

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal government body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the California Statewide Commission on Recycling Markets and Curbside Recycling (Commission) consists of 16 voluntary representatives of public agencies, private solid waste enterprises, and environmental organizations that have expertise in recycling, which was created by The California Recycling Market Development Act (AB 1583, Eggman, Chapter 690, Statutes of 2019) to issue policy recommendations and identify products that are recyclable or compostable and regularly collected in curbside recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, the Commission only makes recommendations with consensus votes of 16-0, demonstrating total alignment on the policy recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has developed 34 policy recommendations in 18 months that have been submitted to California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) and the California State Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the Commission recommendations have already resulted in the passage of many bills and resolutions in the 2021 session, including SB 343, AJR 4, AB 881, AB 962, AB 1200, AB 1201, and AB 1311, and other recommendations are still under consideration in the 2022 session, including AB 1690 (Rivas) (dealing with single-use vaping products) and AB 661 (Bennett) (dealing with recycling material); and

WHEREAS, through policy #21-34, the Commission called for the elimination of recycling symbols and labels on plastic bags and films sold in California, meaning plastic bags and films cannot legally be claimed as "recyclable" under existing California law (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17580 and Cal. Pub. Res. Code § 42355.5) and the federal Green Guides (16 C.F.R. § 260.2) which require substantiation for recycling for claims such as this; and

WHEREAS, the Commission recommendation #1 on Household Hazardous Waste includes the recommendations that "[s]ome products are just toxic and unnecessary and have safer, cheaper alternatives making their sale unnecessary and costly." Examples of these products include marine flares, fluorescent lamps, and single-use non-rechargeable vaping products (see AB 1690, Rivas); and



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WHEREAS, the Commission recommendations that have not yet been responded to are significant and worthy of action; and

WHEREAS, the LA Bureau of Sanitation and the Environment reports a \$12.3 million average annual processing cost for the "blue bin" curbside recycling program, and an approximately 30% contamination rate, and noting that many of the Commission's recommendations would save the City money and support zero waste mandates in state law, including methane emissions reduction targets (SB 1383) and the household waste disposal ban; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles is grateful to all the Commissioners for investing time and effort to provide these recommendations to improve resource management strategies in California; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its ²⁰²¹⁻²⁰²²~~2022-2023~~ State Legislative Program SUPPORT for the Recommendations of the California Statewide Commission on Recycling Markets and Curbside Recycling, and any related legislation originating from its findings, including AB 1690: to ban the sale of single-use vaping products (Rivas), AB 661: recycling materials (Bennett), and expected battery extended producer responsibility legislation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles calls on the California Attorney General to enforce labeling laws on plastic bags and films under Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §17580.

Presented by:



PAUL KREKORIAN
Councilmember, 2nd District



PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District



MITCH O'FARRELL
Councilmember, 13th District

Seconded by:

