



Staff Report

Date: November 30, 2020
 To: Natural Resources Commission
 From: Jennifer Gilbert, Conservation Coordinator
 Richard Tsai, Environmental Resources Manager
 Adrienne Heinig, Management Analyst
 Subject: Solid Waste Program Update

Recommendation

Receive informational report.

Background and Analysis

The Integrated Waste Management Act, (IWMA) and the per capita disposal measurement system (Chapter 343, Statutes of 2008) require annual reporting by each jurisdiction to the California Department of Resources, Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle). The annual report includes the numbers used to calculate a per capita disposal rate and a status report on planned and implemented solid waste diversion programs. The Annual Report submitted to CalRecycle is included as Attachment 1, and contains a summary of solid waste program performance and outreach activities in 2019.

CalRecycle’s 2019 reporting year calculated residential target for Davis was 3.8 pounds of waste generated per person per day (50% diversion equivalent). Davis met and exceeded that target with a calculated residential disposal rate of 3.0 pounds/person/day, which represents approximately 61% diversion of waste from the landfill. The 2019 statewide diversion number has not yet been published, but CalRecycle has indicated that the 40% diversion rate from 2018 was not expected to increase by much, and likely has not reached the statewide goal of a 75% diversion by 2020.

The chart below compares the amount of trash hauled by Recology Davis/Davis Waste Removal during the last 5 years.

Recology Hauled Tonnage Comparison

	Residential Trash	Difference	Commercial Trash	Difference	Landfill Drop Boxes	Difference	Total	Difference
2015	9,754		12,119		5,435		27,308	
2016	9,189	-5.8%	12,551	+3.6%	6,389	+17.6%	28,129	+3.0%
2017	8,300	- 9.7%	12,776	+1.8%	5,358	-16.1%	26,435	-6.0%
2018	8,331	+ 0.4%	12,215	-4.4%	6,416	+20.0%	26,974	+2.0%
2019	8,295	-0.43%	12,572	+2.84%	6,662	+3.69%	27,529	+2.02%

2020 has been a challenging year for everyone, not only for the City's Solid Waste Program. Many programs and events planned after March 2020 were cancelled due to the shelter-in-place order instituted by the County as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic, and activities remain limited as the County sees an increase in cases. Highlighted activities that were cancelled this year include the following:

- Celebrations and giveaways planned for the City's 50th anniversary of the City's recycling program (scheduled for April 2020, with many activities at the Davis Farmer's Market)
- Bulky Items Drop-Off Days (scheduled for April 2020)
- Compost and Mulch Give Away Event (scheduled for April 2020)
- Recology Davis Shred Event (scheduled for April 2020)
- The Apartment Move-Out Waste Reduction Program (scheduled for June through September 2020)

With adaptations for the restrictions of the pandemic, staff worked to provide programming with appropriate social distancing in place (with classes offered remotely) and worked with Recology to find solutions to allow programs to operate within current limitations. Highlights of these activities that were conducted by the Solid Waste Program during 2020 include:

- One-Time Bulky Waste Landfill Voucher program (to offset the cancellation of the Bulky Items Drop-off): as of the beginning of November, 651 vouchers have been redeemed)
- Virtual Classes: 2 backyard composting classes and a zero waste class via Zoom (held in April and October)
- Apartment waste enclosure signage pilot program (with a high subscription rate, and a waiting list)
- Issued a request for proposals for a SB 1383 Implementation Plan, as CalRecycle has finalized the regulations related to the bill, that will go into effect in January 2022.

Attachments:

1. 2019 Solid Waste Annual Report Summary