2019 cycle on whether or not to make free transit permanent on federal and statewide election days.

BACKGROUND

In response to the October 2018 board approved motion, Metro offered free bus, rail, and bike transit service on Tuesday, November 6, 2018; from 12:00 am to 11:59 pm. Specifically, Metro operated normal weekday service and proactively informed customers regarding the free service to help encourage voter turnout and deliver greater transportation access to get to polls.

DISCUSSION

General Elections are held statewide, every two years, and are not limited to voters in a particular party or a specific locality. The last General Election was held on Tuesday, November 6, 2018. Presidential Primary Elections are held every four years and the last election was held on Tuesday,

June 7, 2016. Also, Statewide Direct Primary Elections are held every four years and the last election was held on Tuesday, June 5, 2018.

Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk Registered Voter Information

The Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office has many functions including the registration of voters, maintenance of voter files, conduct of federal, state, local and special elections and the verification of initiative, referendum and recall petitions. Currently, there are over 5 million registered voters in Los Angeles County, as well as 5,000 voting precincts established for countywide elections.

Table 1.1 shows Los Angeles County registered voter statistics for General Elections and Presidential Primary Elections for the past 12 years. General Election voter registration in LA County increased from 4,544,455 to 5,163,858 during 2014 to 2018, a 14% increase. Presidential Primary Election voter registration in LA County increased from 4,450,035 to 4,799,548, during 2012 to 2016, an 8% increase.

Table 1.1 - Los Angeles County Registered Voter Information

General Election					
Year	2006	2010	2014	2018	Increase
Registered Voters	3,899,397	4,421,019	4,544,455	5,163,858	14%
Presidential Primary Election					
Year	2004	2008	2012	2016	Increase
Registered Voters	3,670,157	3,951,957	4,450,035	4,799,548	8%

**Percent change is calculated for the last two elections.*

In addition, the California Secretary of State produces a Report of Registration, as required by law, detailing voter registration levels throughout California at specific times prior to each statewide election. Data published by the California Secretary of State and the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk both suggest that voter registration at the local and state levels have been gradually increasing for both General and Primary Elections.

Metro Free Transit Service General Election Overview

Metro provided free service on Election Day in support of voters who opted to take public transportation to the polls. Specifically, Metro offered free bus, rail and bike service on Tuesday, November 6, 2018 during 12:00 am to 11:59 pm. Communication regarding free transit service during Election Day was continuous and staff was placed at strategic locations to share info on the free service, answer any questions, and ensure that service was safe and reliable. Staff reviewed and compared Election Day TAP numbers on the rail system with the prior week's Tuesday numbers and determined a 5.3% customer increase for Election Day Rail service. Staff also reviewed and compared Metro bus service automatic passenger count (APC) data averages for all Tuesdays in October and November 2018 and determined a 5.1% increase for Election Day Bus service. Lastly, Metro Bike Share also experienced a daily ridership increase of 13% with the free rides on Election Day.

TAP Partner Agencies who also chose to participate in providing free service on Election Day included: Access Services, Baldwin Park Transit, Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT), Long Beach Transit, Pasadena Transit, and Santa Clarita Transit.

Providing permanent free transit on regular federal and statewide election days will require proactive and timely interdepartmental and interagency planning and coordination with the necessary stakeholders. Interdepartmental coordination must include, but is not limited to, the following departments: Operations, TAP (including Revenue), Bike Share, Security and Law Enforcement, Communications, and Metro's Board of Directors. Also, interagency coordination must take place with all TAP and law enforcement partner agencies that may choose to provide and/or support permanent free service on federal and statewide election days. All stakeholders, including our customers, play a critical role in the successful delivery of Metro projects and programs, inclusive of providing safe and reliable transit service to our customers.

Revenue Impact

Metro estimates a *daily* bus and rail fare revenue impact in the amount of \$630,749 for providing free transit on federal and statewide election days. This includes any single day fares paid with cash or stored value for Metro Bus and Rail service. It does not include the revenue impact to any other municipalities or transit agencies.

Considerations and Recommendation

After this careful review of this past election's ridership along with revenue impact analysis, staff has determined that making free transit permanent on regular federal and statewide election days will positively affect voters in Los Angeles County. Metro's mission is to provide a world-class transportation system that enhances the quality of life for all who live, work and play within LA County, which includes increasing prosperity for all by removing voting mobility barriers. Therefore, Metro supports the recommendation of making free transit permanent on regular federal and statewide election days.

DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT

Approval of this item will have no impact on the safety of our customers and employees. Metro is committed to delivering service that is safe and reliable for our customers.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

All costs relative to making free transit permanent on regular federal and statewide election days will be reviewed and approved during the regular budget process. Since this is a multi-departmental effort, the respective Departmental project managers will be responsible for budgeting all internal and external expenses related to making free transit permanent on federal and statewide election days.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

Approval of this recommendation supports the following Metro Strategic Plan Goal: 3) Enhance communities and lives through mobility and access to opportunity. Metro will continue work towards

making Los Angeles County's transportation system more accessible, inclusive, and responsive to the needs of the diverse communities it serves.

NEXT STEPS

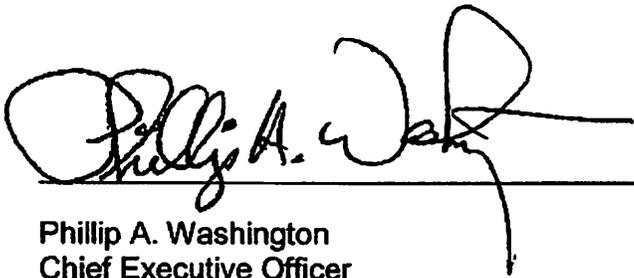
Staff will continue internal and external planning and coordination efforts in support of making free transit permanent on federal and statewide election days. This includes partnering with Access Services and any partner agencies who wish to participate in providing enhanced and/or reduced-fare services on regular federal and statewide election days in an effort to reduce mobility barriers to voting individuals throughout Los Angeles County.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A - Item 40: Free Transit Service Election Day Motion

Prepared by: David Sutton, EO Finance [REDACTED]
Nancy Saravia, Sr. Mgr., Transportation Planning [REDACTED]
Diane Corral-Lopez, EO Admin & Finance [REDACTED]

Reviewed by: James T. Gallagher, Chief Operations Officer [REDACTED]
Nalini Ahuja, Chief Financial Officer [REDACTED]



Phillip A. Washington
Chief Executive Officer

Metro

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation
Authority
One Gateway Plaza
3rd Floor Board Room
Los Angeles, CA



Board Report

File #: 2018-0687, File Type: Motion / Motion Response

Agenda Number: 40.

**EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 18, 2018**

Motion by:

GARCETTI, KUEHL, RIDLEY-THOMAS, AND GARCIA

Item 40: Free Transit Service on Election Day

MTA should help reduce the barriers to voting for the individuals that rely on MTA for mobility. In the June 2018 primary election, Los Angeles County saw a voter turnout of just 28%, which is the second lowest of the 47 California counties that reported. Additionally, studies have shown that minority, low-income, persons with disabilities, and youth voters in particular have consistently lower turnout than average. These populations are also the ones most reliant on MTA for mobility.

Voters cannot reach polls without adequate means of transportation. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology's 2016 Survey of the Performance of American Elections (SPAЕ) found that approximately 30% of nonvoters across the country claimed that the lack of transportation to the polls was a factor for not voting. In California, that number rose to 51%.

Additionally, SPAЕ and similar studies showed that lack of access to transportation to get to polls disproportionately affects minority, low-income, persons with disabilities, and youth voters. For example, over 50% of non-voters said that a disability or illness was a factor in deciding not to vote and turnout for persons with disabilities has been declining.

To encourage voter turnout, transit operators across the country provide free public transportation on Election Day. Larger cities include Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, Tampa, Kansas City, and Durham. In Minnesota, public transportation agencies are required by law to provide free rides on Election Day. The number of transit operators taking this approach continues to grow, and MTA should ensure that it does not fall behind.

SUBJECT: FREE TRANSIT SERVICE ON ELECTION DAY

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVE MOTION by Garcetti, Kuehl, Ridley-Thomas and Garcia that the Board direct the CEO to:

- A. provide transit services free of fare on the November 6, 2018 election day;
- B. partner with Access Services to examine providing enhanced and/or reduced-fare services on the November 6, 2018 election day; and
- C. in consultation with the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, report back to the Board by the February 2019 cycle on whether or not to make free transit permanent on federal and statewide election days.



Los Angeles County Office of Education

Serving Students ■ Supporting Communities ■ Leading Educators

Debra Duardo, M.S.W., Ed.D.
Superintendent

August 25, 2020

Los Angeles County
Board of Education

Monte E. Perez
President

Douglas R. Boyd
Vice President

James Cross

Betty Forrester

Alex Johnson

Ellen Rosenberg

Thomas A. Saenz

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: **“MAYBE I VOTED?”** 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

To the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court:

On behalf of the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), attached is the response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Interim Report. The report, requires a response from LACOE to Recommendation 12.1.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debra Duardo".

Debra Duardo, M.S.W., Ed.D.
Superintendent

VMA:mt
Enclosure

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
August 25, 2020
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION NO. 12.1

The Committee recommends that all schools that are designated as a Vote Center must have a separate secure area with a separate entrance so that the public does not come in contact with the children.

RESPONSE

LACOE agrees with the recommendation.

This recommendation has been and is being implemented. Schools work with the county election officials to identify facility or rooms on campus that allow schools to assist civic engagement and maintain student safety. LACOE is unaware of any single incident where student safety has been affected by voting operations in a school.

The COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant challenge for some schools participating as voting centers and LACOE is working closely with the Registrar-Recorder's office to limit and address any concerns. LACOE has been working closely with the 80 superintendents across the county regarding plans to reopen schools. For schools providing only online instruction to their students, there is no significant challenge to providing space for Vote Centers.

13.0 Nursing Homes: Only the Strong Survive

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jean Holden, Co-Chair

Marina LaGarde, Co-Chair

Irene Shandell-Taylor, Co-Chair

Nirja Kapoor

Heather Preimesberger

Judith Whitman

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
NURSING HOMES: ONLY THE STRONG SURVIVE**

RECOMMENDATION NO. 13.1

The Committee recommends that the County contract with an outside independent auditor to conduct a review of the contract agreement between the HFID and the CDPH. This audit needs to specifically address the complaint process, which has strict guidelines.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. A review of the contract between the County and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) seems unnecessary. The current Health Facilities Inspection Division (HFID) contract was a product of intense negotiations between CDPH and the County DPH, and prior to Board approval, the contract was reviewed and approved by State and County attorneys.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 13.2

The Committee recommends that the HFID create and maintain a user-friendly database that includes all staffing and inspections information on each facility in Los Angeles County. This database should be available on the HFID website (<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/hfd/>) and include the ability for the public to offer feedback and lodge formal complaints.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. HFID is mandated to use a system developed and maintained by the federal government called the Automated Survey Processing Environment (ASPEN). Inspection information is already available for public viewing on the California Health Facilities Information Database (CalHealthFind) via the following link:
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/chcq/lcp/calhealthfind/Pages/Home.aspx>

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH—HEALTH FACILITIES INSPECTION DIVISION

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NURSING HOMES: ONLY THE STRONG SURVIVE

RECOMMENDATION NO. 13.1

The Committee recommends that the County contract with an outside independent auditor to conduct a review of the contract agreement between the HFID and the CDPH. This audit needs to specifically address the complaint process, which has strict guidelines.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. A review of the contract between the County and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is unnecessary. The current contract was a product of intense negotiations between CDPH and the County DPH and prior to Board approval, the contract was reviewed by State and County attorneys. The complaint process used by Health Facilities Inspection Division (HFID) is defined under Section 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations 488.332, providing the Federal regulatory basis for the investigation of complaints about nursing homes. The complaint process is further mandated under Chapter 5 of the State Operations Manual developed by the federal government for all states and cannot be changed.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 13.2

The Committee recommends that the HFID create and maintain a user-friendly database that includes all staffing and inspections information on each facility in Los Angeles County. This database should be available on the HFID website (<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/hfd/>) and include the ability for the public to offer feedback and lodge formal complaints.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. HFID is mandated to use a system developed and maintained by the federal government called the Automated Survey Processing Environment (ASPEN). Inspection information is already available for public viewing on the California Health Facilities Information Database (CalHealthFind) via the following link: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/chcq/lcp/calhealthfind/Pages/Home.aspx>

Cal Health Find may be used to search for facilities by name, facility type or location; view provider details, including facility ownership, licensing and certification status; compare up to three facilities at a time; and file a complaint electronically.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NURSING HOMES: ONLY THE STRONG SURVIVE

RECOMMENDATION NO. 13.1

The Committee recommends that the County contract with an outside independent auditor to conduct a review of the contract agreement between the HFID and the CDPH. This audit needs to specifically address the complaint process, which has strict guidelines.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. Department of Public Health (DPH) is satisfied with the contract agreement between DPH Health Facilities Inspection Division (HFID) and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). DPH HFID is required to adhere to the contract complaint process, which is defined in Federal regulations, specifically 42 CFR § 488.332 – Investigation of complaints of violations and monitoring of compliance and further elucidated in the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' State Operations Manual Chapter 5 – Compliant Procedures developed for all states.

Of special note: On May 26, 2020, the Board of Supervisors approved the Improving Oversight and Accountability Within Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF) motion authored by Supervisors Mark Ridley-Thomas and Kathryn Barger, which demanded "an immediate, independent and holistic review" of Skilled Nursing Facilities by an Inspector General "to identify regulatory and policy recommendations for consideration at the local, state, and federal level to enhance the quality of care for residents, ensure that ongoing infection control measures are in place, and support the health care professionals that serve in this industry."

On June 26, 2020, the County Executive Officer appointed the County's Inspector General (IG) as the Inspector General called for in the motion.

On July 30, 2020, the County's IG issued their Scope of Work for this motion which includes a review of DPH's obligations related to SNFs under the terms and conditions of the current contract, and specifically, DPH HFID's process for handling SNF complaints and facility reported incidents (FRI) investigations. DPH fully supports the Board Motion and the County's IG review.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 13.2

The Committee recommends that the HFID create and maintain a user-friendly database that includes all staffing and inspections information on each facility in Los Angeles County. This database should be available on the HFID website (<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/hfd/>) and include the ability for the public to offer feedback and lodge formal complaints.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The California Department of Public Health Center for Health Care Quality Licensing and Certification Program (L&C) has already developed the California Health Facility Information Database (Cal Health Find). Cal Health Find provides consumers with information

about licensed and certified facilities throughout California including "provider details, facility ownership, licensing and certification status (acceptance of Medicare and/or Medi-Cal), performance history (complaints, entity/facility reported incidents, state enforcement actions), and deficiencies identified by L&C staff. Cal Health Find also allows consumers to file complaints electronically.

Cal Health Find can be found at the following link:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/chcq/lcp/calhealthfind/Pages/Home.aspx>.

14.0 Children Not for Sale

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Heather Preimesberger, Chair

Rebecca Hunter, Secretary

Nirja Kapoor

Marina LaGarde

Michael Padilla

LeRoy Titus

Judith Whitman

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
CHILDREN: NOT FOR SALE

RECOMMENDATION NO. 14.3

Board of Supervisors hire two more attorneys so there is the opportunity for continuity for trafficking victims going to court.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis to be completed by the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office when feasible. Due to the current financial climate and budgetary issues, any recommendation of providing additional financial support will be made within the context of the overall budget and funding priorities.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
SHERIFF AND LOS ANGELES HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE**

**2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
CHILDREN: NOT FOR SALE**

RECOMMENDATION NO. 14.4

Approve funding for additional recruitment of vice officers specifically assigned to trafficking in the Sheriff's Department, LAPD, LAHTTF and PPD.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with the recommendation. This recommendation will require further analysis. The analysis is expected to take six months. Adding personnel would increase the ability for the Department to be more proactive in combatting human trafficking. At this time, any recommendation of providing additional financial support will be made within the context of the Department's overall budget, numerous funding priorities, and requests.

The Los Angeles Regional Human Trafficking Task Force (LARHTTF) agrees with the recommendation. This recommendation will require further analysis. The analysis is expected to take six months. Identifying underage girls and boys that are being trafficked via the internet and other forms of media, has been the focus of LARHTTF investigators. Additional personnel would allow the task force to reach significantly more victims. At this time, there are no available funding sources to provide the significant funds needed for additional full-time detective personnel. The task force will continue to seek partnerships with other local law enforcement agencies willing to supply personnel to the task force.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
CHILDREN: NOT FOR SALE

RECOMMENDATION NO. 14.3

Board of Supervisors hire two more attorneys so there is the opportunity for continuity for trafficking victims going to court.

RESPONSE

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office (LADA), respondent, agrees with this recommendation.

This recommendation needs further analysis.

The respondent previously sought two additional deputy district attorneys for the Human Sex Trafficking Section (HSTS) in its budget request to the Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office (CEO). However, due to the current financial climate and budgetary issues, any recommendation of providing additional financial support will be made within the context of the Department's overall budget and funding priorities. LADA intends to work closely with the CEO to implement this recommendation when feasible.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
CHILDREN: NOT FOR SALE

RECOMMENDATION 14.5

Department of Children & Family Services (DCFS) to look into increasing utilization of Child Advocacy Centers for support with trafficked children. This will match trafficked children with individuals who are highly trained in interviewing children about their trauma, thereby allowing the children to be more comfortable speaking about their trafficking experience.

