

# Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL June 7, 2004  
THROUGH: Legislative Committee  
FROM: City Manager  
SUBJECT: Oppose Assembly Bill 2176 (Montanez) – *Large Venue and Event Recycling Programs*

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the City Council oppose AB 2176 and authorize the Mayor to communicate the City's position to the appropriate authorities.

## **Background**

This bill requires the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) to provide model ordinances and collect and evaluate data from local governments regarding large venues and large events, and provide recommendations to the Legislature to assist with greater waste diversion at these venues and events. While admirable in intent, this bill would create major administrative workload and cost. The number of large events or large venues held in Pasadena each year is extensive. Large events are defined as 2,000 or more daily attendance; large venues are defined as facilities capable of seating 2,000 or more visitors.

If the Waste Board finds that less than 75 percent of events or venues have implemented waste management programs, then the Waste Board must submit a report to the Legislature mandating recycling programs in the industry.

## **Local Government Requirements**

This bill will require an enormous amount of tracking and coordinating by local government. The local agency must identify the top ten percent of large venues and large events based on the amount of waste. This could be a never-ending task as events are created or dropped on a continuing basis. The local jurisdiction would need to create a waste diversion study for events within its purview and create a data base of waste typically generated.

When issuing a temporary land use permit, land use permit, or building permit, the local agency must provide information on methods the venue or event can

take to reduce waste or recycle and provide contact information where solid waste materials may be donated, recycled or composted. When the event is over, the local agency must request, collect and report to the Waste Board the waste reduction and diversion implemented by each of the top ten percent of events and venues.

In Pasadena there are many events and venues that are defined as "large" and that generate large quantities of refuse. A short list includes the Rose Parade, Rose Bowl Game and all related Tournament of Roses activities, the Rose Bowl Flea Market, all UCLA football games, Black History Parade and Festival, Old Pasadena Summer Fest, Pasadena Showcase for the Arts, Celebration on the Colorado Street Bridge, Cinco de Mayo, PCC Flea Market and the Spring and Fall Art Fairs.

The City has already addressed recycling issues at large events either through direct collection or through its franchise system. Most large events and venues are served by private companies, i.e. non-exclusive franchise haulers. The Pasadena Municipal Code mandates that 50 percent of all materials collected by the franchise haulers in the City be recycled. As a result of this requirement, recyclables are being removed from the waste stream at large events because it is in the best interests of the haulers to do so. For its own customers, such as the Rose Bowl, the City implemented beverage recycling beginning with the Bowl Championship Series game in 2002. Beverage container recycling is now in place for all UCLA home football games and for the Rose Bowl games. During the 2003 UCLA football season and the 2004 Rose Bowl Game, 20.45 tons of beverage containers were diverted from landfill disposal. At other City events, such as the Black History Festival, Earth Day or the Community Picnic, recycling bins are provided and recycling staff monitors the collection of recyclables.

The Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force voted unanimously at its meeting of March 29, 2004, to oppose this bill based on overly burdensome planning requirements, "bean counting" and dictating where and how local facilities may be sited or constructed.

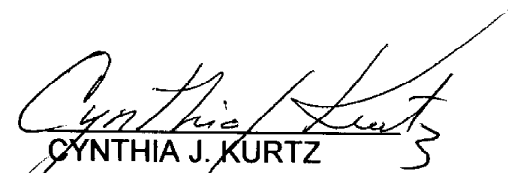
The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments has sent a letter of opposition to Assemblywoman Montanez, saying that imposing costly state-mandated local programs is another burden with which local jurisdictions must comply.

The League of California Cities is neutral on this legislation.

**Fiscal Impact**

The specific fiscal impact is unknown but there surely would be a need for increased staff time to maintain a data base of events, consult with event operators, provide recycling and diversion assistance, monitor each event, document diversion and ultimately report diversion statistics by event or location to the State. To compensate for the resources dedicated to these activities additional staff would be required or current work would not be performed.

Respectfully submitted,

  
CYNTHIA J. KURTZ  
City Manager

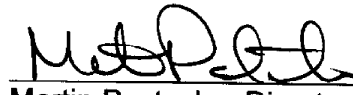
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