TO: Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/

Integrated Waste Management Task Force

Joe Bartolata Staff to the Task Force FROM:

## NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY PRELIMINARY DRAFT REVISED COUNTYWIDE SITING ELEMENT TASK FORCE REVIEW

As you may be aware, the Los Angeles County Public Works in coordination with the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force, has prepared the Preliminary Draft Revised Countywide Siting Element (CSE). The Notice of Availability (attached) for the Draft Revised CSE and its Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) was released on July 1, 2021, and posted in the local newspapers to officially start the public review period on July 1 and run through August 16, 2021. As required by State law, the County shall consider Task Force's recommendations and input in the preparation the Draft Revised CSE and its DEIR.

### **Background and Purpose**

- The CSE is a long-term solid waste planning and policy document that describes how the County, and the cities within the County, plan to manage the disposal of their solid waste for a 15-year planning period (as required by the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 [Assembly Bill 939]).
- Assembly Bill 939 also requires the CSE to establish goals, policies, and guidelines for the proper planning and siting of landfills, inert waste landfills, transformation (waste-to-energy) facilities, and alternatives to landfill technologies such as conversion technologies on a Countywide basis.
- The existing CSE, dated June 1997, was prepared by Public Works under the auspices of the Task Force, and approved by a majority of the cities in Los Angeles County constituting a majority of the cities' population, as well as the County Board of Supervisors, and subsequently approved by the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (formerly the California Integrated Waste Management Board) on June 24, 1998.
- The CSE is being revised to include updated information on solid waste facilities and disposal projections covering the planning period beginning 2018 through 2033. The Preliminary Draft Revised CSE has undergone preliminary reviews by the Task Force, and the Task Force's comments have been incorporated into the documents that were released for public review.

## Significant Changes to the Preliminary Draft Revised CSE

The Preliminary Draft Revised CSE includes the following significant changes from the 1997 version:

- Updated projections of Countywide solid waste generation and disposal, as well as remaining landfill capacity, including updated disposal capacity shortfall scenarios that take into account the state's ambitious recycling goals, including organic waste recycling;
- Removal of Elsmere and Blind Canyons from the list of potential new landfill sites;
- Removal of the Scholl Canyon Landfill from being listed as a potential landfill expansion;
- Identification of expansions of existing in-County Class III landfills that have been permitted since 1997 and that have increased landfill capacities within the County;
- Updates to the goals and policies to enhance the County's solid waste management system and incorporate current and upcoming solid waste management processes and technologies;
- Updates regarding the status of development of alternative-to-landfill technologies, such as conversion technologies; and
- Updates regarding the development of infrastructure to transport solid waste to out-of-County landfills to complement the County's waste management system.

## **Preparation, Approval, and Revision Process**

The CSE is an element of the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan and must be approved by a majority of the cities within Los Angeles County, which contain a majority of the cities' population, the County Board of Supervisors, and CalRecycle.

## Task Force Review of the Preliminary Draft Revised CSE

Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Section 18779 requires that the agency responsible for preparation of the preliminary draft(s) of the CSE shall consider Local Task Force recommendations and public input during the development and revision phases. The preliminary draft(s) shall be sent to the Local Task Force, incorporated cities within the County, and CalRecycle.

Within 45 days of receipt of the preliminary draft CSE, the Local Task Force shall send written comments to CalRecycle and to the agency preparing the preliminary draft CSE.

In April 2016, Task Force considered and approved the Draft Revised CSE (see April 21, 2016 Minutes of the Meeting at <a href="https://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/tf/minutes/tfmin2016-04final.pdf">https://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/tf/minutes/tfmin2016-04final.pdf</a>). With the exception of updating the base year (2018), there are no significant changes from the last version considered and approved by the Task Force.

### **Staff Recommendation and Next Steps**

Staff recommends that the Task Force review and provide comments on the Preliminary Draft Revised CSE and environmental documents.

Upon completion of the public review period and based on the comments received, Public Works, as the agency preparing the Revised CSE, will prepare written responses to each comment received and a Final Draft Revised CSE, in concert with the Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee and the Task Force.