RESPONSE

DCFS agrees that there may be an opportunity to collaborate with the Child Advocacy Centers (CACs) to provide support in utilizing a trauma-informed approach to interviewing victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE).

DCFS will further analyze the feasibility of utilizing the CACs by having a discussion with CACs and collaborating partners that aid in the recovery and support of child victims of CSE. Discussions with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD), the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), and the Los Angeles County Departments of Probation, Health Services (DHS), Public Health (DPH), Office of Child Protection (OCP), and Mental Health (DMH) will include the following:

1. Inform and educate partners on the CAC model to determine any differences between the CAC model and the current model used to conduct interviews;
2. Determine accessibility and flexibility of CACs to meet the needs of both the youth and the timeframes of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) investigations;
3. Determine whether utilization of CACs would be beneficial or add value to the existing processes that are in place;
4. Discuss training needs; and
5. Impact on CSEC budget.

It is important to note that the department previously explored the use of CAC models. Subsequently, DCFS opted to work directly with DHS and the Medical Hub physicians to establish a forensic assessment process, individual assessment, and specialized follow-up health care. Through the extensive efforts of DCFS, DHS and DPH, the use of specialized CSEC Medical Services and CSEC Initial Medical Exams, along with forensic examinations was established. Additionally, when CACs were previously assessed for possible use with the CSEC population, there was a challenge in that CACs were not available for use during after-hours and on weekends, when most youth are recovered from CSE activity. However, DCFS will reassess the accessibility of CACs as a part of the exploration.

Los Angeles County will provide the results of the discussions and analysis by February 1, 2021 . This will allow DCFS time to conduct the analysis with multiple entities to determine the feasibility or necessity of integrating CACs into Los Angeles County's approach to serving CSEC.

L.A. County's Multi-Disciplinary Approach to Serving Commercially Exploited Children

Los Angeles County aims to serve commercially sexually exploited children by using a multi-disciplinary, victim-centered, trauma-informed approach. Since August 15, 2014, Los Angeles County has implemented the First Responder's Protocol (FRP), a coordinated inter-agency response by law enforcement, DCFS, the Probation Department, and Survivor Advocates to serve CSEC victims from identification through the first 72 hours of recovery. The goal of FRP is to identify and respond to CSEC expeditiously, address the immediate basic and safety needs, and connect the child to services and supports to facilitate stability. During an FRP response, DCFS collaborates closely with law enforcement partners in the investigation of CSEC cases to establish safety and gather intelligence to identify and arrest exploiters. The FRP response is where Los Angeles County can potentially join CACs during the initial investigation.

While the aim of the FRP is to provide a victim-centered, trauma-informed approach, there are opportunities for development and growth around ensuring that recovered children and youth receive interviews in the most trauma-responsive manner possible. CSE children and youth who are initially recovered by law enforcement may undergo multiple interviews during a time when they are tired, stressed, and in crisis. Being interviewed and asked multiple and often duplicative questions by law enforcement, DCFS, and/or Probation can cause children/youth to feel frustrated, anxious, and angry, which places them at risk of re-traumatization. Utilizing the services of a CAC may help address these issues since the model incorporates the use of an expert neutral interviewer who conducts interviews in a neutral, comfortable setting with all involved systems available and able to listen while not being present in the same room as the interviewer and child/youth. This way, the systems involved are able to receive the information needed while also being able to ensure that the child/youth is being interviewed in a trauma-responsive manner. One of the potential challenges is that CACs are typically only available during regular business hours. To avoid delays in law enforcement interviews, CAC hours would likely need to be expanded, as many of youth are recovered well past regular business hours. In addition, the CAC staff will require training to ensure they are CSEC-informed and understand the dynamics of CSEC. CSEC specific trainings include, but are not limited to:

1. Pathways to CSE;
2. Understanding the impact of trauma related to CSE;
3. CSEC terminology;
4. Tactics used by exploiters to control and manipulate youth;
5. Understanding the trauma bond and other barriers to leaving the exploitive relationship;
6. Application of the Stages of Change model to youth impacted by CSE;
7. Intergenerational/familial exploitation;
8. Nexus between gangs and exploitation;
9. The Harm Reduction Approach to working with CSE youth; and
10. CSEC Engagement strategies.

The services provided by CACs will also need to be weighed against the services already in place at Medical Hubs. Currently, CSEC victims taken into protective custody receive a specialized CSEC Medical Clearance at a DHS Medical Hub as soon as possible, but no later than within the first 72 hours upon recovery. This allows them the opportunity to receive time-sensitive portions of a medical evaluation,

including testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections, emergency contraception, and HIV post-exposure prophylaxis treatment, while also addressing other physical health issues resulting from violence, trauma, abuse and/or neglect (e.g., injuries, pain, pelvic inflammatory disease, drug/alcohol dependency, pregnancy). *Youth may use Medical Hub services on a walk-in basis for a CSEC Medical Clearance, 24 hours a day, seven days per week, including weekends and holidays.* This level of accessibility and flexibility in hours is required in order to address the emergent needs of the CSEC population. Following the CSEC Medical Clearance, victims of CSE receive a specialized CSEC Initial Medical Examination, which includes all the services of a regular Initial Medical Examination (i.e., physical exam, forensic screening to determine if an expert forensic evaluation is needed, nutritional assessment, dental screening, developmental screening, vision and hearing test, lab screening test, immunizations, and health education). They also receive full reproductive health counseling, including:

- Safe sex practice education;
- Gender identity;
- Healthy relationships;
- Comprehensive contraception counseling and same-day administration of most types of contraception;
- Education and offering of emergency contraception;
- Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) screening and testing;
- Mental health screening and referral to services per patient preference; and
- Full Medical Case Worker evaluation with referrals to appropriate services.

The Medical Hub provides a multitude of services, including forensic interviewing. The County's Medical Hubs have highly trained medical providers and child interview specialists, which is a hallmark service of a CAC. Further analysis will be conducted to determine if the current structures in place need to be enhanced to serve the CSEC population and whether CACs should be examined for use by youth impacted by CSE.

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT NAME

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
SECTION TITLE

RECOMMENDATION NO. 14.6

LACOE encourage all school parents to have the “STOP APP” 80 app installed on their children’s phones.

RESPONSE

LACOE agrees with the recommendation. LACOE will develop a team consisting of subject matter experts to collaborate with LACOE’s Communication department to develop a child sex trafficking awareness campaign. The awareness campaign will include training for educators, parents, caregivers, and resource parents for students in foster care and those experiencing homelessness that will include promoting the installation of the STOP APP on their child’s phones.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 14.7

LACOE encourage school districts to have age appropriate sex trafficking sex education in classes as early as 4th and 5th grade.

RESPONSE

LACOE partially agrees with the recommendation. LACOE will continue to provide annual training and share information for all school districts on Assembly Bill 1227, Education Code 51934 (a), which states that “each school district shall ensure that all pupils in grades 7 to 12, inclusive, receive comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education from instructors trained in the appropriate courses. Each pupil shall receive this instruction at least once in junior high or middle school and at least once in high school. This instruction shall include, “information about sexual harassment, sexual assault, adolescent relationship abuse, intimate partner violence, sexual abuse, and human trafficking. Information on human trafficking shall include information on the prevalence, nature, and strategies to reduce the risk of human trafficking, techniques to set healthy boundaries, and how to safely seek assistance. Given LACOE does not have authority over school district curriculum, LACOE will encourage and provide resources for school districts to provide age appropriate digital citizenship in classes as early as 4th and 5th grade to include training on the essentials of online safety and tools for parents and caregivers to empower them to teach children the safe and healthy use of technology and the internet.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 14.8

LACOE create videos that are age appropriate for 5th, 7th, and 9th graders. The videos would include stories of victims/survivors with an expert on social media platforms. The videos must be age appropriate to be used for distance learning as we have experienced with the reality of COVID-19. The content of these videos must be centrally contained within LACOE, updated yearly, and well-maintained. These will be in addition to the curriculum specified by AB 1227.

RESPONSE

LACOE agrees with the recommendation. LACOE will develop and convene a team consisting of internal and external subject matter experts (including Los Angeles County partners) to collaborate with the LACOE Communication department to develop a child sex trafficking awareness campaign. The awareness campaign will include awareness training for educators, parents, caregivers, and resource parents for students in foster care and those experiencing homelessness that will include age appropriate videos for 5th, 7th, and 9th graders, updated yearly and housed centrally within LACOE and made available for school district access.



JACKIE LACEY
LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

18000 CLARA SHORTRIDGE FOLTZ CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER
210 WEST TEMPLE STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90012-3210 (213) 974-3501

July 13, 2020

Honorable Kevin Brazile, Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, California 90012

**RESPONSES TO THE 2019-2020 LOS ANGELES COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY
REPORTS**

Dear Judge Brazile:

Bail Reform in the County of Los Angeles

I support the elimination of the bail system as recommended by the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury. I have been a strong proponent for bail reform and during the last five years, I have launched efforts to develop an alternative to cash bail with the creation of the Bail Reform Working Group within my office. I have worked closely with legislators and stakeholders to create a fair and just pretrial release process, proactively providing alternative language and statutory proposals that accomplish the shared goals of equitable protection of public safety and revision of an unjust cash bail system.

