



Date: January 2, 2024  
To: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager   
From: Eric Lopez, Public Works Director   
For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: **Partnership Pilot Program with Mattress Recycling Council**

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On April 1, 2023, the Public Works Department engaged in a pilot partnership with the Mattress Recycling Council to reduce illegal dumping of mattresses. The Mattress Recycling Council (MRC) is a nonprofit organization formed by the mattress industry which operates in states such as California that have enacted mattress recycling laws. The City of Long Beach's (City) participation in the MRC's "Bye Bye Mattress" program, a mattress recycling initiative, aligns with the City's commitment to environmental sustainability, waste-reduction education, and services.

The pilot program kicked off in April 2023 inviting Long Beach residents to recycle their used mattresses on the first Saturday of every month from 8AM - 2PM at 970 W Chester Place. To date, Public Works has recycled 174 mattresses from resident drop-offs through this new initiative. After mattresses are dropped off, Public Works sorts them for collection, and they are then taken to a recycling facility where they are cut open and separated into steel, foam, fiber, and wood. Over 75 percent of mattress components can be recycled thus reducing waste and illegal dumping while diverting mattresses from landfills. The recycled materials can be converted into other useful products such as carpet padding, insulation, or mulch. The program has been well received by Long Beach residents that have utilized this free service.

In 2024, Public Works will host 12 drop-off events and boost promotion of the pilot program through multi-lingual mailers, social media campaigns, and e-newsletter blasts in collaboration with the Bye Bye Mattress program.

If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact Marc Wright, Public Services Bureau Manager, at [Marc.Wright@longbeach.gov](mailto:Marc.Wright@longbeach.gov).

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