



Our County

Waste and Resource Management:
An 'Our County' Workshop

September 28, 2018

The Team

Consultant Team



Topic and data collection and analysis leadership and stakeholder engagement co-leadership



Stakeholder engagement
co-leadership



Topic expert: open space



Topic expert: housing,
economy & workforce development



Topic expert:
health and wellbeing



Topic expert:
transportation




Topic expert:
air quality



Advisors

Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Office

A wide-angle landscape photograph showing a valley with rolling hills. In the distance, a large array of wind turbines is visible against a clear blue sky. In the foreground and middle ground, there are green fields with patches of red flowers, and a large solar panel array is visible on the right side. A dirt road winds through the fields in the foreground.

The Chief Sustainability Office provides comprehensive and coordinated policy support and guidance for the Board of Supervisors, County departments, the unincorporated areas, and the region to make our communities healthier, more liveable, economically stronger, more equitable, more resilient, and more sustainable.

The Plan

The County's Aims



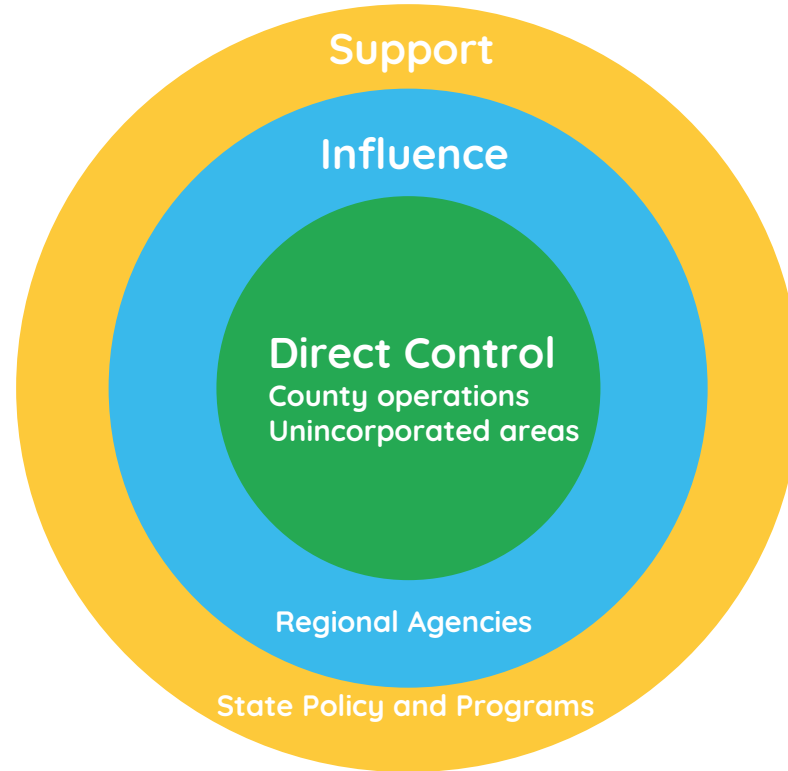
The plan should be:

- Aspirational, Comprehensive, Long-Term, Regional, Actionable

The task:

- Develop a comprehensive framework for County and City sustainability initiatives
- Serve as template for local cities when preparing sustainability/climate action plans
- Prepare the region to be competitive for funding

The County's Sphere of Influence



Countywide Sustainability Plan Framework



- Water
- Energy
- Climate
- Air Quality
- Land Use and Transportation
- Open Space, Recreation and Habitat/Biodiversity
- Resource Recovery and Waste Management
- Public Health and Well-Being
- Economy and Workforce Development
- Housing



**Equity &
Resilience
woven
throughout**

Organizing Principles



Nurturing Healthy Communities



Cultivating a Just Economy



Fostering a Healthy Relationship with the Environment



Making It Happen

Vision

A core value or values at the heart of the plan – the “why”

Goals

Broad, aspirational statement of what we want to achieve

Strategies

Approach or approaches that we take to achieve a goal (strategies may support multiple goals)

Actions

Specific policy, program, or tool we take to achieve a strategy

PERFORMANCE MONITORING

Indicators

Quantitative measures used to assess performance on a regular basis

Targets

Levels of performance that are sustainable

Key Terms

Vision

A core value or values at the heart of the plan – the “why”

