

# How the City of San Diego Formulated it's Zero Waste Plan

## CRRA Green Initiatives for Venues and Events Webinar

April 21, 2017



## CITY OF SAN DIEGO ZERO WASTE PLAN

*“Zero Waste is a principle that calls for handling discarded materials as commodities for reuse rather than for disposal, and conserving those commodities through waste prevention, recycling, composting and other technologies”.*

- 67% diversion rate for CY 2013

### Zero Waste Plan:

- Divert 75% waste by 2020 (332,000 tons)
- Divert 90% waste by 2035 (622,500 tons)
- Reach Zero Waste by 2040



## **POLITICAL CLIMATE THAT MADE ZERO WASTE EFFORT POSSIBLE**

- **Desire/need to comply with waste diversion mandates**
  - AB 939, AB 341, AB 1826
- **Ongoing/historical planning efforts to conserve resources, divert waste, and preserve landfill capacity**
  - Miramar Landfill General Development Plan
  - City Manager's Committees
  - Long-Term Resource Management Options Strategic Plan
- **Existing ordinances, programs, and efforts**



## ZERO WASTE OBJECTIVE

- **City Council Resolution**
  - **Goals:**
    - Divert 75% waste by 2020
    - Reach Zero Waste by 2040
  - **ESD directed to develop a Zero Waste Plan in 2014 that establishes a framework for, and provides guidance in, the City's planning and decision-making process so as to achieve the City's Zero Waste Objective, and return with draft plan.**



## TIMELINE

- **Initial planning and prep work**
  - Zero Waste Plan Vision Document
- **December 2013 – Zero Waste Resolution adopted**
- **Stakeholder outreach: July 2014 – September 2014**
  - Haulers
  - Industry Groups/Associations
  - Public Meetings
- **Zero Waste Plan – to Environment Committee – June 2015**
- **Zero Waste plan – adopted by City Council – July 2015**



## POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS AND CLIMATE

- **Key Stakeholders**
  - Franchise Haulers
  - Industry groups
  - Businesses
  - Nonprofits
  - Residents
  - Special Interests



## CHALLENGES IN CRAFTING PLAN

- **People's Ordinance of 1919**
  - Financial limitations
  - Inequities – services and how paid for
- **Balancing requests/demands for service**
- **Timing**
  - Pre-2020 vs. possible post-2020
- **Public vs. private infrastructure**



## PLAN FRAMEWORK

- **Open process, based upon input and recommendations/solutions from stakeholders**
- **Practical and usable document**
- **Focus on steps to reach initial 2020 goal**
  - **Practical/realistic goals and expectations**
    - **Programs**
    - **Funding**



## PLAN FRAMEWORK (cont.)

- **Zero Waste Plan – framed situation and recommended initial proposed programs and funding mechanisms**
  - High-level
- **Report to the City Council – framed more specifically**
  - Proposed programs, funding mechanisms, and staffing
  - Pre-2020 and possible post-2020 efforts



## PROPOSED PROGRAMS FOR 75%

RECOMMENDATIONS	Tons	Status
Franchise Haulers 50% min – by 2020	93,500	Implemented
AB 1826 Organic Recycling – by 2020	120,000	Partially implemented, in-process
C&D Ordinance to 65%	2,000	Implemented
City Facilities 50% min – by 2020	1,500	Partially implemented, in-process
Divert Fibrous Yard Trimmings	18,000	ETA July 2017
City Recycling Ordinance Revisions	13,000	ETA Summer/Fall 2017
Resource Recovery Center – by 2020	80,000	In-process
Education, Outreach, Enforcement	4,000	Proposed for FY 2018
<b>Total</b>	<b>332,000</b>	



## HOW THE PLAN ENCOMPASS SPECIAL EVENTS AND VENUES

- **Commercial Food Scraps Composting Program**
- **City Recycling Ordinance**
  - Special events
  - Large venues
  - Future amendments
- **Franchise Agreement Requirements**



## HOW PLAN WILL BE ENFORCED

- **Climate Action Plan –**
  - Adopted in December 2015
  - Zero Waste Plan is one of five pillars
  - Ensures priority/need to implement Zero Waste programs
- **Elements/programs will be used to aid in enforcement**
  - Franchise Agreement requirements
  - City Recycling Ordinance amendments



**THANK YOU.**

**Ken Prue**

**Recycling Program Manager**