

August 27, 2012



Councilmember Richard Alarcon, Chair
Ad Hoc on Waste Reduction & Recycling Committee
City Hall
200 No. Spring Street
Room 340
Los Angeles, CA 90012

2012 Executive Committee

Century City Chamber of Commerce
Susan Bursk
President & CEO

Mark Garcia Consulting
Mark Garcia
Chairman of the Board

L.A. Realty Partners
Owen Fileti
Senior Vice President

TroyGould PC
Louis Dienes
Treasurer

Chelsea Design Group, Inc.
Susan Coddington
Secretary

HS Consulting
Harris Sperling
Director at Large

Century Park/CB Richard Ellis
Renee Watkinson
Director at Large

Gainsborough Capital LLC
Jean Tardy-Vallernaud
Director at Large

ABM Industries, Inc.
Carey Doss
Director at Large

Holwick Constructors, Inc.
Mike Holwick
Director at Large

Kindel Gagan
Samantha Martinez
Immediate Past Chair

RE: File No. 10-1797; 10-1797-S1; 10-1797-S2; 10-1797-S3; 10-1797-S4; 10-1791-S5, 10-1797-S6

Dear Councilmember Alarcon and Honorable Committee Members:

On behalf of the Century City Chamber of Commerce, which represents almost 50,000 employees and 5,000 residents, I am writing to express our position on the proposed plan to create an exclusive franchise system in the City of Los Angeles.

The Chamber OPPOSES an exclusive franchise system as we believe it will unnecessarily increase waste hauling costs to business and will reduce services provided. Similar exclusive systems have been instituted in other Southern California jurisdictions, Ventura and Santa Barbara to name two, and the costs of services and wait times for turnarounds have both increased. We also strongly believe due to experiences of members on our Board, the instances of illegal dumping will increase due to the lack of competition which ultimately will result in increased dumping fees and increased wait times.

The Chamber agrees with the City's goals of reducing truck traffic and vehicle emissions, higher diversion rates and promotion of safe working conditions; however, we believe that these goals can be achieved through a non-exclusive franchise arrangement.

Businesses and residents in Century City currently have outstanding recycling and green programs in place. For example, FOX Studios already exceeds the stated goals that the ordinance hopes to accomplish. FOX currently diverts 87% of their waste from landfills and aims at a target diversion of 90% by 2015.

Century Park, a large office complex, has a diversion rate of 51%. In 2011 Constellation Place recycled 160 tons of mixed paper, cardboard, bottles and cans. They also collected approximately 1,000 pounds of E-waste, recycled lamps and ballasts as well as about 85% of all construction waste. The Dining Terrace at Westfield Century City uses all reusable glassware, plates and utensils and has an onsite composter ensuring that food waste does not go to a landfill.

It is critical that our community is able to continue our unique green programs without significant cost increases or reduction in the service level our tenants and residents are used to receiving.

With much thanks and appreciation for your consideration.

Most sincerely,

Susan Bursk

Susan Bursk
President & CEO

Cc: Committee Members