Goals

Broad, aspirational statement of what we want to achieve

Strategies

Approach or approaches that we take to achieve a goal (strategies may support multiple goals)

Today's Focus

Stakeholder Process and Today's Agenda

Stakeholder Engagement Equity Statement



Equity

Goal

Reduce disparities across geographies due to race, class, gender, and other social differences

Strategy

Commit resources to include those often left out of policy and planning discussions

Indicators

Distributional

Actions that repair current and historical imbalances

Procedural

Participatory decisionmaking with vulnerable communities

Transformational

Strategies securing future benefits for at-risk populations

Stakeholder Engagement Plan



Stakeholder Engagement Timeline



Today's Team Leaders



Stakeholder Engagement

- Liberty Hill: Michele Prichard, Ben Russak & Chuy Flores
- UCLA: Laurel Hunt & Ari Simon

Data & Analysis and Topic Teams

- UCLA: Stephanie Pincetl
- BuroHappold: Adam Friedberg

Community-Based Anchor Organizations



- Supervisor District 1 (Solis): **East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice**
- Supervisor District 2 (Ridley-Thomas): **Strategic Concepts in Organizing and Policy Education**
- Supervisor District 3 (Kuehl): **Pacoima Beautiful**
- Supervisor District 4 (Hahn): **Communities for a Better Environment**
- Supervisor District 5 (Barger): **Day One**

Today's Agenda



9:00 **Welcome**

- Welcome (Chief Sustainability Office and LAANE)
- Workshop Overview (Michele Prichard, Liberty Hill)
- Past Workshop Feedback (Ari Simon, UCLA)
- Waste and Resource Management Overview (Adam Friedberg, BuroHappold)
- Question and Answers

10:00 **Breakout Session 1 - Goals**

10:50 **Reconvene and Report Back**

11:00 **Breakout Session 2 - Strategies by Issue Area**

12:05 **Reconvene, Report Back, and Dot Voting**

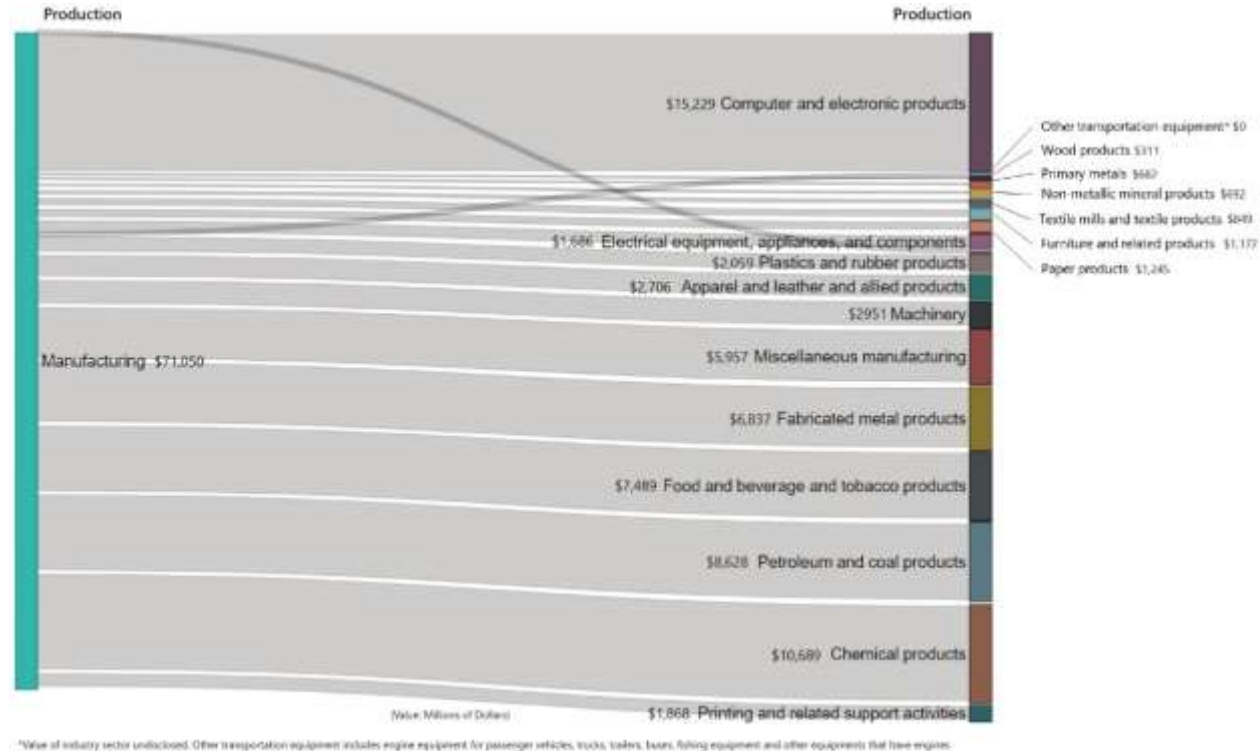
12:30 **Lunch and Breakout Session 3 – Collaboration Strategies**

