August 8, 2019

The Honorable Ben Hueso
California State Senate, 40th District
State Capitol, Room 4035
Sacramento, CA 95814

    City of Beverly Hills - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Hueso,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I am pleased to write to you in SUPPORT of your SB 667, which will require the Department of Resources and Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to develop a five-year needs assessment to support the development of the infrastructure necessary to meet the state’s organic waste reduction and recycling requirements.

In 2016, the Legislature passed SB 1383 (Lara) which set an organic waste disposal reduction target of 50 percent by 2020 and 75 percent by 2025. This requires Californians to dispose of no more than 2.7 pounds of organic waste per day, in order to meet the 2025 goal. According to CalRecycle the estimated net cost to implement SB 1383 (Lara, 2016) will be $4 billion. However, for the last few years, the state has only allocated approximately $25-$40 million in cap-and-trade auction revenues to CalRecycle’s organic waste recycling program. Without increased support from the state, complying with CalRecycle regulations will result in significant costs to local governments.

SB 667 will require CalRecycle, in coordination with the Treasurer and the California Pollution Control Financing Authority (CPCFA), on or before June 1, 2021, to develop financial incentive mechanisms to fund organic waste diversion and recycling infrastructure. It will also require the Treasurer to coordinate with the states of Nevada, Oregon, and Washington on infrastructure financing to support the recycling needs of the region. Providing these financial incentives and facilitating interstate coordination will help local governments comply with state regulations and meet their organic waste reduction and recycling goals.
SB 667 is a valuable tool for local jurisdictions to develop the infrastructure necessary to properly manage all waste and to meet the state's solid and organic waste goals. For these reasons, the City of Beverly Hills is pleased to SUPPORT your SB 667. Thank you for authoring this important measure.

Sincerely,

John A. Mirisch
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
    The Honorable Ben Allen, 26th Senate District
    The Honorable Richard Bloom, 50th Assembly District
    Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw / Yoder / Antwih, Inc.