

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL November 7, 2005

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO THE CALIFORNIA INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR THE CITY OF PASADENA TO BECOME AN AUTHORIZED COLLECTOR OF COVERED ELECTRONIC WASTE

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council approve a resolution to the California Integrated Waste Management Board to become an authorized collector of Covered Electronic Waste (CEW) in the City of Pasadena thereby allowing the City to charge for e-waste collection and disposal.

BACKGROUND

In 2001 the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) banned electronic devices containing a cathode ray tube from landfill disposal. The collective term for such devices is e-waste. The banning of e-waste from landfills triggered legislation to address the cost of recycling these products at the end of their useful life.

Senate Bill 50 was signed into law as an emergency regulation by the Governor on September 29, 2004, that requires retailers to collect a fee to support recycling of Covered Electronic Waste; i.e., containing a cathode ray tube. The fee collected by the retailer from the consumer is between \$6 and \$10 per unit depending on the screen size. The collected fees are distributed by the Board of Equalization to authorized recyclers and collectors.

Prior to the designation of television sets and computers as hazardous waste, these items could be picked up by the City as part of the bulky item pickup program. With a hazardous waste designation however, the City could no longer provide this service and as a result calls from residents and businesses inundated the Public Works Department for guidance in how to dispose of old computers and television sets.

In response to many requests the City held two e-waste collection events in Parking Lot I of Brookside Park in January and June of 2002 and collected a total of 70 tons at a cost of \$15,920. Subsequently Los Angeles County began accepting e-waste at Household Hazardous Waste Roundups. The last two roundups at the Rose Bowl, 2003 and 2005, generated 155,388 pounds of e-waste combined.

In addition to the calls from residents and businesses requesting the City to handle e-waste, there is also a population that simply drops or abandons these items on the public right-of-way. In 2004, 5.8 tons of e-waste was abandoned at a cost to the City of \$3,800.00.

The department recognizes the need for more frequent collection of e-waste and is beginning to formulate a plan to fill this need. The critical component of a collection program is funding and staff is looking at opportunities to recover of the cost of collection of covered electronic waste. The designation of the City as an authorized collector allows for reimbursement from the State for a portion the cost of operating a program. Had the City been able to receive \$0.20 per pound just for the monitors and television sets collected at the 2002 events, reimbursement would have totaled \$8,040.

The process to become an authorized collector is relatively simple. After notifying the Department of Toxic Substances Control of its intent, a jurisdiction submits application to the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) for approval to be an authorized collector of covered electronic devices. Subsequently, the collector contracts with an authorized recycler who transports the collected electronic waste to the recycler's facility.

Collectors must track sources of CEWs and only seek payment for devices collected in California. Collectors must submit required documentation to the approved recycler and also establish a cost-free opportunity for the collection of CEWs and specify those opportunities on the CIWMB application. All materials must be handled in compliance with universal waste rules administered by the DTSC.

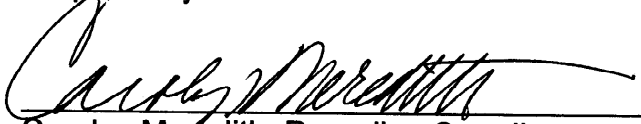
FISCAL IMPACT

Becoming an authorized collector would have a positive fiscal impact. In FY 2005 the City paid \$3,800 to have 5.8 tons of abandoned electronic waste handled by a certified recycler. By becoming an authorized collector, the City will receive a minimum of \$0.20 per pound for covered electronic devices collected at special events and abandoned on the right-of-way.

Respectfully submitted,


CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
City Manager

Prepared by:


Carolyn Meredith, Recycling Coordinator

Reviewed by:


Arlington Rodgers, Jr.
Street Maintenance and Integrated Waste Management

Approved by:


Martin Pastucha, Director
Department of Public Works

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PASADENA
APPROVING AN APPLICATION TO THE
CALIFORNIA INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD
TO BECOME AN AUTHORIZED COLLECTOR IN THE ELECTRONIC WASTE RECOVERY
AND RECYCLING PAYMENT SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the State of California has established the Covered Electronic Waste Recovery and Recycling Payment System to reimburse collectors and recyclers for the cost of recycling electronic devices containing cathode ray tubes (CRTs); and

WHEREAS, the City of Pasadena has paid for the collection of abandoned electronic waste since 2003; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the California Integrated Waste Management Board require the applicant to certify by resolution the approval of an application before submission of said application to the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF PASADENA THAT:

1. The City Council approves the filing of an application for collection of Covered Electronic Devices; and
2. The City Council appoints the City Manager or the Director of Public Works as an agent of the Council of the City of Pasadena to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project.

ADOPTED at the regular meeting of the Council of the City of Pasadena on this _____, by the following vote:

AYES:


NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Jane L. Rodriguez, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM: 10/19/06



Nicholas George Rodriguez
Assistant City Attorney