City of MONROVIA 1887

All-America City

Los Angeles County Pharmaceuticals and Sharps Collection and Disposal Stewardship Ordinance

February 18, 2016

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 383
Los Angeles, CA 90012

SUBJECT: LOS ANGELES COUNTY PHARMACEUTICALS AND SHARPS COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL STEWARDSHIP ORDINANCE – SUPPORT

Dear Supervisors:

The City of Monrovia is in support of Los Angeles County's efforts to adopt a product stewardship ordinance that would provide for the proper collection and disposal of unwanted/unused pharmaceuticals and sharps waste generated by residents. Adoption of this Ordinance is important because it would establish a sustainably financed program that will provide residents with a convenient means to safely dispose of unwanted sharps and pharmaceuticals. It would also help prevent these products from entering the environment, reduce their availability for drug abuse and misuse, and reduce injuries associated with sharps being improperly disposed. With access to safe and convenient disposal options, as well as a robust outreach and education program, residents will be empowered to properly dispose their materials.

The passage of this Ordinance would ensure that manufacturers and producers of prescription and nonprescription drugs and sharps share in the responsibility of proper disposal of their products. Our City supports this shared responsibility approach and do not want the cost of managing these materials at the end of their useful life solely borne by local jurisdictions.

We understand the County has conducted multiple stakeholder meetings which included representatives from the manufacturers and producers of these materials,

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retailers, pharmacies, consumer advocacy groups, environmental organizations, waste hauling industry, and others in order to develop the most effective Ordinance.

Following adoption of the Ordinance by the Board, the City of Monrovia is very interested in passing a resolution to adopt this Ordinance so that our City's residents also have access to safe, convenient, and sustainably financed collection and disposal methods of pharmaceuticals and sharps.

Should you have any questions, please contact Caroline Velarde at 626-303-6601 or via email at cvelarde@ci.monrovia.ca.us .

Sincerely,

Oliver Chi, City Manager
City of Monrovia

cc: Sachi A. Hamai, Los Angeles County Chief Executive Officer
Patrick Ogawa, Los Angeles County Acting Executive Officer
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Angelo Bellomo)
Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force