

# Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL

May 10, 1999

FROM: City Manager

SUBJECT: Opposition to Assembly Bill 1481 (Granlund) – An act to amend Section 4178.3 of the Public Resources Code, relating to Solid Waste Landfills: Alternative Daily Cover: Diversion.

## RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached resolution and authorize the Mayor to send a letter to the appropriate officials *opposing* Assembly Bill 1481 (Granlund) – Solid Waste Landfills: Alternative Daily Cover: Diversion.

## BACKGROUND

The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 requires each city and county to divert 50% of all solid waste by January 1, 2000. Existing law provides that the use of solid waste for beneficial reuse in the construction and operation of a solid waste landfill, constitutes diversion through source reduction, recycling, and composting activities. This includes the use of alternative daily cover (ADC).

Currently the City of Pasadena is able to count green waste as an alternative daily cover for the landfill. Alternative daily cover is green waste used to cover the daily trash coming into the landfill. The City sends approximately 8,043 tons of green waste to the landfill per year.

Assembly Bill 1481 would eliminate diversion credit for green waste used as alternative daily cover as presently authorized by the California Integrated Waste Management Board. If the City is no longer allowed to consider ADC as a diversion route for its green waste, then the City's diversion rate would drop by approximately seven percent. This decrease would impede the City's efforts to achieve the AB 939 mandated 50 percent diversion goal by 2000.

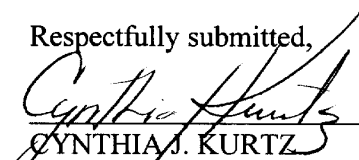
This effort will reduce the City's current diversion rate of 37 percent, while increasing the City's disposal rates and costs associated with additional disposal. If the City does not divert its green waste as alternate daily cover, it will have to transport the waste to the nearest composting facility in Bakersfield, over 115 miles from Pasadena. Transporting this material such a long distance would significantly increase costs to the City.

Several other entities have already voiced their opposition to this bill including the Los Angeles County Sanitation District, City of Clairmont, City of Glendale, and the City of Burbank. The bill is awaiting hearing in the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources.

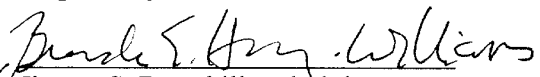
**FISCAL IMPACT**

If the City does not achieve the State Mandated 50 percent diversion rate, the potential exists for the City to be faced with \$10,000 per day fines by the state. If AB1481 passes, the disposal of yard waste materials at the landfill would account for approximately \$113,000 in additional landfill tipping fees per year or significantly increased transportation and disposal costs.

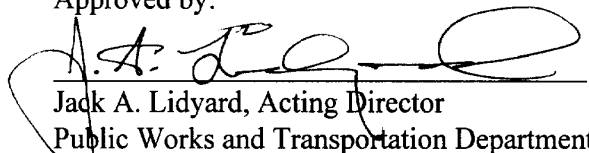
Respectfully submitted,

  
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