

## **Los Angeles County Partners with Businesses to Promote Recycled-Content Products**

Los Angeles County continues to partner with CalRecycle and participating cities through the Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) program that is administered by CalRecycle. The RMDZ program combines recycling activities with economic development to fund new businesses, expand existing ones, create jobs, and divert waste from landfills. The RMDZ program was created to assist businesses that manufacture recycled-content products or process materials to produce recycled feedstock used to create recycled-content products by providing them with technical assistance, product marketing, and financial assistance.

A great advantage of doing business in Los Angeles County is the abundance of feedstock due to its size, with more than 10 million residents and hundreds of thousands of businesses. Los Angeles County's RMDZ program offers these services to businesses located in the County unincorporated areas and 19 member Cities, which include Azusa, Baldwin Park, Burbank, Carson, Commerce, Compton, Covina, Culver City, El Monte, Glendale, Huntington Park, Inglewood, Monrovia, Palmdale, Santa Fe Springs, South Gate, Torrance, Vernon, and Whittier.

Program managers assist with facilitating communication and building business relationships between business owners, CalRecycle, and local jurisdictions to inform businesses of technical and financial resources available through the program and answer loan application questions.

Qualifying businesses interested in moving to Los Angeles County or expanding their current operation can take advantage of the assistance provided through the RMDZ program, including low interest loans of up to two million dollars!

In recent years, there have been major events and challenges that have impacted the solid waste management system in Los Angeles County such as China's adoption of its National Sword Policy and the COVID-19 pandemic. These developments have had a severe impact on markets for recyclable materials and resulted in an increase in plastic waste. The RMDZ program can help strengthen local recycling manufacturing capacity, create local green jobs, and create the new, innovative products that can use recyclable materials collected locally.

For more information on this program, contact Vigen Abramyan at [VAbramyan@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:VAbramyan@dpw.lacounty.gov).