1:15 **Wrap Up and Evaluation (Michele Prichard, Liberty Hill)**

LA County Waste and Resource Management Overview

What We Know About Materials

- Largest manufacturing hub in the US
- Producing computers, clothing apparel, electronics, chemicals, petroleum products and other products
- Approximately 13,000 manufacturers
- Over \$71 Billion worth of manufacturing products produced in L.A. County
- Over 350,000 jobs



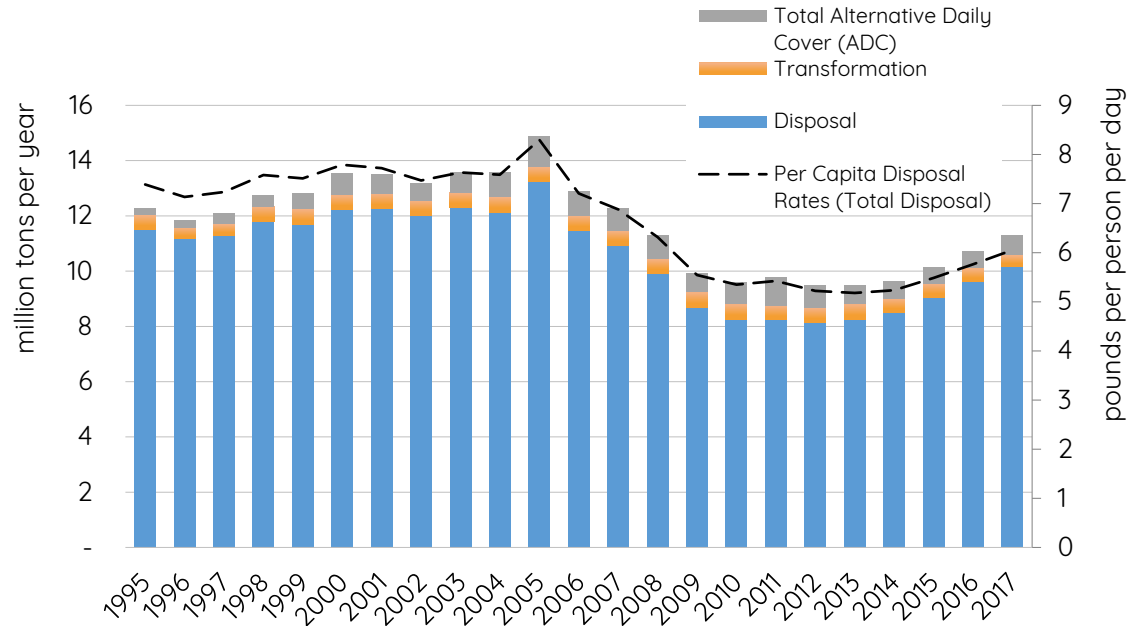
U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (2015) Input-Output Analysis

Waste Status and Trends



- Waste disposed by L.A. County residents and businesses declined more than 15% compared to 2005 but has increased slightly since 2014
- Reporting and data on generation, recyclables, organics and other waste needs improvement.