Children: Not For Sale

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is committed to vigorously prosecuting those who seek to exploit children. As such, I also support the recommendation to increase the number of prosecutors assigned to prosecute these horrendous crimes against children. Since this recommendation addresses a budgetary matter under the authority of the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, it is contingent upon their approval.

Yours in justice,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jackie Lacey".

Jackie Lacey
District Attorney

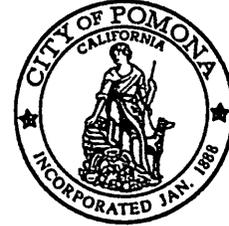
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THE CITY OF POMONA

Office of the Police Chief

October 27, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles County Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, California 90012



"Working Together
Pomona's Future..."

Re: Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Investigation
Response to Recommendations – City of Pomona

Outlined below is the City of Pomona Police Department's response to the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury's report and recommendations; "Children: Not For Sale".

RECOMMENDATION 14.2: City of Pomona prune trees and install brighter light bulbs close to Holt Avenue to increase visibility and decrease opportunity for trafficking.

RESPONSE: This subject was discussed in a department head meeting and this recommendation is being implemented. The City's Public Works department will be overseeing the pruning of the trees on Holt Ave. and the installation of improved lighting. The new and brighter LED lighting fixtures and bulbs have been ordered and are in the process of being installed. Completion of the lighting installation project should occur in November 2020.

RECOMMENDATION 14.4: *Police* Approve funding for additional recruitment of vice officers specifically assigned to trafficking in the Sheriff's Department, LAPD, LAHTTF and PPD.

RESPONSE: A recommendation is being presented to the Pomona City Council at the November 16, 2020 meeting to increase staffing on the Pomona PD Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking Team (SETT) from two members to four. Having four officers assigned to SETT full-time will allow for seven day a week coverage solely focused on human trafficking in Pomona.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

Michael Ellis
Chief of Police

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT



MICHEL R. MOORE
Chief of Police

P.O. Box 30158
Los Angeles, CA 90030
Telephone: (213) 486-0150
TTY: (877) 275-5273
Ref #: 8.2

ERIC GARCETTI
Mayor

September 24, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Honorable Presiding Judge:

This letter is in response to the July 31, 2020, Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury report, "Children: Not for Sale." The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) offers the following response to the recommendation:

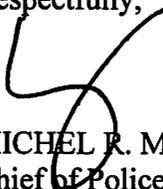
In October 2019, members of the LAPD's Detective Support and Vice Division's Human Trafficking Unit had the opportunity to participate in a round table discussion with the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury. The Department agrees with the Grand Jury's Recommendation 14.4, which states, "*Approve funding for additional recruitment of vice officers specifically assigned to trafficking in the Sheriff's Department, LAPD, LAHTTF and PPD.*"

A timeframe for implementation of this recommendation remains undetermined at this time. The confluence of unprecedented events in the City of Los Angeles this year have resulted in unanticipated fiscal reductions with the City of Los Angeles's budget, including the LAPD. However, dedicated funding from the County or other outside resources would support the recruitment of additional vice officers for human trafficking investigations.

The Los Angeles Police Department remains committed to working with community stakeholders, social services agencies, and advocacy groups in fighting human trafficking in the City of Los Angeles.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Detective III James Kwon, Detective Services Group, at [REDACTED].

Respectfully,


MICHEL R. MOORE
Chief of Police

THOMAS C. MUNDELL (1951-2013)
JAMES A. ODLUM
KARL N. HAWS*
JIM C. MOORE*
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October 26, 2020

Presiding Judge Kevin C. Brazile
Los Angeles County Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Civil Grand Jury report: Children: Not for Sale

Dear Judge Brazile:

This letter constitutes Pomona Unified School District's ("PUSD" or "District") response ("Response") to the 2019-2020 County of Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury Report entitled, "Children: Not for Sale" ("Report"). The Report requires a written response from PUSD to all findings and recommendations contained in the Report, in accordance with California Penal Code sections 933(c) and 933.05, on or before October 30, 2020.

Civil Grand Jury Findings

California Penal Code section 933(a) requires a civil grand jury to submit a final report of its findings and recommendations. PUSD is required to examine the report and comment upon each grand jury finding in a manner proscribed by Cal. Penal Code section 933.05(a). With regard to the Report, there are no designated "findings" within the Report.

Because each Grand Jury report is required to contain both findings and recommendations, for purposes of its response, PUSD has attempted to repeat what it believes are the findings of the Report, culled from the section entitled "Results of Investigation." PUSD will respond as required by Penal Code section 933.05(a). To the extent these statements were not intended as findings, or to the extent that PUSD does not correctly identify the findings that were intended to be conveyed by the report, PUSD reserves the right to revisit its comments upon request from the Grand Jury.

FINDING

- Children in our County are being recruited and sexually exploited, resulting in serious mental, sexual, physical and emotional damage. These scars can remain for life, affecting them in every fundamental way.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Most [exploited] children come from poverty and have been sexually abused.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- ...[W]ith Covid-19 the numbers of child victims who have been trafficked has increased dramatically.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- With the proliferation of social media platforms (over 60 as of this writing), and countless in-game chat rooms, it is nearly impossible for parents, educators, and guardians to fully monitor their child's online activity.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Studies show that 85% of children sleep with their phones. Between 11 PM and 5 AM, over 42 million sexual predators, gangs, and/or traffickers are combing the internet for photos that children have posted.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Pornography has exploded on the internet with videos of extreme acts of children being sexually exploited.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Police Departments within the County of Los Angeles together with County agencies/departments and community-based organizations coordinate efforts to implement the Los Angeles County First Responder Protocol. From the handbook:

The Protocol outlines a coordinated response to serve CSEC from identification through the first 72 hours of contact. The goal of the Protocol is to identify and respond to CSEC expeditiously using a

victim-centered strength-based approach. It focuses on building relationships with youth from the outset, understanding where the child is in his/her stage of exploitation, and avoiding arrest and detention.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Pomona is a geographic hub for Riverside County, San Bernardino County, and the channel to and from Las Vegas. The Holt Avenue corridor is the most active sex solicitation area within the Pomona hub. Five public high schools are clustered along Holt Avenue with constant exposure to sex solicitation. In addition, there is active recruitment of high school students for the purpose of trafficking them. Further west on Holt Avenue, there are three more schools that again place the children in a potentially dangerous situation when going to and from school.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- In response to the change in the law, and decriminalization of children in the sex trade, the LAPD follows the First Responder Protocol. DCFS is notified by LAPD when a victim is picked up for soliciting. DCFS has no authority to keep the child in custody, and many times the child, at the first chance, exits the vehicle and runs back to the trafficker. There are only five LAPD officers, a probation officer, and one hired civilian analyst assigned to the LAPD Child Sex Trafficking Unit. The officers are available to do presentations.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- The Sheriff's Department actively coordinates with hotels/motels for the reporting of suspicious activity involving minors. The department officers rotate their presence throughout the middle and high schools. The city, acknowledging the presence of children on the dangerous shoulder of the highway along the "track," installed sidewalks on Sierra Highway to protect the trafficking victims walking the "track."

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Four district attorneys for the County of Los Angeles prosecute 95% of the trafficking-of-minors' cases. Most of the victims were abused as children, and suffer from sexual,

physical, and emotional abuse. This Committee was told that the District Attorney's Office should hire two more prosecutors to work on trafficking-of-minors.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- LAHTTF is a coordinated effort of 17 federal, state, county, and city organizations resulting in 4300 cases processed. The task force coordinates with DCFS with the goal of eliminating human trafficking in the County. Their officers work vigilantly on the internet to arrest and stop the traffickers from recruiting juveniles. The LASD has 33 sworn officers and 11 professional staff working at headquarters. When the committee spoke with staff at LAHTTF they commented on how vulnerable students are now that they are being schooled at home because of COVID-19. Students have access to the internet for long, possibly unsupervised periods of time. An editorial in the Town-Crier offered two suggestions to keep our children safe: 1) discuss the apps your children are using, and 2) internet safety and guidelines for the children when using these apps.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Parenting programs are offered and encouraged for parents of victims caught in child sex-trafficking. In an interview, December 5, 2019, this Committee learned that DCFS can conduct CSEC First Responder Protocol training with independent police departments within the County.⁵³ Eighteen DCFS social workers coordinate with CSEC units. When a child is rescued, DCFS responds in 90 minutes, and provides advocacy and medical care for the victims within 72 hours. If the victim accepts, then the services are provided, and if the victim does not agree, they are free to go. Often, they coordinate between schools and law enforcement. When a child is picked up by DCFS, often the child will take the first opportunity to exit the car, hoping to reconnect with their trafficker.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Those minors who have had a warrant for an offense and are also being trafficked will have the opportunity to go to this courtroom. The court meets every two to three weeks. This committee interviewed a STAR court judge and engaged in a discussion about wrap-around services offered to minors. These services can include rehabilitative treatment facilities, social services, health care providers, education, transportation, and housing for the victims. These wrap-around services can result in shorter stays at detention and ultimately lead to less recidivism. They also offer free tattoo removal for the "brand" tattoos the trafficker had forced on the child. A court representative met with the Committee and stated that trafficked children who had at least one caring adult

supporting them, had a high degree of success at out-of-state rehabilitative boarding schools. This can be offered to children seen at the STAR Court.

