

March 31, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Skinner  
Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee  
1021 O Street, Suite 8630  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Phil Ting  
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee  
1021 O Street, Suite 8230  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Budget Request—\$180 million: Local Assistance for Organic Waste Recycling Program**

Dear Senator Skinner and Assemblymember Ting:

The City of Long Beach supports the League of California Cities' request for \$180 million to continue helping cities develop and implement organic waste recycling programs, as required by the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery's (CalRecycle) Organic Waste Reduction Regulations (SB 1383). This budget request builds on the \$60 million approved by the Legislature last year and will further help local governments implement this important greenhouse gas emission reducing program.

We appreciate the funding for SB 1383 local assistance approved in the FY 2021-22 Budget. However, additional funding is greatly needed. CalRecycle has estimated statewide implementation of SB 1383 will cost \$20 to \$40 billion over the next decade, including the addition of 50-100 new organic waste recycling facilities which are scarce in Southern California. CalRecycle received 470 applications for the initial round of funding, which is insufficient to support local government projects seeking resources.

Long Beach is a leader in advancing sustainability and is working diligently to implement SB 1383. Organics processing is an integral component of the City's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan to reduce short-lived climate pollutants by diverting organics from the waste stream, increasing the development of renewables, and reducing transportation emissions. Long Beach and other jurisdictions need State support to implement SB 1383 by hiring staff, arranging for appropriate collection services, establishing inspection and enforcement programs, procuring recovered organic waste products, providing education and outreach, and developing edible food recovery programs.

In addition to this request for local program development assistance, additional dedicated funding is needed for infrastructure development. California must significantly increase the number of organic waste recycling facilities to achieve the State's goals. We believe there is merit to supplementing this request with an infusion of state funding into CalRecycle's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Grant and Loan Programs to provide financial assistance to develop additional organic waste recycling infrastructure.

For these reasons, the City requests the Legislature support the request for \$180 million in local assistance.

Sincerely,



THOMAS B. MODICA  
City Manager

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly  
The Honorable Lena Gonzalez, State Senate, 33<sup>rd</sup> District  
The Honorable Tom Umberg, State Senate, 34<sup>th</sup> District  
The Honorable Steven Bradford, State Senate, 35<sup>th</sup> District  
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64<sup>th</sup> District  
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70<sup>th</sup> District

