

The Journey to SB 1383

By now we have all heard that the new California organic waste regulations (SB 1383) came into effect January 1, 2022. The state regulation requires residents and businesses to recycle their organic waste – meaning things like food waste, yard waste, paper, and cardboard. Organic wastes are targeted because they produce methane, a potent greenhouse gas when they decompose in a landfill. The City of El Monte has been preparing for the regulations to make organic recycling easy and effective for our community such as preventing food waste and taking steps to *keep* organic waste out of our landfills. The City along with our Environmental Consultants, Municipal Waste Solutions, and our hauler, Valley Vista Services, have diligently worked together to help meet these requirements.

Something that you may *not* have heard, is the City's proposal to build a new fueling station that features Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) in the City's Public Works Yard. It is part of El Monte's comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CAP) and is just one of the many ways that the City is tackling the global climate issues. This will reduce deadheading for fueling, reducing overall miles traveled, and associated emissions. The new station will also utilize a fuel with a lower Carbon Intensity (CI) that will result in both cleaner running vehicles and capture methane from biological sources that would otherwise rise directly into the atmosphere. The existing station uses fossil fuel CNG, while the new station will use RNG made from organic waste and will realize a reduction of 70 CI. Furthermore, the City will be adding public access to fueling at the station to increase access to clean fueling infrastructure for residents and visitors, encouraging and supporting the adoption of cleaner private passenger vehicles. As a facility open to the public, the station will also be able to serve medium and heavy-duty trucks for goods movement, further improving the fueling infrastructure network for the transportation sector.

As per Sarah Zadok, Transportations Operations Manager for the City of El Monte:

"The quantity of fuel is expected to continue for the City's fleet, but we anticipate additional use by private motorists beginning slowly with demand growing... We anticipate the annual use of RNG for City and private fueling at the station to be approximately 13,933,700 scf or roughly 110,000 gallons of gasoline equivalents (GGE)."

When will it be up and running and will it be open to the public?

- Once the contract is signed, we have until the end of December 2023 to finish construction and it will be open to the public

What gas will be purchased for this station?

- Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) is clean reliable fuel derived from organic waste, which breaks down to emit methane. RNG production helps control greenhouse

gas emissions by capturing methane that would otherwise get released into the atmosphere. In addition, renewable gas has reduced dependency on fossil fuels like conventional natural gas

For more information, please visit our City's website: <https://www.ci.el-monte.ca.us/>.