PU SD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- A Child Advocacy Center (CAC) designed to deal specifically with child victims of sex trafficking. A CAC is sometimes used to interview other child abuse victims in the County, especially for children who have suffered severe abuse." A CAC is currently used to treat other child abuse victims in the County. The CAC goal is *"to reduce additional trauma to victims of child abuse by working with a multidisciplinary team to conduct one child friendly and professional forensic interview to ensure that children are not victimized again by the very system designed to protect them. The CAC wishes to continue to be a resource for training our multidisciplinary members, our staff, and our volunteers."*

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- The Prostitution Diversion Program commonly known as John School⁶³ collaborates with the LA City Attorney Office and LAPD. It was founded in July 2008 by a former LAPD vice officer. To date, 3,700 have completed this one-day diversion program that is offered six to eight times a year. It is offered to the arrestee to get his case dismissed. They must be a first-time offender, with no violence including domestic violence in their past and had never attended the Diversion Program. It is a onetime only program. The cost is \$600, and the classes average approximately 40 men per class. Men are educated on STDs, HIV/AIDS, sex addiction, and social responsibility. A portion of the fees collected are given to *Journey Out* and *Watts Health Care Center* and *PepLa*.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- There are a few female CSEC-Support and Advocacy Organizations. These programs serve communities from Lancaster to Long Beach. The County helps to subsidize these programs for child victims and women caught in solicitation. All of the programs are free of charge. The Committee visited four programs. CSEC-Support and Advocacy Organizations.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Brighter lighting and pruning of trees would discourage trafficking according to SCUN research.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- There are parts of South-Central Los Angeles that are referred to as a “no man’s land.” These are certain areas that through a combination of circumstances have created difficulties with curbing trafficking.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- On Holt Avenue, the darkness of the track made solicitation so much easier, and trimming trees and increased lighting would make a significant difference.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Many motels in Pomona and South Central still have hourly availability for johns and their victims.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- In 2016, LACOE adopted curriculum as required pursuant to Education Code sections 51930-51939. According to the LACOE website, the curriculum is taught in middle and high school and “is age appropriate and medically accurate.” Our Committee’s concern is that this is only a few hours of instruction. When speaking with DCFS, various police and sheriff’s departments, the District Attorney, survivors, and representative of the city council the consensus was that this is not enough instruction to properly educate the children in the dangers of being sex trafficked. In addition, there was an agreement that this education should begin as early as 5th grade with age appropriate curriculum.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- [School Districts] are all required to follow, in their curriculum, AB 1227, which sets forth required areas of sexual health instruction, including instruction regarding human trafficking. What became clear is that many of the school districts had wraparound services to attempt to keep their children from entering into trafficking. The program is only taught in middle and high school. Administration shared that many of the teachers were uncomfortable teaching the curriculum. As increasingly younger children are pulled into this horrific life, this Committee concluded that over 80 school districts and LACOE needs to do more positive education and outreach to prevent the youth from being recruited.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Pomona Unified School District has implemented a successful model for collaborating with the community at large. They pro-actively partner with educators, the police force and local officials, to create a positive environment for their youth.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Long Beach Unified School District implements into their curriculum an additional textbook, "Positive Prevention PLUS." LBUSD also has community outreach for their family. They have Family Resource Centers that are available in 26 schools. The resources include support for mental health, homelessness and problems that families experience.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Lancaster Unified School District works with outside speakers to assist in training the teachers and counselors. In fourth grade they teach a class in digital citizenship that alerts to bullying and trafficking.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

FINDING

- Compton Unified School District official suggested that the use of a smart phone app to report potential trafficking could be beneficial. This Committee did find that such an app exists called "STOP the Traffik". This Committee collected information from all areas of

the County in order to provide actionable steps towards aggressively committing to getting our children out of trafficking. Our children are not for sale.

PUSD RESPONSE

- PUSD agrees with this finding.

CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS

According to the requirements of the Report, PUSD is assigned to respond only to Recommendation 14.1. The Recommendation and PUSD's response, per the requirements of Penal Code section 933.05(b), are included herein below.

RECOMMENDATION 14.1:

- Pomona Unified School District create a volunteer crossing guard program to safeguard school children when crossing Holt Avenue.

PUSD RESPONSE

- The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with the implementation of a volunteer program in collaboration with the city and other community agencies, and upon PUSD returning to normal operations following the COVID-19 pandemic. PUSD is committed to the safety of each child and will take all appropriate steps to ensure that children are free from abuse and exploitation.

CONCLUSION

While the foregoing constitutes PUSD's responses to the Civil Grand Jury's Report in accordance with California Penal Code sections 933(c) and 933.05, PUSD looks forward to responding to any additional, follow-up questions the civil Grand Jury may have.

Very truly yours,



Jim C/ Moore

INVESTIGATIVE JAIL RESPONSES

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
SHERIFF**

**2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
DETENTION COMMITTEE**

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9

Cerritos Sheriff Station: Need to have secure parking to protect officers, particularly female, when walking to their cars at night.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with the Civil Grand Jury's recommendation. This recommendation will not be implemented. The Department was unable to implement the recommendation. The jurisdiction for maintenance, repairs, and parking lot upgrades for this recommendation falls under the city of Cerritos. The city of Cerritos was notified of the Civil Grand Jury's finding.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10

Pico Rivera Sheriff Station: If fiscally prudent, have meals prepared by the County kitchen located at Men's Central.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with the Civil Grand Jury's recommendation. This recommendation has been implemented. Meals are prepared at Men's Central Jail and sent to Century Regional Detention Facility where they are picked up by Pico Rivera Station personnel.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 11

Whittier Sub Station: Train staff with knowledge of station and personnel.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with the Civil Grand Jury's recommendation. This recommendation has been implemented. The Whittier Sub Station is staffed by uniformed civilian volunteers. Nevertheless, all volunteers assigned to the Sub Station are now educated on the history and operation of Norwalk Station and its personnel.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 12

Alhambra Courthouse: Paint the courthouse.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with the Civil Grand Jury's recommendation. This recommendation will not be implemented. The Department is unable to implement the recommendation. The jurisdiction for building maintenance and repairs for this recommendation falls under the Los Angeles Superior Court. The court was notified of the Civil Grand Jury's finding.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 13

Bellflower Courthouse: Fix the gun lockers and keep them maintained.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with the Civil Grand Jury's recommendation. This recommendation will not be implemented. The Department is unable to implement the recommendation. The jurisdiction for gun locker maintenance and repairs for this recommendation falls under the Los Angeles Superior Court. The court was notified of the Civil Grand Jury's finding.

RECOMMENDATION NO.14

Burbank Courthouse: Submit a work order to fix the leak in the pipe room.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with the Civil Grand Jury's recommendation. This recommendation has been implemented. A work order was submitted and ABM Industries confirmed to the Department that the leak in the pipe room had been repaired.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 15

Compton Courthouse: Suggest biodegradable wrappings for lunches to keep detainees from plugging toilets.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with this recommendation. This recommendation requires further analysis. The analysis is expected to take six months. Custody Division was contacted and will look into the feasibility of the use of biodegradable wrappings. At this time, any recommendation of providing additional financial support will be made within the context of the Department's overall budget, numerous funding priorities, and requests.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 16

Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Center: Cameras need to be repaired. Trash needs to be picked up twice a day or as needed.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with the Civil Grand Jury's recommendation. This recommendation will not be implemented. The Department is unable to implement the recommendation. The jurisdiction for surveillance system upgrades, maintenance, repairs, and building cleaning for this recommendation falls under the Los Angeles Superior Court. The court was notified of the Civil Grand Jury's finding.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 17

Glendale Courthouse: Lot should be secured to protect officers.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with the Civil Grand Jury's recommendation. This recommendation will not be implemented. The Department is unable to implement the recommendation. The jurisdiction for facility upgrades for this recommendation falls under the Los Angeles Superior Court. The court was notified of the Civil Grand Jury's finding.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 18

Inglewood Courthouse: Work orders should be completed within a timely manner, no more than 30 days.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with the Civil Grand Jury's recommendation. This recommendation will not be implemented. The Department is unable to implement the recommendation. The jurisdiction for maintenance and repairs for this recommendation falls under the Los Angeles Superior Court. The court was notified of the Civil Grand Jury's finding.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 19