L.A. County (Unincorporated and Incorporated) Waste Disposal and Per Capital Disposal from 1995 to 2017

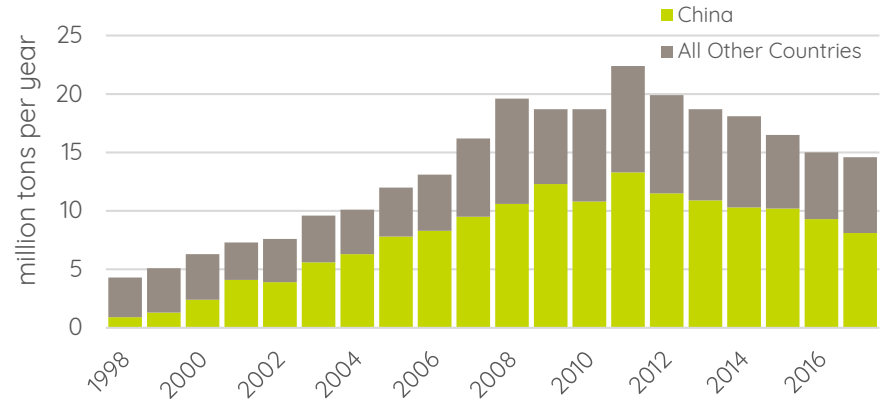


CalRecycle (2018). Data retrieved from <https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/LGCentral/DisposalReporting/Origin/CountywideSummary>

Where are our recyclables going?

- China has been the main importer of California's recyclables for over two decades.
- China's National Sword Policy puts restrictions on recyclables and bans the imports of 24 types of recyclables.
- Expansion of existing programs – Recycling Market Development Zones (RMDZ), Materials Exchange, etc.

California Recyclables Exports Outside the United States



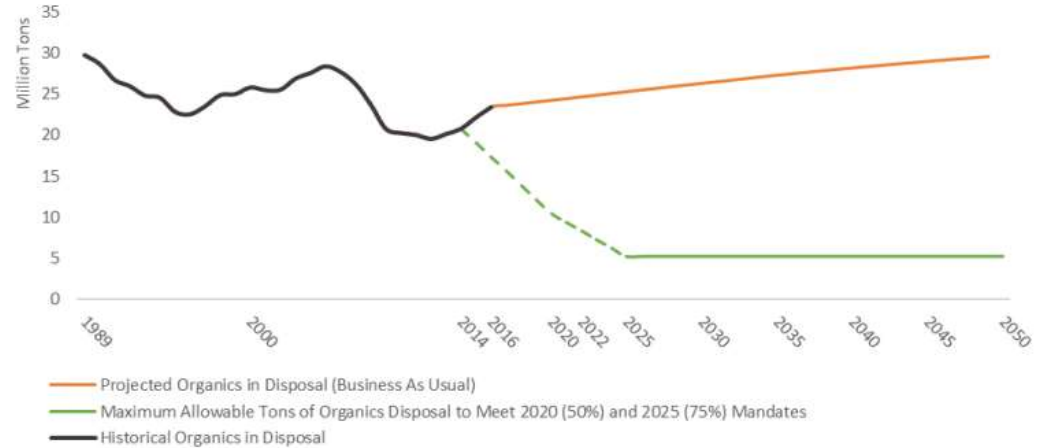
CalRecycle. (2018). *Export of Recyclable Materials from California*. Retrieved from <https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Markets/NationalSword/Data/>



Credit: Canada Free Press

Organics

- Approximately 41% of the waste disposed is organic (17-18% is food waste) - estimate
- Major legislation – AB 1826 in process and SB 1383 is coming.
- Existing edible food waste programs throughout the county.
- There is a significant shortage of organic waste treatment facilities in L.A. County.

