



DATE: July 9, 2019

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Director of Public Works

SUBJECT: Adopt a Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Sign Letters of Support for Recycling Bills SB 54 and AB 1080

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts a resolution (Attachment II) authorizing the Mayor to send letters of support for Assembly Bill 1080 (AB 1080) and Senate Bill 54 (SB 54), both known as the California Circular Economy and Plastic Pollution Reduction Act..

SUMMARY

On July 8, 2019, the City Council Sustainability Committee (CSC) considered staff's recommendation to support AB 1080 and SB 54. The Committee's recommendation will be presented during the Council meeting. These two companion bills would set state goals to reduce waste from single-use packaging and products. It will also ensure the remaining items are effectively recycled and establish a comprehensive framework to address pollution in California.

BACKGROUND

In 1990, the Alameda County Recycling Board established the goal of at least 75% diversion of all discarded materials in Alameda County by 2010. In 2007, Council adopted a goal of diverting at least 75% of waste from the landfill by 2010. These ambitious goals have been made more difficult to achieve by recent changes to the recycling markets. In late 2017, China, ceased to accept most shipments of plastic and paper collected for recycling. China initiated a stringent policy against accepting bales of recyclables that contain more than half a percent to 1% non-recyclable material (contamination). Local processors of mixed paper and mixed plastic have struggled to meet the new contamination limits and sell material.

DISCUSSION

AB 1080 and SB 54, companion bills both known as the California Circular Economy and Plastic Pollution Reduction Act, provide a comprehensive framework to address single-use

plastic packaging and products by requiring source reduction and recycling of 75% by 2030, and 100% recyclable and compostable materials on or after 2030. If signed into law, CalRecycle will develop a Scoping Plan by 2021 to develop criteria to achieve the stated goals and to select the top ten priority packaging products that contribute to the litter problem. More information and frequently asked questions about the bills are included as Attachment III.

Stopwaste has identified these bills as high priority and has been working with the authors' staff along with Californians Against Waste (CAW) and the California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC). In addition to providing technical input, Stopwaste, CAW and CPSC focused their efforts to ensure that the impact to local jurisdictions with reporting requirements is minimized.

ECONOMIC/FISCAL IMPACTS

The reduction of plastic pollution can reduce litter, provide clean, pleasant areas for people to visit, and can increase the vitality of an area and the potential of visitors patronizing local businesses. The reduction of litter can benefit local businesses, especially retail, economically. There is no fiscal impact associated with this item as this is an information report only.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

This agenda item supports the Complete Communities Strategic Initiative. The purpose of the Complete Communities initiative is to create and support structures, services, and amenities to provide inclusive and equitable access with the goal of becoming a thriving and promising place to live, work and play for all. This item supports the following goal and objectives:

Goal 1: Improve quality of life for residents, business owners, and community members in all Hayward neighborhoods.

Objective 2: Foster a sense of place and support neighborhood pride.

Objective 3: Increase collaboration with businesses, non-profits and neighborhood groups on placemaking projects.

SUSTAINABILITY FEATURES

Reducing waste from single-use packaging and products, and ensuring the remaining items are effectively recycled, can help Hayward meet its diversion goals and reduce pollution.

PUBLIC CONTACT

This item was discussed at the CSC public meeting on July 8, 2019. Any public comments on the proposed legislation will be shared with Council on July 9, 2019.

NEXT STEPS

If approved by Council, staff will prepare letters of support for the Mayor's signature.

Prepared by: Jeff Krump, Solid Waste Program Manager

Recommended by: Alex Ameri, Director of Public Works

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kelly McAdoo', written in a cursive style.

Kelly McAdoo, City Manager