Metropolitan Courthouse: Fix the elevators.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with the Civil Grand Jury's recommendation. This recommendation will not be implemented. The Department is unable to implement the recommendation. The jurisdiction for maintenance and repairs for this recommendation falls under the responsibility of the Los Angeles Superior Court. The court was notified of the Civil Grand Jury's finding.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 20

Norwalk Courthouse: Upgrade ceiling lights with a brighter bulb. Paint cells. Upgrade CCTV circuit and TV monitors.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with the Civil Grand Jury's recommendation. This recommendation will not be implemented. The Department is unable to implement the recommendation. The jurisdiction for improvements, maintenance, and repairs for this recommendation falls under the Los Angeles Superior Court. The court was notified of the Civil Grand Jury's finding.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 21

Pasadena Courthouse: Install cameras in holding cells.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with this recommendation. This recommendation requires further analysis. The analysis is expected to take six months. Custody Division was contacted and will look into the feasibility of installing cameras in each holding cell. At this time, any recommendation of providing additional financial support will be made within the context of the Department's overall budget, numerous funding priorities, and requests.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 22

Santa Clarita Courthouse: Improve safety in the hallways where Deputies are moving detainees.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with the Civil Grand Jury's recommendation. This recommendation will not be implemented. The Department is unable to implement the recommendation. The hallway in question is the result of the building's design/construction. The jurisdiction for improvements, maintenance, and repairs for this recommendation falls under the Los Angeles Superior Court. The court was notified of the Civil Grand

Jury's finding. The Department will brief personnel on all policies and procedures involving officer safety during the movement of inmates.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 23

Torrance Courthouse: Install phones in all cells.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with the Civil Grand Jury's recommendation. This recommendation requires further analysis. The analysis is expected to take six months. Custody Division was contacted and will look into the feasibility of installing phones in each cell. At this time, any recommendation of providing additional financial support will be made within the context of the Department's overall budget, numerous funding priorities, and requests.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 24

Van Nuys Courthouse: Clean more often. Fix pipes creating leaks in the #5 tank area.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with the Civil Grand Jury's recommendation. This recommendation will not be implemented. The Department is unable to implement the recommendation. The jurisdiction for cleanliness, maintenance, and repairs for this recommendation falls under the responsibility of the Los Angeles Superior Court. The court was notified of the Civil Grand Jury's finding.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 25

LAC+USC Jail Ward: More vans should be available to transport detainee patients.

RESPONSE

The Department disagrees with this recommendation but will need further analysis. The analysis is expected to take six months. The Department currently has three (3) vans that are being used to transport inmates to their medical appointments to LAC+USC Medical Center. With the volume of medical appointments, this number has been deemed sufficient to comply with the services. However, the fleet of vans used to transport inmates is aging and when one is out of service, it leaves the Department operating with less vehicles than the minimum required to efficiently transport inmates. Each existing van is at least twenty years old and should be replaced with newer models that are mechanically stable. The timeframe for this recommendation cannot be provided due to the administrative process and funding approval. Additionally, the current curtailment and budget reduction the Department is facing will impact this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 26

North County Correctional Facility: Vents need to be cleaned at least every six months to prevent respiratory problems. Reduce loaning of officers to improve staffing and safety.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with the first part of this recommendation and will continue to exert all available resources and efforts to achieve and/or exceed these expectations. This recommendation has been implemented. The cleanliness of the facility remains a high priority to the command staff. Since this report, a work order request was sent to Facility Services Bureau to have all vents cleaned. Additionally, all staff stations, including the infirmary staff, have been directed to continue to have inmate workers clean their

respective locations. Staff have been directed to log all cleaning efforts, including the cleaning of the vents, into the Electronic Uniform Daily Activity Log (E-UDAL).

The Department also agrees with the second part of this recommendation and will continue to exert all available resources and efforts to achieve and/or exceed these expectations. This recommendation will require further analysis. The analysis is expected to take six months. The increased staffing of the jail is a Department priority and will be addressed as personnel and funding become available. The implementation timeframe for this recommendation cannot be provided due to the dependency on funding approval. Since the inspection, the facility has reduced the number of personnel "loaned out" to thirteen, and have nine personnel "loaned in" from other bureaus/facilities. The officer to inmate ratio is slightly better than what was indicated on the report. On any given day the facility fills ten staff positions in each housing area. One officer does operate a staff station which oversees the activities in four dorms. Each dorm may house up to 66 inmates. Additionally, on the same floor, there is a floor sergeant, a supervising line deputy, and four Rover positions which are staffed. When these positions are factored in, the ratio becomes one officer to 38 inmates.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 27

Twin Towers: Fix non-operational elevators for safety of officers.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with this recommendation. This recommendation has been implemented. As of July 13, 2020, all elevators within the Twin Towers Correctional Facility are operational. The elevators, however, are outdated and parts are difficult to replace when the elevators become non-operational, contributing to the delay in their return to service. Los Angeles County Public Works retained the services of HH Fremer Architects, Inc. to conduct an assessment of Twin Towers Correctional Facility for the purposes of identifying and documenting the requirements for a potential modernization of the existing elevator equipment. This assessment is finalized and is currently in the design phase with the Department of Public Works.

RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PROBATION DEPARTMENT

2019-2020 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
DETENTION COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDATION NO. 28

Supervisors should screen all videos to ensure non-violent content. Dayroom should be constantly supervised. Submit work order for broken window.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The Department's policy indicates "only movies or videos approved by the Building Supervisor may be shown to the youth" and part of staff responsibilities include "all youth not in their rooms are under direct visual supervision of staff at all times."

A work order was submitted for the broken window and has since been replaced. In June 2019, the Department implemented a newly re-designed electronic work order program called Probation Facilities Management System (PFMS). PFMS is an online service available to all staff requesting for maintenance and repair work for a Probation facility and/or support services requests for wireless communication devices, landline requests, asset disposition requests and special job/event requests.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 29

Swimming lessons should be offered. (Note - This was specifically in reference to Camp Clinton Afflerbaugh and the pool not being used often due to many youths' inability to swim.)

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. In recent years, the Department has established an agreement with the County's Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) to provide lifeguard services. Prior to COVID-19, the Department was finalizing its agreement with DPR to provide lifeguard supervision and swimming lessons. Since COVID-19, DPR is having difficulty staffing these positions, but the Department remains committed to funding these resources taking in the broader consideration of the context of the budget and Departmental priorities.



Handwritten initials and a checkmark.

Dominick Rivetti, Chief of Police
Beverly Hills Police Department

September 1, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Presiding Judge :

This letter is in response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury report on Detention Facilities published on July 30, 2020. The Beverly Hills Police Department offers the following responses to the recommendations provided:

Finding 1: "Safety cell limited padding"

Response: The Beverly Hills Police Department disagrees with this finding.

Safety cell padding meets Title 24 Section 123.38 Cell Padding requirement. Safety cell padding does in fact cover all walls, floor and door of cell. Safety cell padding has been in place for every biennial State inspection, annual Los Angeles County inspection and annual Grand Jury inspection which our jail facility has passed and met safety cell requirements.

"In safety cells, padding must cover the entire floor, doors, and walls and everything on them to a clear height of 8 feet. All such padded cells must be equipped with a tamper resistant fire sprinkler as approved by the State Fire Marshal. All padding must be approved for use by the State Fire Marshal, nonporous to facilitate cleaning, at least 1/2 inch thick, of a unitary or laminated construction, firmly bonded to all padded surfaces, and without any exposed seams."
(Attachment)

Finding 2: "No sign posted regarding access to social services"

Response: The Beverly Hills Police Department agrees with this finding.

The recommendation has been implemented. Signs with social services information were posted throughout jail facility after inspection. (Attachment)

Finding 3: "Broken light fixture and toilet"

Response: The Beverly Hills Police Department partially agrees with finding.

Broken light fixture was reported to facilities and repairs were made on August 29, 2019. (Attachment) We were not made aware of a broken toilet requiring repair during inspection. All jail facility toilets were functional during and after this date. There are no records of a request made for jail toilet repairs after inspection. We routinely check to ensure all jail facility toilets are in good working condition.

If you have any questions regarding these responses, please contact Records and Jail Manager Sylvia Gelfman at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,



Dominick Rivetti
Chief of Police

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

OK

MICHEL R. MOORE
Chief of Police



ERIC GARCETTI
Mayor

P. O. Box 30158
Los Angeles, CA 90030
Telephone: (213) 486-0150
TDD: (877) 275-5273
Ref #: 18.2.2

September 24, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, California 90012

Honorable Presiding Judge:

In response to the July 31, 2020, Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury report, "Detention," the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) offers the following responses to the recommendations provided for the following police stations:

1. Hollywood Community Police Station

Findings: "Lighting very dim in holding cells; at time of inspection blood and/or human waste were on walls; floors and walls peeling and in need of paint."

Recommendations: "Higher wattage bulbs should be installed in the cells for security. Walls should be cleaned and painted."

RESPONSE: The Los Angeles Police Department agrees with these findings and the recommendations have been implemented.

Cleaning of the holding cell area has been completed, and the painting was completed by the Department's Facilities Management Division (FMD) on July 30, 2020.

FMD's Maintenance Section submitted a work order (# 21-10153320) to address the lighting issue. On August 5, 2020, the City of Los Angeles Department of General Services installed new, brighter bulbs in the holding cells and arrestee bathroom.

2. North Hollywood Community Police Station

Findings: "Key to defibrillator not available."

Recommendation: "Make keys to defibrillator readily available."

RESPONSE: The Los Angeles Police Department disagrees with this finding and the recommendation will not be implemented.

The key slot to the Phillips Premium Surface Mounted Cabinet, item number PFE7024D, which is used to stage this defibrillator, does not lock or otherwise hinder the use of the device. The cabinet key is designed only to arm and disarm a cabinet audible alarm system which can be used to deter tampering or theft in public areas. This piece of equipment is staged on the second floor of the station, in a non-public area. The Los Angeles Fire Department, which coordinates defibrillator installation and maintenance citywide, has advised that the alarm systems are not in use, therefore, keys are not issued.

3. West Los Angeles Community Police Station

Findings: "No toilet; no food and/or water on site for arrestees; inspection reports were not available; duty officer feels State Board of Corrections and Civil Grand Jury inspections are not necessary for a facility with temporary holding cells and handles booking only."

Recommendations: "Provide snacks and water to detainees. Toilets should be available to detainees. Filing of paperwork needs to be improved and all protocols for inspections must be met."

RESPONSE: The Los Angeles Police Department disagrees with this finding and the recommendations will not be implemented.

The toilets located in the front lobby of the station are made accessible to arrestees who need these facilities.

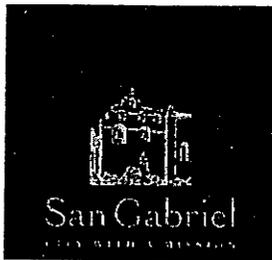
The West Los Angeles Community Police Station relies on LAPD's Custody Services Division to provide food items for an arrestee while in custody. Since the station is just a holding cell and not a jail, arrestees typically do not stay long enough to receive meals and are transferred to an area jail after they have been approved for booking. However, Custody Services Division does have provisions to feed arrestees who arrive between meal services.

The Grand Jury's findings regarding paperwork and inspection reports could not be verified because the specific nature of the paperwork was not identified in the report.

If you have any questions regarding these responses, please contact Sergeant Susan Mickles, Support Services Group, at [REDACTED].

Respectfully,


MICHEL R. MOORE
Chief of Police



City of San Gabriel

Phone: 626.308.2800

City Hall: 425 South Mission Drive, San Gabriel, California 91776

Web: SanGabrielCity.com

October 28, 2020

Mr. Kevin Brazile, Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Response to the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury's Report (Landfills and Public Detention Facility)

Honorable Judge Brazile:

On July 31, 2020, the Los Angeles County Grand Jury issued a public report entitled "A Diet for Landfills: Cutting Down on Food Waste" (Report). In the Report, the Grand Jury identifies a number of challenges agencies face in their efforts to divert organic waste from landfills. The Report also included findings of the public detention facilities within Los Angeles County. These include jails of varied sizes, courthouse-holding cells, juvenile camps and detention facilities, prisons and other penal institutions.

At the conclusion of the Report, the Grand Jury requested a response from the City of San Gabriel ("City") to Recommendations 1.1, 1.3, 1.8, 1.14 in the Landfills section, and to the detention findings. The City provides the following responses to these Recommendations in accordance with Penal Code §933.05.

Landfills

1.1 *Each of the 88 cities, and the County's unincorporated areas, should establish a weekly food waste drop-off center. The center can be at a farmer's market, such as the one held each Thursday near Los Angeles City Hall, or at another appropriate site. City and County officials can arrange for the food waste collected to be taken to a nearby facility for recycling, or can establish contracts with organizations such as the Los Angeles Community Garden Council or landscaping companies for composting (Report page 29).*

Response

The City's residents and businesses currently have a number of convenient organics recycling options that make a drop-off center unnecessary. The City's exclusive franchise agreement includes organic waste service for all residential and commercial customers. As

part of the City's efforts to ensure compliance with the State organic waste mandates of AB1826, SB1383 and AB1594, all customers will be required to subscribe to organics service. In conjunction with requiring organic waste disposal, options for customers of most food service establishments (per AB827), all residents, businesses and retail food customers will have convenient organic waste disposal options. These options include a variety of container types and sizes available for curbside pick-up of organics from both residential and commercial customers. However, the City will monitor the behaviors of customers and the public in general to gauge feasibility of a drop-off program and will consider it to be included in any future amendment to the franchise agreement.

1.3 *County and city officials should create an incentive program for residents and businesses to separate food waste. This could be in the form of a gift card to a local grocery store/farmer's market, or a discount on a solid waste fee. For example, in the city of Santa Barbara, 150 businesses (restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.) have signed up for the city's Foodscraps program, and can save several hundred dollars a month off their trash collection fee (Report page 30).*

Response

Implementation of this recommendation has taken the form of organics service to all commercial customers. This eliminates any cost prohibitions customers may claim and additionally incentivizes utilization of organics service by allowing customers to use this service to reduce their solid waste services and associated costs. San Gabriel utilizes a "pay as you throw" rate structure that incentivizes customers to reduce waste generation to save money. The same incentive is offered for residential customers. Though residential customers pay a nominal fee for organics service, this allows for reduction of solid waste service and the cost saving associated with that reduction. Residential customers also have the option of purchasing home compost bins at a discount to further reduce their organics disposal.

1.8 *County officials should modify contracts with food vendor companies that are inside County facilities, such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and cafeterias located at County hospitals, to include food waste separation and recycling. Especially at the Hollywood Bowl, which draws more than 17,000 people for most of its summer concert events, has several food options onsite, and traditionally draws large pre-concert picnicking crowds, implementing a food waste recycling program can be part of a public education campaign (Report Page 30)..*

Response

The City of San Gabriel supports the recommendation to require food waste recycling at large scale, highly attended events, such as those held at the Hollywood Bowl. The few community events held in San Gabriel in pre-COVID times do not compare or qualify or merit a comparable local requirement.

1.14 Elected officials in the County and cities should adopt the 11 suggestions in the March 2018 Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan and express support for the need to increase capacity and site and build new facilities to handle organic waste (Report page 31).

1. Commercial Recycling Ordinance. Adopt an ordinance with requirements for businesses and haulers to achieve specified recycling requirements (if not already in place). Includes system to quantify recovery, monitor compliance with requirements and methods for enforcement action as necessary.

Response

The City appreciates this recommendation and agrees that managing our organic solid waste using the options listed would be beneficial in reducing food waste in our landfills. City staff will consider if it is feasible to incorporate one or more of these suggestions into the City's FY2021-22 municipal operating budget.

Public Detention Facility

California Penal Code section 919, subdivision (b),1 requires the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury (Jury) to inquire into the condition and management of the public detention facilities within Los Angeles County (County). These include jails of varied sizes, courthouse-holding cells, juvenile camps and detention facilities, prisons and other penal institutions.

During the months of August, September and October of 2019, all 23 jurors participated in unannounced inspections of 142 detention facilities. In the performance of this assignment, the Jury gained a unique perspective of the criminal justice system and an appreciation of the duties and hazards of the various law enforcement agencies of the County. The City provides the following responses to these Recommendations.

San Gabriel Police Department (Report page 345)

Category: City Police

Inspection Results: Unsatisfactory

Comments: Currently, arrestees are taken to the Alhambra Police Department for detention. A new facility, planned for the City of San Gabriel has now been delayed due to budget constraints. San Gabriel's existing jail facility is in need of paint and the quarters are cramped.

Recommendations: San Gabriel's jail facility should be upgraded or cease operations as an active jail.

Response

San Gabriel's jail facility is not currently operating as a jail and the City contracts with the City of Alhambra for jail detention services. San Gabriel is considering either upgrading the existing jail facility or constructing a new jail facility, along with the construction of a new Police station project.

Required Response No. 6 (Report page 358)

Station/Facility: San Gabriel Police Department

Findings: Two existing cameras have been offline for the past nine months, creating safety issues in transporting detainees. There are also trash accumulation issues, as trash is only picked up once a day.

Recommendations: The security cameras need to be repaired and the trash needs to be collected twice a day or as needed.

Response

The City appreciates this recommendation and will repair the cameras as soon as practical. The referenced trash deficiencies are not a normal occurrence. Going forward, the Department will monitor the trash situation and will have trash receptacles emptied as often as necessary to ensure that trash does not accumulate.

