

Department of Public Works Environmental Services Bureau – Recycling Division

Long Beach Sustainable City Commission
January 25, 2018

What is the PW-Environmental Services Bureau?

- Oversee Public Works operations for:
 - Refuse
 - Recycling
 - Street Sweeping
 - Parking Enforcement
 - Clean Team
- 117,622 refuse & recycling accounts
- 186,522 tons of refuse collected annually
- 155,000 miles of streets swept annually
- 11,125 tons of debris collected

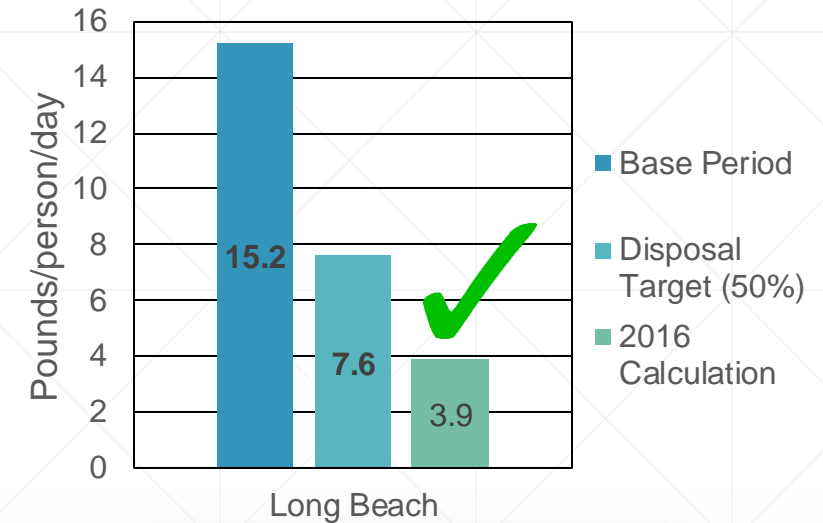


What Does PW-ESB's Recycling Division Do?

- Maintain the City's compliance with applicable State laws
- Develop & implement City's Residential recycling, organics, waste reduction and household hazardous waste programs
- Administer Citywide Commercial non-exclusive franchise agreements for collection of recycling and disposal of solid waste
- Provide public outreach and education efforts to residents, businesses, schools and City staff
- Lead development of waste diversion policies (e.g., EPS foodware ordinance, Zero Waste Plan)

State Waste Reduction Law Compliance

- SB 1016: Solid Waste Disposal Measurement Act
- Each jurisdiction's 50% target is unique.
 - For Long Beach (pounds/person/day of trash):
 - 15.2 baseline, 7.6 reduction goal
 - **Current: 3.9 p/p/d** (better than State mandate)
- ESB monitors programs & reports activities to CA Dept. of Resources Recycling & Recovery (CalRecycle)



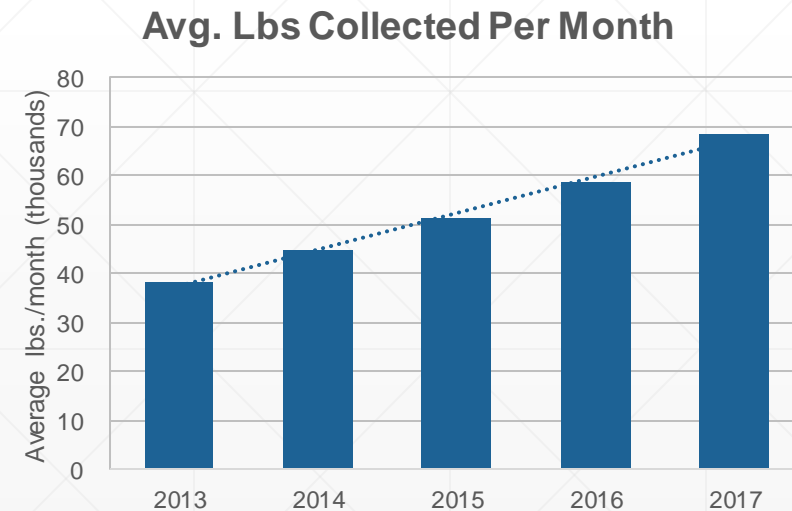
Recycling in City Collection Operations

- **City Residential Customers - “Special Collection”**
 - 2 free on-call bulky item pick-ups per year
 - E-waste, appliances and tires are collected separately and recycled
 - Starting in February 2018, mattresses and box springs will be collected for recycling and not disposal



Household Hazardous Waste Program

- HHW/E-Waste Drop-Off Events expanded in 2017
 - 2nd Saturday each month
 - 4th Saturdays added
 - 10 more events per year: more opportunities for public
- Improper disposal = environmental & human health risks



Organics & Food Recovery Programs

- **Food Finders**

- Food recovery for people in need
- As of 2016, 205 Long Beach businesses/schools participating (28% increase over 2015)
 - Of those, 77 schools, which donated 131,739 lbs of food in 2016 that may have otherwise been thrown away.

- **Green Waste Diversion**

- Holiday “Treecycling” Program: ~200 tons/year
- City street tree mulching: 2,600 tons/year
 - Includes Office of Sustainability Mulch Delivery/Pickup program



Public Education & Outreach Efforts

- **Recycling Outreach at Community Events**

- Provide recycling & waste reduction education to the public
- Reach ~30,000 people annually

- **Community Workshops**

- Free, monthly “Learn to Compost” Workshops
- Presentations to community groups upon request
- In 2017, staff gave 15 presentations for ~400 residents

- **LB Recycles on Social Media**

- Average reach on Facebook: ~34,000 weekly
- Average impressions on Twitter: ~20,000 monthly



Facebook: Long Beach Recycles
Twitter: @LBRecycles

Polystyrene Foodware Container Ordinance

- Will go back to City Council for ordinance approval
- **Developing education & outreach campaign** to raise awareness and support covered businesses, including:
 - Explaining ordinance
 - Benefits and examples of compliant foodware container alternatives
 - “Upon Request” requirement for straws and utensils to-go
- **Recognition Program**
 - Working with Office of Sustainability for “Green Business Recognition Program”
 - Will promote businesses that comply early through website, social media and print ads



2017 Accomplishments

- **New Residential Recycling Contract programs**
 - 1st Annual “Recycle Your Bicycle” program
 - *41 bicycles collected, 27 refurbished & donated*
 - 1st Annual “Shoe Recycling” donation program
 - *457 pairs of shoes & 120 sweatshirts donated*
 - 1st Semi-Annual Document Shredding event
 - *7.92 tons of documents shredded, 292 cars attended*
 - *Next event March 10, 2018 at Vet’s Stadium*
- **New Clean Team/Litter-free LB programs**
 - “Can Your Butts” Cigarette Litter Prevention program



Focus Areas for 2018

- **Expanding Public Education**
 - Developing “Bring Your Own” residential campaign
 - Develop new public education workshops to support existing “Learn to Compost” Workshops
 - Spanish-language Learn to Compost Workshop
 - “Learn to Recycle” Workshops
 - **Zero-Waste Plan Development**
 - Complete Organics Study
 - Begin Waste Characterization Study
 - Membership to the CA Product Stewardship Council
 - **Clean Team Program**
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Questions?