

SINGLE USE BAG REDUCTION AND RECYCLING PROGRAM						
SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVE 5 RESPONSIBILITIES FROM THE JANUARY 22, 2008 BOARD ACTION						
Program Components	Large Supermarket and Retail Store	Manufacturer and Trade Association	County Working Group			DUE DATES
			Store Operations Subcommittee	Public Education Subcommittee	Technical Advisory Subcommittee	
Technical Advisory						
Provide technical assistance to other retailers and county staff on how to set up at-store recycling programs so that the collected materials are marketable.		✓			✓	Ongoing
Provide the County with plastic bag consumption and at-store recycling data.		✓			✓	Ongoing
Develop semi-annual progress reports to the Board regarding implementation of the Program.					✓	Ongoing
Develop performance measurements and indicators that reflect the Program outcomes.					✓	Ongoing
Identify litter hot spots, and establish additional litter prevention programs.					✓	Ongoing
Make recommendation for adjustments to the Program's Disposal Reduction Rate methodology and/or goals as appropriate.					✓	Ongoing
Work with the State and other experts to develop and expand the recycling market infrastructure.					✓	Ongoing
Work with County Departments and facilities to phase out single use plastic bags, and maximize the recycled content of paper bags (minimum 40%).					✓	Ongoing
Develop strategies to reduce the consumption and disposal and increase the recycling of all single use bags and maximize the post-consumer recycled content of all bags provided to the public in order to help develop markets for recyclable materials and decrease use of raw materials.					✓	Ongoing

TECHNICAL ADVISORY

EXTRACTED FROM PROGRAM RESOURCES PACKET, "TECHNICAL COMPONENT," PAGES 21-24

COUNTY GOALS

The County Goals are to reduce the disposal rate of plastic bags by:

- a. A minimum of 30%, using FY 2007-08 as the baseline, by July 1, 2010.
- b. A minimum of 65%, using FY 2007-08 as the baseline, by July 1, 2013.

Failure to achieve these goals triggers action to establish a County Ordinance to ban the use of plastic bags at affected stores.

DISPOSAL REDUCTION RATE METHODOLOGY

In response to these requirements, staff has developed the following disposal reduction rate methodology, which includes the following three components:

- 1) Reduction in consumption of plastic carryout bags;
- 2) Total number of plastic bags recycled at-stores; and
- 3) Total number of plastic bags recycled via curbside recycling programs.

Disposal Reduction Rate =

$$\frac{(\text{Base Year Consumption}^1 - \text{Reporting Year Consumption}^2)}{\text{Base Year Consumption}} +$$

$$\frac{\text{Plastic Bags Recycled At Stores During Reporting Year}}{\text{Base Year Consumption}} +$$

$$\frac{\text{Plastic Bags Recycled via Curbside Collection Programs During Reporting Year}}{\text{Base Year Consumption}}$$

ADDITIONAL DISPOSAL REDUCTION RATE METHODOLOGY FACTORS

The County Working Group acknowledges that other factors may affect the Disposal Reduction Rate and/or have ancillary impacts. The County Working Group will take into consideration factors such as reuse of plastic bags, recyclable content of plastic bags, and other economic factors.

STRATEGIES FOR IDENTIFYING LITTER "HOT SPOTS"

Identification of litter "hot spots" in the County unincorporated area will be addressed as follows:

- Utilize the City of Los Angeles' Methodology to identify High Trash Generation Areas or "hot spots"
- Work with agencies and interested parties to provide additional relevant data such as:
 - Catch basin/storm drain locations

¹ Base Year Consumption is the amount of plastic bags generated in Fiscal Year 2007-08, based on data reported to the California Integrated Waste Management Board as required by AB 2449.

² Reporting Year Consumption is the amount of plastic bags generated during a specified fiscal year, based on data reported to the California Integrated Waste Management Board as required by AB 2449.

- Trash or plastic bag quantities collected from different clean up points
- Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) data
- Solid waste collection information related to trash bins, collection trucks and facilities that do not implement "total containment"
- Develop maps of litter "hot spots" and litter indicators
- Track data gathered over time to measure results

IMPLEMENTING LITTER PREVENTION PROGRAMS

The County Working Group has developed additional litter prevention programs for implementation and a framework for measuring litter reduction. These litter prevention programs include:

- Expanding public education and outreach on plastic bag recycling and reuse
 - Anti-litter public educational program at stores
- Incorporating plastic bags into existing litter prevention programs, such as:
 - Illegal dumping prevention program
 - Curbside recycling program
 - Household Hazardous and Electronic Waste collection program
 - Permanent waste collection sites (e.g. AVECC)
 - Waste tire collection events
 - Free dump day events
 - Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) program for market development
 - Other waste reduction and diversion programs
 - Additional bag collection stations at places like recycling centers, schools, public facilities, etc.

STRATEGIES FOR MAXIMIZING RECYCLED CONTENT OF ALL BAGS AND PROMOTE BAG RECYCLING MARKETS

In order to achieve these objectives, a variety of strategies will be employed. The County Working Group has developed the following strategies:

- Development of markets for single use paper and plastic bags recycled in unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County
 - Provide information and incentives to manufacturers and stores for maximizing their use of recycled content bags
 - Establish incentive programs to foster development of industries that would use collected single use plastic and paper bags in their productions and operations (e.g. using the RMDZ Program)
- Maximization of the post-consumer recycled content of single use paper bags in Los Angeles County to decrease use of raw materials
 - Promulgate legislation and laws that would require making of single use paper bags with post consumer recycled content.
 - Require procurement of single use paper bags made of post consumer recycled contents in government and other large scale procurement programs.
 - Educate manufacturers and producers on use of single use plastic bags for manufacturing products with post consumer recycled content.