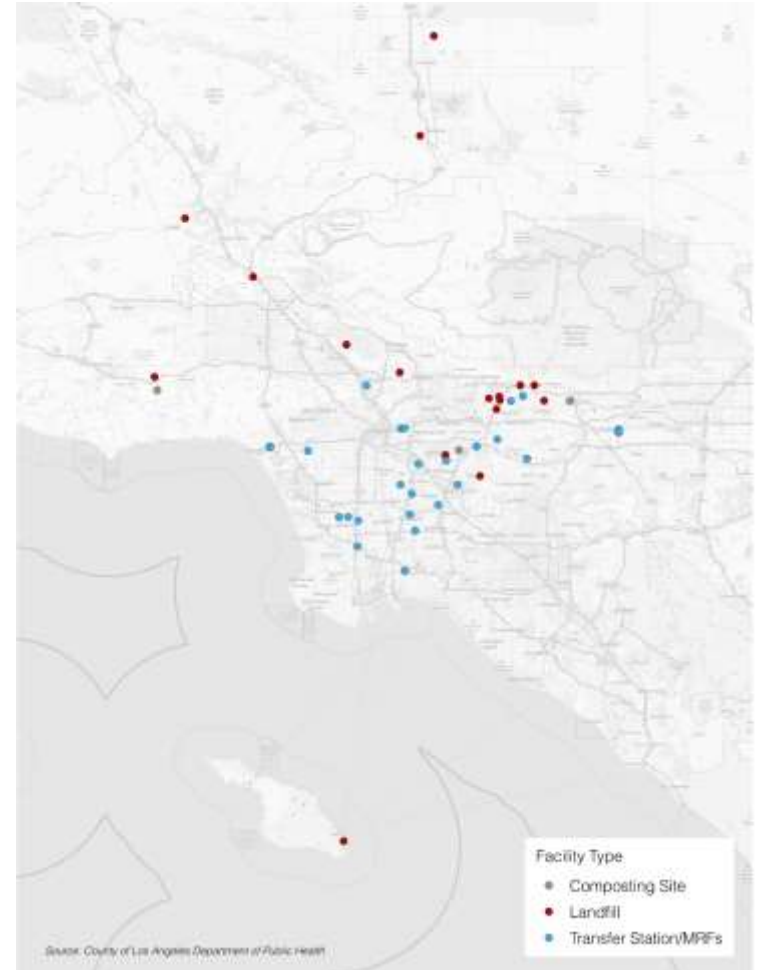


CalRecycle,(2018). *SB 1383 – Where we are Today*. Retrieved from <https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/docs/cr/Climate/SLCP/Presentation.pdf>



Where does the waste go?

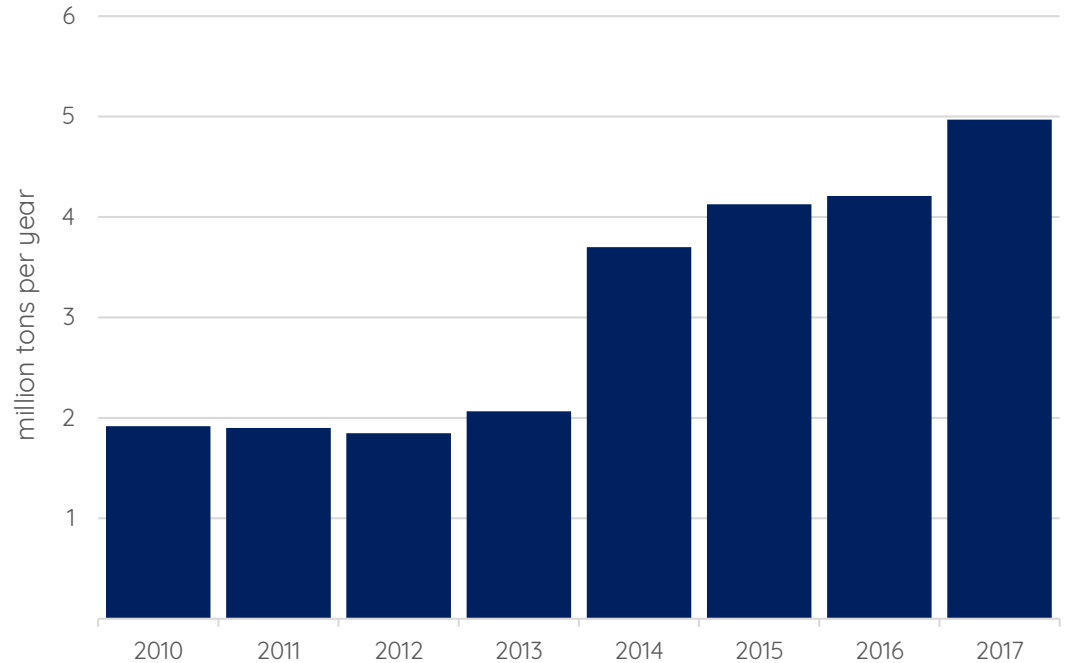
- Approximately 37 MSW transfer stations and/or MRFs, 19 chipping and grinding facilities for yard waste, composting sites and anaerobic digestion treatment facilities
- Waste management facilities tend to be concentrated in communities of color and lower income communities



