



Date: October 26, 2023

To: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager 

From: Eric Lopez, Public Works Director 

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: **Commercial Organics Collection Program**

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Assembly Bill 1826 (AB 1826) and Senate Bill 1383 (SB 1383) both require jurisdictions to divert organic materials from the waste stream. To comply with state laws, the City Council adopted an Ordinance amending the City of Long Beach (City)'s municipal code and added organic waste collection services for residents and businesses in December 2021.

The City began collecting organic waste from City-serviced commercial accounts in June of 2021 and has continued to add accounts in phases as businesses are screened and resources are available. The City is in the process of implementing organics collection for the remaining City-serviced commercial accounts before the end of the calendar year. To ensure an effective roll out, the City team will send notification letters and provide multilingual in person education and training for each business over the coming months.

Participating businesses will be provided with a 64-gallon green cart to collect food scraps and landscape debris. This new cart shall be placed with the refuse and recycling carts and serviced on the same day. Collected organic materials will continue to be hauled to Puente Hills Material Recovery Facility for processing. Since the start of the commercial organics collection program, the City has diverted approximately 650 tons of organic waste.

Billing for commercial organics collection will begin in January 2024 per the rates set forth in the June 20, 2023 Resolution establishing solid waste service rates.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Erin Rowland General Superintendent of Operations, Waste Diversion and Recycling at (562) 570-2869.

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