For additional information or questions, please feel free to contact Mark Lazzaretto, City Manager, at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

Sincerely,


Chin Ho Liao
Vice Mayor

cc: City of San Gabriel City Council
Mark Lazzaretto, City Manager
Keith Lemieux, City Attorney
Eugene Harris, Police Chief
Greg de Vinck, Public Works Director
Christian Warner, Vice President of Government Affairs, Athens Services



CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA
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October 27, 2020

SENT VIA U.S. MAIL AND EMAIL

E-Mail: [REDACTED]

Presiding Judge
The Honorable Kevin C. Brazile
LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: City of Glendale Response to the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Grand Jury Report entitled "Detention"

Honorable Presiding Judge Brazile:

On July 31, 2020, the Los Angeles County Grand Jury issued its report entitled "Detention" ("Report"). In this Report, the Glendale Police Department received an unsatisfactory inspection rating. This letter is submitted as the City of Glendale's official response to the findings and recommendations in this Report.

The Glendale Police Department is committed to providing the highest level of service and welcomes oversight inspections as a means of further enhancing our level of professional service. The Glendale Police Department Jail is frequently recognized by various oversight authorities as an exceptionally run operation that functions within all regulatory guidelines. For over 15 years, the Glendale Police Department Jail has successfully maintained an exceptional level of verified performance on an annual basis. Indeed, upon their departure from visiting the Department's Jail facility, a member of the Grand Jury noted to Department staff that the Report would be positive and reflect the professionalism of the facility.

To our dismay, the Jail was rated unsatisfactory. A letter setting forth objections to the statements in the Report regarding the Glendale Police Department Jail was sent to you on July 16, 2020, and is attached hereto. As an agency recognized for maintaining a well-run jail operation, the Glendale Police Department is not accustomed to receiving unsatisfactory reports and thus we take this matter seriously. On page 9 of the Report, the following comments are made regarding the Glendale Police Department:

We were kept waiting 30 minutes for our inspection; very clean;
Video Court arraignments done at station to reduce prisoner

transport; a pay to stay facility (\$91 a night); meals are from Central Jail; cleaning contracted out

Problems: when homeless are detained, clothes are confiscated and bagged as hazardous waste; when the inmates are released they are given paper clothing; officers do all the laundry: prison clothes, towels, and bedding; outside contractors are needed to free-up police officers time

First, we would like to take this opportunity to offer a sincere apology for the extended wait time the Civil Grand Jurors experienced on the date of the inspection. Although the Glendale Police Department strives to process requests for access to the Jail by authorized persons in an expeditious manner, unfortunately on this occasion we did not meet the expectations of the Civil Grand Jurors.

Second, we have thoroughly reviewed the areas noted in the Report as problems and discovered that the statements are based on misinterpretations of Glendale Police Department operational processes. Further, the statements have no basis in fact and were, in two key instances, directly contrary to the information provided by Department staff to the Grand Jurors during the facility visit. In addition, the noted problems have never been raised as issues by the Los Angeles County Health Department or the Board of State and Community Corrections. Those agencies have inspected the Glendale Police Department Jail over the years, most recently in 2019, and have found the facility and its operations to meet or exceed required standards.

The specific statements in the Report and the City of Glendale official responses are set forth below.

Statement: “[W]hen homeless are detained, clothes are confiscated and bagged as hazardous waste; when the inmates are released they are given paper clothing[.]”

Response: The City of Glendale wholly disagrees with this statement as it is not supported by any facts in the Report. During the inspection, a juror asked whether the Glendale Police Department gives homeless people clothing if they defecated or urinated on themselves or had bloody clothing. A Custody Bureau Supervisor responded that persons who have defecated or urinated on themselves would be given blue paper pants, blue paper shirts, or white paper suits and disposable underwear. The Glendale Police Department does not remove or confiscate inmate clothing. Particular pieces of clothing that are hazardous due to blood or feces or otherwise infested are properly disposed of for health and safety reasons. If a person’s clothing is removed for health and safety reasons, staff will provide temporary disposable clothing. The inmate may call family members or friends to bring a change of clothes before being released. If a change of clothes is not brought by family or friends, prior to release, staff may provide unmarked inmate clothing that is similar to medical scrubs. This procedure

applies to all persons and not just homeless persons. The statement in the Report is inaccurate to the point of being reckless.

Further, the statement regarding homeless individuals in the Report is not consistent with policy or practice. Pertinent sections of the Glendale Police Department Custody Bureau policies are set forth below.

Chapter 15 Subsection 5

Jail staff will properly account for and accurately maintain control of the clothing and personal property of each person in custody until the person and/or property is released.

Chapter 20 Subsection 3 STANDARD INMATE CLOTHING

The Jail Administrator shall be responsible for overseeing the control, storage, and inventory of all inmate clothing. A sufficient supply of clothing shall be available at all times, and facilities shall be prepared to meet unusual demands that may arise (i.e.; contaminated prisoner clothing, prisoner booked without sufficient clothing, prisoner clothing held for evidence, etc.).

A standard issue of institutional clothing shall include, but not limited to the following:

1. Clean socks and footwear
2. Clean outer garments
3. Clean undergarments

For males: shorts and undershirt

For females: panties and bra

An inmate's personal undergarments and footwear may, subject to security requirements, be substituted for the institutional undergarments and footwear specified herein. Clothing shall be reasonably fitted; durable, easily laundered or dry-cleaned, repaired, and shall be issued to all inmates held over 48 hours, excluding weekends and holidays. (California Code of Regulations, Title 15, Section 1260)

Finding No. 5: "Officers do all laundry for facility[.]"

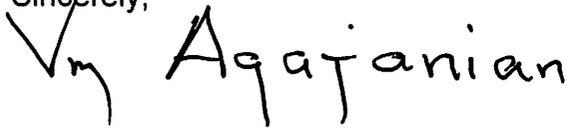
Response: The City of Glendale disagrees wholly with this finding as City of Glendale police officers do not perform laundry duties at the Glendale Jail. Rather, Custody Bureau personnel perform laundry duties when trusties are not available. Laundry duties do not interfere with the primary responsibilities of Custody Bureau personnel. Further, these duties are done in accordance with Los Angeles County Health Department regulations and include solely prisoner towels, bed liners, and blankets, and not prisoner clothes. To specifically include this statement as a basis for an unsatisfactory rating is inappropriate.

Recommendation No. 5: "Outside contractors should be hired to do the laundry, as to free up officers' time."

Response: This recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted as police officers do not perform this work. Laundry duties do not interfere with the primary responsibilities of Custody Bureau personnel. The performance of this task by employees of the Custody Bureau does not violate any jail operational regulation and falls well within the Custody Bureau's ability to perform its duties while continuing to ensure a safe and secure jail environment.

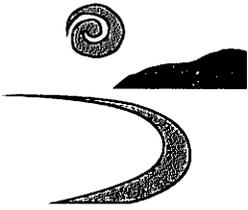
In conclusion, we recommend that the Court instruct Civil Grand Jurors performing detention inspections to request an agency response for confirmation and/or clarification on any noted items they may deem unsatisfactory before submitting their comments as factual findings. This will greatly enhance the accuracy in reporting. It will also provide assurances to those accessing these reports that all noted items have been confirmed and are factual which serves to further legitimizing reported findings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vrej Agajanian". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "V" at the beginning.

Vrej Agajanian
Mayor

cc: Glendale City Council
Roubik Golanian, Interim City Manager
Michael J. Garcia, City Attorney
Carl Povilaitis, Chief of Police



Police Department
333 Olympic Drive
Santa Monica
CA 90401

OK



City of
Santa Monica®

July 21, 2020

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 11th Floor, Room 11-506
Los Angeles, CA 90012

To Whom it May Concern:

The Santa Monica Police Department was inspected on September 10, 2019 and recently received the 2019-2020 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report. Although the overall inspection results indicate "Outstanding," there were two recommendations that required a response:

"A/C not working, work order placed 2 months ago. Work orders should be completed within a timely manner, no more than 30 days."

The Department acknowledges our facility did not have functioning air conditioning at the time of inspection. The entire Police Safety Facility building was without air conditioning due to the replacement of significant parts needed for the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system. Maintenance records substantiate that all repairs were completed and the air conditioning is functioning appropriately. Work orders are routinely addressed within a one-week period, however, due to the extensive work performed on the HVAC system, the completion time was extended.

"Life Scan [sic] was down."

At the time of inspection, the Livescan equipment, which is utilized to fingerprint and photograph arrestees, was undergoing routine maintenance. The Livescan machine is owned and supported by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. The Santa Monica Police Department does not have the ability to regulate the maintenance that is performed remotely on the equipment. The Livescan machine is fully functioning and there has been no delay in processing arrestees.

If you require further assistance, please contact Captain Candice Cobarrubias or Jail Administrator Jennifer Estrada, at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

CYNTHIA RENAUD
Chief of Police