

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL May 17, 2002
THROUGH: Legislative Committee (May 7, 2002)
FROM: City Manager
SUBJECT: Support of Assembly Bill 1952 (Bogh) – *Solid Waste: Biomass Conversion: Transformation*

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council support AB 1952 (Bogh) – *Solid Waste: Biomass Conversion: Transformation*

BILL SUMMARY

The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 establishes an integrated waste management program administered by the California Integrated Waste Management Board. Existing law allows for not more than ten percent of the fifty percent diversion requirement be given credit through transformation, and that it does not include biomass conversion in its source reduction and recycling element.

Biomass conversion is a process that can convert solid waste into renewable and environmentally benign products, fuels, and sources of clean energy, including electricity.

This bill would allow credit for biomass conversion and would delete the ten percent limit for waste diversion through biomass conversion. The City does not currently use biomass conversion, but should this bill become law, the City could receive full credit for materials diverted by this technology.

Staff supports this effort as it provides an additional means for the City to achieve the diversion should the existing and proposed Source Reduction and Recycling Element programs not achieve the required 50 percent diversion. Assembly Bill 1952 also provides potential benefits associated with conversion technologies that convert solid waste into renewable and environmentally benign products, fuels, and sources of clean energy, including electricity.

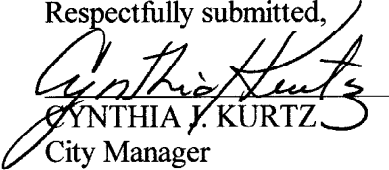
BILL STATUS

Assembly Bill 1952 was scheduled for a hearing in the Assembly Committee on National Resources on April 15, 2002. The hearing was cancelled at the request of the author. The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments has passed a resolution supporting AB 1952.

FISCAL IMPACT

The State mandated 50 percent diversion rate has not yet been achieved and the potential exists for the City to be faced with \$10,000 per day fines by the state if its application for an extension is not approved. If AB1952 is enacted, the City is afforded an additional program in its plan of correction to divert materials from the landfill.

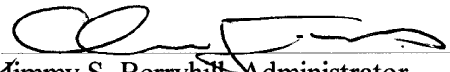
Respectfully submitted,


CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
City Manager

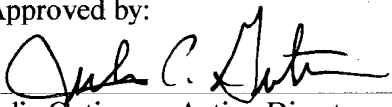
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