

2017 General Plan Guideline

Information related to Integrated Solid Waste Management

The following is a list of the webpage links, page numbers, and a brief summary of the information in the GPG that is related to integrated solid waste management.

http://opr.ca.gov/docs/OPR_C4_final.pdf

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Solid and Liquid Disposal Facilities

Requirement Description:

- The land use element must plan for the use of land for “solid and liquid waste disposal facilities” (Gov. Code § 65302(a)). Plans should include an inventory of existing solid and liquid waste disposal, recycling, anaerobic digestion, remanufacturing and composting facilities to aid compliance with the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan and other associated laws as noted below.
- Waste reduction and recycling is an essential element of a sustainable community. In addition to conserving resources and protecting the environment, reducing waste and remanufacturing products using recycled materials benefits local communities by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, creating jobs, addressing food insecurity, and has many other benefits.
- Based upon projected land uses and population growth as well as potential opportunities to reduce waste streams, the land use element should consider the infrastructure that is needed to recover edible food waste and facilitate its delivery to food banks and other appropriate entities.
- The element should also consider the potential need for additional recycling, anaerobic digestion, composting and remanufacturing facilities. For example, recycling organic materials through composting, mulching, and anaerobic digestion – pursuant to SB 1383, the Short Lived Climate Pollutants Act of 2016, the Solid Waste: Diversion Act of 2011, the Solid Waste: Organic Waste Act of 2014 (SWOWA), the AB 32 Scoping Plan, and local requirements – can produce renewable energy and fuel and reduce GHG emissions.
- The land use element should also include a transparent and proactive process to involve potentially impacted or disadvantaged communities in the early stages of facility planning and permitting processes.
- In October of 2015, Governor Brown signed AB 876 (McCarty) to address longer-term planning for organics infrastructure by requiring counties and regional agencies to report the following information to CalRecycle commencing on August 1, 2017. Addressing the facilities that may need to be expanded or sited to process the organic materials in 15 years will require each county or regional agency to assess its unique situation, including existing facilities and their ability to process the material, and any new or expanded facilities that can be identified.
- The publication, [Model Goals, Policies, Zoning, and Development Standards for Composting and Remanufacturing Facilities](http://www.ca-ilg.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/model_ordinance_final.pdf) (http://www.ca-ilg.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/model_ordinance_final.pdf) is intended to educate and inform local policy-makers and planners about land use planning approaches and zoning tools to encourage the economically beneficial use of recyclable materials generated in California. It identifies options and model

language for general plan goals and policies, as well as zoning ordinance standards related to anaerobic digestion, composting, and remanufacturing facilities using recycled materials. These examples provide a starting point that can be modified to fit individual city or county circumstances.

- Alameda County adopted its [Community Climate Action Plan](#) in February of 2014. It builds off the county’s already exemplary waste management programs by establishing a target of diverting 90 percent of all waste from landfills by 2030 with an interim goal of 82.5 percent by 2020. To achieve this, the county has outlined measures and strategies that include mandatory household and commercial food waste recycling and a corresponding outreach and education program.

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- It is important to address food access as part of the entire food system.
- Waste disposal has been a component of some local general plans as local jurisdictions have gone toward zero waste policies.
 - Some jurisdictions, including Fresno, Orange County, Los Angeles, and San Diego have combined food recovery programs to reduce waste going to compost and ensuring the food is delivered to those most in need.
 - This work also aligns with [SB 1383 \(2016\)](#) which requires a goal of at least 20% food recovery for human consumption by 2025 ([Pub. Resources Code § 42652.5\(a\)\(2\)](#)).

http://opr.ca.gov/docs/OPR_C9_final.pdf

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Integrated Waste Management

- Public Resources Code section 41701 states that if a county determines that the existing capacity of a solid waste facility will be exhausted within 15 years or if the county desires additional capacity, then the countywide siting element of the county’s hazardous waste management plan must identify an area or areas, consistent with the applicable general plan, for the location of new solid waste transformation or disposal facilities or for the expansion of existing facilities.

PART 1

Generalized examples of local municipal code changes, zoning changes, or policy directions that could apply broadly to the community within the general plan or climate action plan area:

Energy

- › Create incentive programs to promote the use of biomass wastes, including agricultural, forest, and urban woody waste materials, and livestock manure and sewage sludge, for the generation of biofuels and electricity.

Transportation and Land Use

- › Support biogas use in the transportation sector.

Natural and Working Lands (NWL)

- › Adopt ordinance preserving and enhancing carbon sequestration of wetlands, forests, croplands, and grasslands.

Agriculture

- › Provide incentives for carbon sequestration and carbon-based conservation farming techniques - including the use of biochar and compost from biomass wastes that would have otherwise been landfilled or open pile burned.
- › Promote value-added alternatives, such as compost, energy, biochar, and wood products to avoid open burning of agricultural biomass wastes.
- › Develop incentives to reduce application of pesticides and fertilizers.

Water

- › Adopt water-efficient landscaping ordinance, including use of compost/mulch, to reduce water use.

Waste Management

- › Prohibit disposal of organic materials at landfills and/or prohibit jurisdiction's hauler(s) and self-haulers from taking organic material to landfills.
- › Require that collected organics materials be used in edible food recovery programs or as feedstock for composting and anaerobic digestion; include assessment of 15 years organics recycling capacity needs in General Plan; and provide appropriate zoning in compatible areas for large and community-scale compost and digestion operations.
- › Require implementation of residential and commercial recycling, organics collection, and edible food recovery programs.

- › Require generators of edible food to have contracts/agreements with food rescue organizations and prohibit edible food from being disposed or destroyed.
- › Require procurement of locally produced biogas, compost, and mulch.
- › Adopt ordinance for zero waste goals.
- › Adopt ordinance requiring hauling routes that minimize vehicle emissions compared to current practice (e.g., through use of renewable fuels, route optimization plan, etc.).
- › Adopt a construction & demolition waste recycling ordinance.
- › Adopt green building standards that include targets to exceed minimum State building standards for new construction, including requiring new construction to include bin space for organics recycling.
- › Require that landfills incorporate the financial impact of organics disposal reductions pursuant to SB 1383 into their Financial Assurance plans.
- › Create an effective solid waste management plan to reduce source generation and to divert waste from landfills to achieve emission reductions.
- › Ensure compost materials meets standards to be used in rural lands application for carbon sequestration.

Short-Lived Climate Pollutants

- › Require biogas generation at wastewater treatment plants and methane capture at landfill facilities.
- › Require that air conditioning and refrigeration units in new construction (and at major renovation) rely on refrigerants with low global warming potential (e.g., they use CO2 or ammonia instead of hydro fluorocarbons).
- › Promote alternative disposal options for woody biomass wastes to avoid open pile burning.

Green Buildings

- › Require local ordinance to provide for adequate space for recycling/organics collection in all new residential and commercial construction.
- › Require implementation of CALGreen building code requirements to divert and recycle construction and demolition waste, and use locally-sourced building materials and recycled content building materials, including mulch/compost, to the extent possible.

PART 2

Examples of mitigation measures that could be required of individual projects

Construction

- › Divert and recycle demolition waste, and use locally-sourced building and recycled content materials to the extent possible.

Operation

- › Require organic collection in new development.
- › Incorporate water retention in design of parking lots and landscape.