REPORT FROM

OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Date: October 5, 2026

CAO File No. 0130-02148-0001
Council File No. 21-1015-S22
Council District: ALL

To: The City Council

From: Matthew W. Szabo, City Administrative Officer *for*

Subject: **FEDERAL AND STATE GRANT APPLICATIONS: RETROACTIVE AUTHORITY TO APPLY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES, RECYCLING, AND RECOVERY (CALRECYCLE) – BEVERAGE CONTAINER RECYCLING PROGRAM - FISCAL YEARS 2026-27 AND 2027-28**

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council, subject to approval of the Mayor:

1. Authorize the Director of the Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN), or designee, to retroactively submit a grant application for the Department Resources, Recycling, and Recovery (CalRecycle) – Beverage Container Recycling Program grant - FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28, which was submitted without prior Mayor or Council approval due to this being a competitive grant with no City General Funds or matching funds required, as well as the notice of funding availability being published less than 61 days in advance of the application deadline, pursuant to Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 14.6 et seq. as may be amended; and,

2. Instruct the Director of LASAN, or designee, to report if the City is awarded the grant, to request authority to accept the grant award, and to request approval for any related actions to implement the grant award.

DISCUSSION

On June 16, 2026, the Department of Resources, Recycling, and Recovery (CalRecycle) released a notice of funding availability for a Beverage Container Recycling Grant Program (BCRG) – Cycle 1: FY 2026-27 and Cycle 2: FY 2027-28. The BCRG will provide funding to support beverage container recycling and litter reduction programs to promote increased recycling of beverage containers throughout California and reduce beverage container litter in the waste stream. Only one application was necessary to be entered for both Cycle 1 and Cycle 2, and CalRecycle will determine which Cycle to award each project. Applications were due on August 11, 2026.

Applicant Eligibility and Availability of Funding

Applicants eligible to receive financial assistance to fund activities under the BCRG include:

- California cities, counties, state agencies, and other local government entities.

- Special districts (i.e. recreational park districts).
- Public colleges and universities, and public K-12 school districts.
- Non-profit organizations.
- Qualifying Tribal Entities.
- Joint Powers Authorities.

Eligible projects implement new programs or enhance existing programs to provide convenient beverage container recycling opportunities in various locations statewide.

There are $1.5 million in funds available for each grant cycle, Cycle 1: FY 2026-27 and Cycle 2: FY 2027-28, subject to funding availability. Applicants must request a minimum amount of $75,000. The number of grants awarded will depend on the amount requested by each applicant.

LASAN Mobile Water Refill Trailers and Refills

This Office received an email request on August 7, 2026, from the Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN) to apply for the BCRG for a Mobile Water Refill Trailers and Refills project (Project). Retroactive approval is requested for LASAN's grant application, which was submitted on the due date of August 11, 2026.

The LASAN Project submission detailed in Attachment 1 seeks grant funds from the BCRG in the amount of $275,000, which covers the entire cost of the Project. LASAN would purchase and deploy two mobile water station trailers and 15 mobile water refill stations. The proposed project will primarily support City-hosted community events throughout Los Angeles, including those associated with the LA28 Olympic and Paralympic Games, advancing the City's Zero Waste objectives. Following the Games, the refill stations and trailers would continue to serve community events citywide, creating a lasting investment in reusable beverage infrastructure that reduces single-use plastic beverage container waste, supports California's recycling and source reduction goals, and improves equitable access to safe drinking water during events or periods of extreme heat. Based on anticipated deployment at City-hosted events, the proposed equipment is expected to eliminate the use of more than 170,000 single-use plastic water bottles during the grant term by providing refill opportunities.

The grant funds would pay for equipment in the amount of $267,250 and education in the amount of $7,750. The education portion of funds would be used for multilingual educational signage and providing event support to educate attendees on proper beverage container recycling, source reduction, and benefits of reusable containers at each deployment.

Cost Sharing Requirements

The BCRG does not have a cost-sharing requirement.

Required Approval to Accept Award

Award notifications for the CalRecycle BCRG will tentatively be received in January 2027 for Cycle 1 and in September 2027 for Cycle 2. In accordance with Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 14.6(a), all departments are required to seek Mayor and Council approval before accepting and receiving a grant award. It is therefore recommended that LASAN report to the Mayor and Council upon

award notification to request authority to accept and receive the grant award and confirm that there is no additional General Fund impact.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Approval of the recommendations in this report will not result in a General Fund impact. There is no cost sharing requirement. Upon notification of a grant award, a reassessment on the General Fund impact should be completed by the department as it relates to either lower than requested grant award amounts, verification of local match requirements, or front-funding for grants on a reimbursement basis.

FINANCIAL POLICIES STATEMENT

The recommendations in this report comply with the City's Financial Policies.

Attachment: Proposed Grant Projects

MWS/JWW/JVW:JAS:10270015

cc: CAO Grant Coordination

ATTACHMENT 1 – PROPOSED GRANT PROJECTS CAO File No. 0130-02148-0001

Grant Administrator: Department of Resources, Recycling, and Recovery (CalRecycle)
Name of Grant: Beverage Container Recycling Grant (BCRG) – Cycle 1 FY: 2026-27 and Cycle 2: FY 2027-28
NOFO Release Date: June 16, 2026
Award Date: Approximately January 2027 for Cycle 1 and September 2027 for Cycle 2
Performance Period: 2 years (Cycle 1: ends April 2029 or Cycle 2: ends April 2030)

Lead Department	Project Name	Beverage Container Recycling Grant Project Description	Total Project Budget (in millions)	Total Grant Request (in millions)	Local Match (in millions)	Planned Completion Date
Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN)	LASAN Mobile Water Refill Trailers and Refills	LASAN will purchase and deploy two mobile water station trailers and 15 mobile water refill stations to divert single-use bottles.	$0.275	$0.275	$0	2 years (04/2029 Cycle 1 or 04/2030 Cycle 2)