



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS TORRANCE AREA

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P.O. Box 964 · Torrance, CA 90508 · (310) 223-6897*

January 24, 2012

To: Honorable Mayor Scotto and Members of the Torrance City Council

From: Lola Ungar, Co-President LWVTorrance Area

It's about time! We members of the LWVTorrance Area have been waiting for years for curbside green waste recycling for the entire City of Torrance. Among the 88 cities in the County of Los Angeles, 85 of them have curbside green waste recycling. Surrounding cities like Redondo Beach, the Beach Cities, Rancho Palos Verdes, and Rolling Hills Estates are among the 85 cities, as are, Culver City, Santa Monica, Pasadena, Burbank, and Los Angeles. But, Torrance is not yet among them. We think that \$1.50 to \$2.50 is not too much extra to pay for green waste recycling for a total fee of \$25.08-\$26.08 per month when other cities charge as much as \$36 per month.

We know that all cities are required to reduce the amount of waste taken to landfills by 50% now (AB 939, 1989). The City of Torrance's green waste recycling will provide Alternate Daily Cover (ADC) at the landfill and will add approximately 14,500 tons of green waste annually or approximately 28% of the City collected residential waste stream for the entire city which will help us to reach our required 50% goal. In the future, new regulations will require us to recycle a minimum of 75% (AB 32). The LWVTorrance Area believes that continued education about curbside trash separation will help us to achieve that goal in the coming years.

All levels of League support measures regarding solid waste. Both, the League of Women Voters US and the LWVCalifornia support measures to ensure environmentally sound and efficient solid waste management, to reduce the generation of wastes, to encourage resource recovery, and to increase the demand for secondary materials. They also encourage and support education on these issues at all levels of government. LWVCalifornia, significantly, asserts that the state should provide supplemental financing for recycling facilities.

The League of Women Voters Los Angeles County supports increased efforts in waste reduction at the source and recycling after use, including mandatory curbside trash separation in order to minimize the need for waste-to-energy plants and other waste disposal facilities and their attendant environmental impacts.

The League of Women Voters Torrance Area supports city services that maintain a high quality of life; measures allowing for improved and additional services; and adequate funding for departments providing services.

Therefore, I encourage you Mayor Scotto and members of the City Council to vote to adopt the Resolution approving the proposed sanitation fee increase to finance a green waste recycling program for the City of Torrance.

It's about time!