Where does the waste go?

- MSW exports have increased annually over the last eight years
- Unincorporated areas are responsible for only 8% of the total landfilled waste but 60% of the landfills used for countywide disposal are in the unincorporated areas

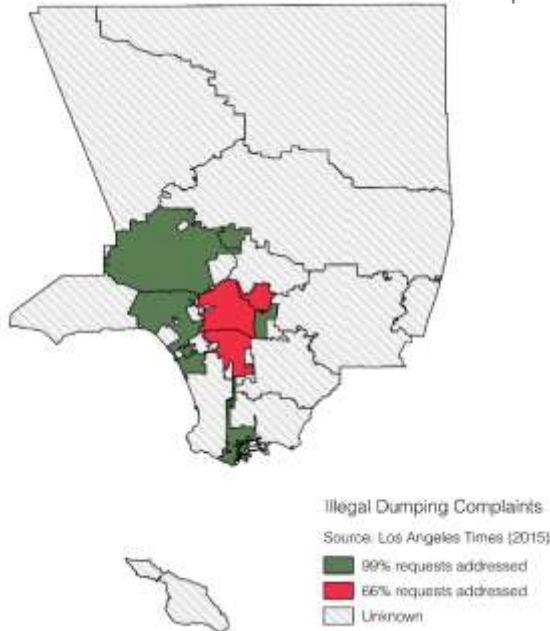
Annual Waste Exports from L.A. County



Data analyzed from CIWMP Annual Reports), SWIMS Disposal Reports , SWIMS Solid Waste Sites Database and the LACSD Website: Solid Waste and Recycling

Illegal Dumping

- Illegal dumping of MSW, C&D and Hazardous waste is a major issue across L.A. County. Approximately 14,000 tons of waste is illegally dumped per year in the unincorporated areas alone.
- Historical issues with cleanup being addressed in disadvantaged communities.



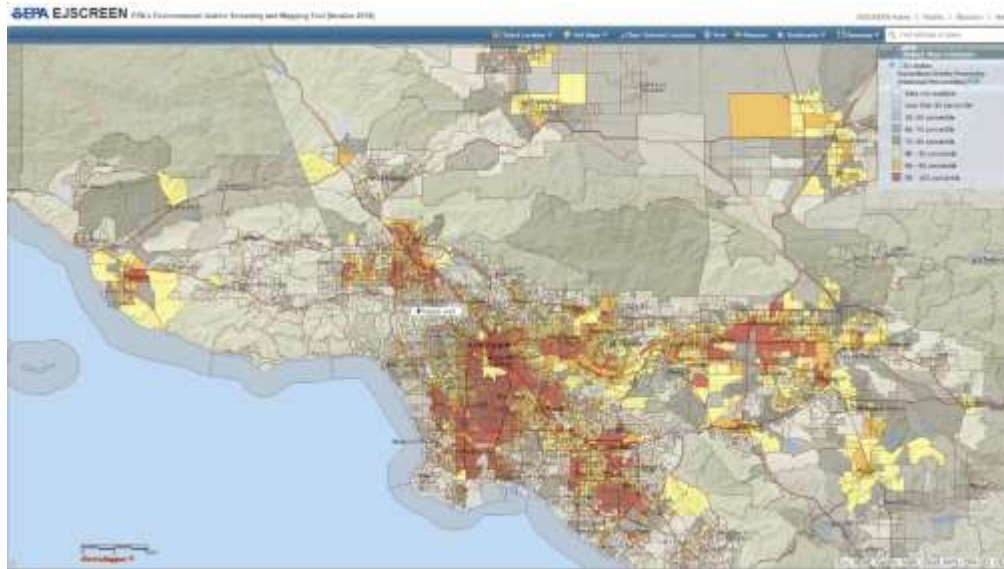
Analysis based on Poston, B. and Jamison, P. (2015). *L.A. trash agency ordered to clear backlog of illegal dumping complaints*. LA Times.



Credit: LA County DPW

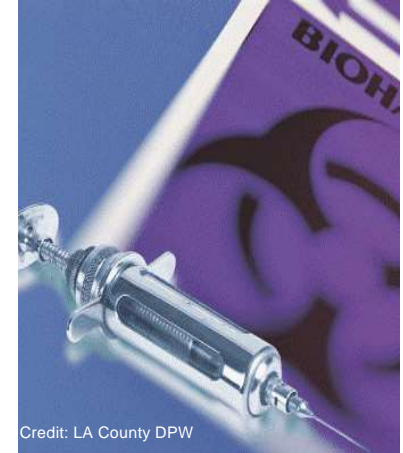
Hazardous Waste

- Hazardous waste in L.A. County is estimated to be as much as 20% of the total annual MSW.
- Approximately 26,000 hazardous waste generators in L.A. County
- Approximately 2.2 million tons of hazardous waste generated in L.A. County.



E-waste/Pharmaceuticals/Sharps

- California Electronic Waste Recycling Act of 2003 prohibits e-waste from landfill disposal.
- Residents are generating more e-waste due to the number of products purchased
- Pharmaceuticals are often flushed or disposed in the trash bin and may enter the aquatic environment
- Manufacturers may be required to implement takeback and education programs for sharps – SB 212



The Role of the County in Waste and Resource Management



- Department of Public Works fulfills a number of waste management roles – advising the Board of Supervisors, preparing the landfill Siting Element, coordinating and implementing unincorporated area waste programs and manage the franchise system and Garbage Disposal Districts (among other responsibilities).
- Department of Public Health’s Toxics Epidemiology Program identifies, controls and prevents the health effects associated with toxic agents in the L.A. County population
- L.A. County Fire Department’s Health Hazardous Materials Division (HHMD) manages the Hazardous Waste Generator Program.
- Other entities:
 - The Sanitation Districts of L.A. County accept solid waste to be processed or transferred from the waste haulers that serve various communities
 - Individual jurisdictions in L.A. County (e.g., Los Angeles, Long Beach, Santa Monica)

Draft Goals for Discussion



- A.** Pave the way toward a circular economy that encourages reuse, repair, and regeneration, while minimizing waste and pollution.
- B.** Eliminate the use of and exposure to toxic substances.
- C.** Reduce organic waste generated across L.A. County with the target of 75% diversion of organics by 2025.
- D.** Accelerate a waste free future by targeting the highest priority waste streams in a comprehensive approach that includes reduction, reuse, and resource recovery.
- E.** Address special waste streams with broad impact on county residents and ecosystems.

Topics and Descriptions



- **Organic Waste** – e.g., food waste, yard waste, composting, digestion and infrastructure.
- **Manufacturing & Remanufacturing** – e.g., increasing the reuse of plastics, textiles, e-waste, and other discarded materials sent to China, recyclables policy, and green manufacturing/green chemistry/industrial ecology opportunities.
- **Worker Safety, Green Economy and Jobs** – e.g., the waste sector is characterized by low-paying, dangerous jobs with high turnover, collection and franchising issues, etc.
- **Environmental Impacts** – e.g., air, water, soil & brownfields, land use, and ocean/marine and stormwater.
- **Public Health** – e.g., air pollution impact on adjacent communities, odors, nuisance, recycling businesses, pharmaceuticals and sharps, and unauthorized commercial activities in neighborhoods with noxious impacts.
- **Source Reduction/Natural Resources** – e.g., reduce the use of materials (especially plastics, textiles, e-waste), eliminate hazardous materials, environmental/health impacts, conservation and retailer/manufacturer takebacks.
- **What's Missing** – e.g., transportation and shipping?



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