

Los Angeles County Proposing to Transition from a Non-Exclusive Commercial Franchise Waste Collection System to an Exclusive Commercial Franchise Waste Collection System

Since 2012, the existing Non-Exclusive Commercial Franchise System provides dumpster/roll-off trash services to customers through-out County unincorporated communities excluding the Garbage Disposal Districts (GDDs). Under this current system, private waste haulers can provide trash and recycling services to commercial customers in the unincorporated areas as long as they have a contract with the County and meet minimum performance standards. Commercial customers include businesses and multi-family complexes, as well as single-family residences that request dumpster service. Customers arrange and pay for services directly with any Commercial Franchise authorized waste hauler. Currently, there are 19 distinct non-roll-off and 7 roll-off only Commercial Franchise authorized waste haulers providing service to approximately 11,500 commercial accounts in various unincorporated communities.

Los Angeles County Public Works (Public Works) is proposing to transition from a Non-Exclusive Commercial Franchise System to an Exclusive Commercial Franchise System for the unincorporated communities except the areas of Acton/Agua Dulce and the Antelope Valley. Those two areas will remain non-exclusive until a new franchise system is established. The Exclusive Commercial Franchise will also exclude roll-off haulers for collection of construction debris, which would still require a non-exclusive contract with the County.

The proposed Exclusive Commercial Franchise system will provide standardized high-quality trash, recycling and organics collection services to all customers, increase hauler accountability for customer service, require the use of clean alternative fuel vehicles, improve recordkeeping and reporting, and establish additional recycling, organics, and educational programs. The new collection system will assist the County in implementing the projects and programs required for Senate Bill 1383 organic waste regulations. It also would allow for a greater level of County oversight and enforcement of the waste haulers' services and their reporting requirements. Additionally, providing secured waste volumes to exclusive haulers is necessary for them to partner with or develop new organic waste processing infrastructure. Further benefits include optimizing waste hauling route efficiency by no longer allowing multiple waste haulers to provide service in designated communities. Ultimately, this will lead to fewer collection trucks on the road, reduced traffic, pollution, and wear and tear on the roads.

The proposed Exclusive Commercial System will award only one waste hauler to provide service for a designated area or zone. Public Works is currently analyzing and configuring existing customer data to determine the proposed exclusive zones. Public Works is planning to host a workshop with all interested waste haulers in December 2020 to discuss and solicit input on the proposed exclusive zones and key requirements in the proposed scope of services such as mandatory organic waste collection. An extensive transitional plan will be developed prior to full transition and will include a comprehensive education and outreach plan to inform customers of the benefits of the new services and

franchise system that are coming their way. Full transition to the new Exclusive Commercial Franchise and expanded organic waste collection efforts are expected to be implemented by January 1, 2022.

For more information, please contact Clark Ajwani of Los Angeles County Public Works, at CAjwani@pw.lacounty.gov or (626) 458-5163, M- Th, 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.