Please contact Joe Bartolata at (626) 458-2531 or <u>jbartolata@pw.lacounty.gov</u> to request hard copies of the Draft Revised CSE and its DEIR.

JB:rw

P:\SEC\RW\EP5\DRAFT REVISED CSE STAFF REPORT.DOCX

Attach.

# NOTICE OF VIRTUAL PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING AND AVAILABILITY OF THE PRELIMINARY DRAFT REVISED LOS ANGELES COUNTY COUNTYWIDE SITING ELEMENT AND ITS DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

The Los Angeles County Public Works, in coordination with the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force, has prepared the following documents pursuant to the requirements of the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Assembly Bill 939), as amended; and the California Environmental Quality Act, as amended.

- The Preliminary Draft Revised Los Angeles County Countywide Siting Element (Draft Revised Siting Element), dated July 2020
- The Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Draft Revised Siting Element, dated July 2020 (SCH No. 1995011048)

The Draft Revised Siting Element describes the existing solid waste disposal system in the County, estimates future solid waste disposal capacity needs of the 88 cities in the County and the County unincorporated area, and sets forth goals, policies, and objectives to meet the solid waste needs on a Countywide basis.

The DEIR for the Draft Revised Siting Element programmatically evaluates the environmental effects associated with the implementation of the Siting Element. Similar to the 1997 CSE, the Draft Revised Siting Element serves as a policy document rather than a specific development program. CEQA requires that local government agencies, prior to approving projects over which they have discretionary approval authority, consider the environmental consequences of such projects. An Environmental Impact Report is a public document designed to provide the public, and local and state governmental-agency decision makers, with an analysis of potential environmental impacts to support informed decision making.

Due to COVID-19 and Safer at Home Order, Public Works is holding a series of virtual public information meetings to receive comments on the above documents. The public is invited to present oral testimony on the Draft Revised Siting Element and its DEIR during any of the virtual meeting dates listed below. You may also send written comments to <a href="mailto:sitingelement@pw.lacounty.gov">sitingelement@pw.lacounty.gov</a>, or by mail to Los Angeles County Public Works Environmental Programs Division, P.O. Box 1460, Alhambra, CA 91802-1460. You may also call the Siting Element hotline at (888) 777-4775. Public review period is from July 1 through August 16, 2021.

## These meetings will be recorded in English and Spanish

| DATE                       | TIME   | LOCATION  |
|----------------------------|--------|---|
| Tuesday, August 3, 2021    | 6 p.m. | Supervisorial District 1:<br>Register at: <u>pw.lacounty.gov/sitingelement</u>  |
| Tuesday, August 3, 2021    | 7 p.m. | Todos los Distritos<br>Reunión en Español:<br>Regístrese en: <u>pw.lacounty.gov/sitingelement</u>                       |
| Thursday, August 5, 2021   | 7 p.m. | Supervisorial District 2:<br>Register at: <u>pw.lacounty.gov/sitingelement</u>  |
| Monday, August 9, 2021     | 7 p.m. | Supervisorial District 3: Register at: <a href="mailto:pw.lacounty.gov/sitingelement">pw.lacounty.gov/sitingelement</a> |
| Wednesday, August 11, 2021 | 7 p.m. | Supervisorial District 4: Register at: pw.lacounty.gov/sitingelement  |
| Thursday, August 12, 2021  | 7 p.m. | Supervisorial District 5: Register at: pw.lacounty.gov/sitingelement  |

The above-mentioned documents and meeting recordings will be available on our website at <a href="mailto:pw.lacounty.gov/sitingelement">pw.lacounty.gov/sitingelement</a>. Copies of the documents are available for public review at Public Works Headquarters if open to the public, Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., through August 16, 2021, at the 3rd floor Annex Building, Environmental Programs Division, 900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91803.

Individuals requiring reasonable accessibility accommodations may request written materials in alternate formats, physical accessibility accommodations, sign language interpreters, or other reasonable accommodations by contacting our departmental Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator at (626) 458-4081, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday (excluding holidays). Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may make contact by first dialing the California Relay Service at 7-1-1. Requests should be made at least one week in advance to ensure availability. When making a reasonable accommodation request, please reference EPD-3.