



City of Riverside, California
Office of the Mayor

PATRICIA LOCK DAWSON



April 14, 2023

The Honorable Chris Holden
Chair, Assembly Committee on Appropriations
1021 O St, Room 8220
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 573 (Garcia) Organic Waste – As Amended 3-16/23 - SUPPORT

Dear Chairman Holden,

On behalf of the City of Riverside, I write to express our support for AB 573, which would allow local jurisdictions to comply with the state's recovered organic waste procurement requirements by procuring California-derived organic waste products processed at out-of-state facilities.

More than half of the materials disposed in California's landfills annually are organics subject to SB 1383 (Lara, Chapter 395, Statutes of 2016) requirements. SB 1383, in part, requires the Air Resources Board to approve and implement a comprehensive strategy to achieve a 40% reduction in methane by 2030. SB 1383 also specifies that the methane emission reduction goals include targets to reduce the landfill disposal of organic waste 75% by 2025. In order to achieve these goals, California's waste management infrastructure must recycle much higher quantities of organic materials, involving significant investments in additional processing infrastructure.

CalRecycle has established procurement requirements for jurisdictions, and currently, the regulations require that the procurement targets be met by purchasing materials from in-state organic waste processors. Many cities and counties have struggled to meet their procurement targets due to a limited amount of organic waste infrastructure across the state. Additionally, some jurisdictions ship materials out of state for processing because they are closer to facilities across state lines than they are to California-based processors.

AB 573 will help local jurisdictions meet procurement requirements by allowing California-derived material processed at existing out-of-state compost facilities to count towards procurement, which will reduce both vehicle miles traveled and potential financial impacts on ratepayers.

For these reasons, the City of Riverside supports AB 573. If you have questions regarding the City's position, please contact Chekesha Gilliam, Intergovernmental Relations Officer at (951) 826-2419 or CGilliam@riversideca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patricia Lock Dawson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Patricia Lock Dawson
Mayor, City of Riverside

cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Committee on Appropriations
The Honorable Eduardo Garcia
City of Riverside Legislative Delegation