

**Staff Jurisdiction Analysis Summary
City of Escondido, San Diego County
2016-19 CalRecycle Jurisdiction Review Cycle**

Based upon review of diversion program implementation, LAMD staff recommends the City of Escondido (City) as making a good faith effort (GFE). The City's population per capita disposal rate surpassed its target in 2017, 2018 and 2019 by .3 - .5 pounds per person per day (PPD) each year. The relatively small, consistent amount over target could be due to disposal misallocations as the City is host to a large regional Material Recovery Facility (MRF). The hauler has begun an extensive review of tickets for incoming loads to verify all origins of materials, but has not been able to acquire the necessary documentation yet. LAMD staff verified all programs. Diversion programs are effective as summarized below:

Residential:

- The City has an adequate residential program for both single-family residences and multi-family complexes. All single-family residents participate in a mandatory 3-cart source separated program while multi-family participate in mandatory trash services but must subscribe to recycling and organics recycling. The 2019 franchise agreement requires automatic recycling and organics recycling services.
- An effective program is reflected in that the residential recovery rate was 50 percent throughout the review cycle.
- The residential program targets all predominant recoverable material types such as plastics #1-#7, including block EPS. Curbside food waste collection service began February 1, 2021.
- Education and outreach is adequate. Both the City and the hauler provide outreach in multiple media types, including social media, web and flyers in both English and Spanish.
- The hauler actively addresses contamination through a tagging system and direct contact phone calls, followed by educational brochures, as well as waste sorts conducted twice per year at the material recovery facility to monitor contamination.
- The Franchise Agreement provides specific requirements on hauler performance for collection, records, education and outreach.

Commercial:

- The City's commercial sector services are adequate with mixed recycling and green waste services offered through the exclusive franchise hauler. During the review cycle participation and recovery of commercial green waste increased.
- Commercial food waste services will commence in summer 2021 now that organics processing capacity recently became available to the City.
- Commercial recycling and commercial organic recycling is now mandatory.

- The City and hauler provide adequate education and outreach covering all media types. Noncompliant businesses are provided education and resources on how to become compliant, by mail, electronically, and in person.
- To further increase recycling and control contamination, the hauler and City Recycling Division employees conduct waste assessments for businesses to educate customers about ways to reduce the amount of waste generated and increase the recycling stream.

Mandatory Commercial Recycling (MCR):

- The City increased compliance throughout the review cycle, with 79 percent of covered businesses and 92 percent of covered multifamily complexes participating in recycling.
- The City's franchise hauler will commence providing recycling and organics recycling services to the remaining commercial generators in the second half of 2021.
- To effectively combat contamination and increase diversion, the City's municipal code requires businesses to source separate their recyclables and participate in recycling.
- The City and the hauler both conduct extensive education, outreach and monitoring via all media types.

Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling (MORe):

Although in 2019 compliance with MORe was 23 percent for businesses and 34 percent for multifamily complexes, the Anaerobic Digestion (AD) facility, which will be used by the City, is now open and the City has updated its MORe plan to increase participation by the end of 2021.

Up until this point, the City has implemented the following with regards to its MORe program:

- Implemented the commercial green waste programs and initiated commercial edible food recovery programs.
- Developed and employed a method to identify all regulated businesses that are self-hauling or using third party haulers.
- Identified accounts subject to the lowered two cubic yard threshold.
- Implemented its planned education and outreach activities, with a focus on food prevention and recovery prior to the AD facility opening.
- During the review cycle, the City and its franchise hauler have performed waste audits, distributed education materials, and reached out to businesses through site visits, letters, and phone calls.

Government:

Overall, the City's government programs are adequate due to a variety of practices:

- The City exercises source reduction through double-sided printing, and reusing office supplies and surplus equipment.

- All City departments and locations participate in mixed recycling with the exclusive franchised hauler. The City has a large and successful battery-recycling program, a toner and ink cartridge-recycling program, as well as asphalt and concrete recycling.
- The City processes tree-trimming debris into mulch through a landscape contractor, and then uses it for City landscaping, or provides the mulch free to residents.
- Staff are educated on recycling programs via intranet, e-newsletters, bin signage, community education days, and new employee trainings.
- All departments are required via an Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy to purchase postconsumer recycled-content printing and writing paper whenever an adequate product is available and feasible. The City promotes purchases of recycled content products in monthly newsletters and reminder emails.

Construction & Demolition Debris (C&D):

- The City's C&D program is appropriate with a majority of all building and demolition projects using the exclusive C&D franchised hauler that hauls mixed C&D loads to the Lemon Grove mixed Construction and Demolition Material Recovery Facility that recovers 67 percent of all incoming mixed C&D loads. For those few that self-haul, the City is working on a system which will ensure 65 percent diversion.
- The City has adopted CALGreen requirements in municipal code.
- All C&D projects submit a Waste Management Plan (WMP) that includes CALGreen requirements.
- Education implemented for C&D requirements is limited to the WMP packet. Per City staff, C&D monitoring and tracking needs improvement. City staff is addressing these gaps and is currently making improvements. Also, since the majority of all building and demolition projects use the exclusive C&D franchised hauler, 67 percent of all incoming mixed C&D loads is recycled.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW):

- The City's HHW program sufficiently serves its citizens with a permanent HHW facility that is open twice a month, along with two more HHW facilities nearby in Vista and Poway which Escondido residents may use.
- Many locations exist for paint, oil collection, and prescription drug collection in or nearby the City.
- HHW education is very adequate since the City is a member of a regional HHW educational initiative which provides education to residents through large events, websites, and hotlines. The City also has an updated HHW website, uses social media to promote their HHW program, and hands out HHW brochures.
- The hauler holds e-waste and paper shredding events at local schools, which usually have large public participation, and are an additional opportunity to provide HHW education to residents.