

SWARM Subcommittee Teleconference Wednesday, May 13, 2020 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Summary

Welcome:

Ms. Shari Afshari, Deputy Director of Los Angeles County Public Works, welcomed everyone to the call. Ms. Afshari reminded participants of our shared goal for Infrastructure LA to serve as an opportunity to connect with other local jurisdictions and work together as a region on solid waste related issues.

Impacts of COVID-19 on the implementation of Senate Bill (SB) 1383: Challenges and Potential Solutions Presentations:

- In addition to the welcoming remarks, Ms. Afshari provided a background on the challenges of SB 1383 and COVID-19 on Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management.
- Presentations were provided by Derek Dolfie, Legislative Advocate from League of California Cities and Lisa Rapp, Director of Public Works for City of Lakewood.
- 127 participants joined the call.
 - Participants included many representatives from local cities as well as the County Sanitation Districts and the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force.
 - Cities represented included: Long Beach, Pasadena, Torrance, Santa Monica, Malibu, San Dimas, and many more, and likely more than half of the 88 cities in the County were represented.

Next Steps:

- Sending a joint letter and/or individual letters from local jurisdictions to CalRecyle requesting good faith efforts be considered in enforcement of SB 1383.
- Petitioning the Governor to pass an Executive Order to extend compliance requirements until after termination of the current emergency.
- Having jurisdictions focus on edible food recovery first as a way to help those struggling due to impacts of COVID-19 and also address organics recycling requirements.
- Ms. Afshari will attend the League of California Cities meeting with CalRecycle on May 18, 2020, to discuss extending regulatory deadlines associated with mandatory organics recycling regulations. Ms. Faith Conley, the County's legislative advocate in Sacramento has been invited to join the call and requested that someone from Public Works join her. Ms. Afshari will follow up if CalRecycle is open to any of the League's suggestions.
- Forming a coalition to look into waste tracking software, such as Recyclist and Minerva and exploring joint purchasing with multiple cities to reduce costs.

Public Works looks forward to hosting similar discussions related to waste management and recycling in the future through the Infrastructure LA platform.