

STAFF REPORT
City of Lancaster

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Date: September 13, 2011

To: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

From: Robert C. Neal, Director of Public Works

Subject: **California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery Public Entity Illegal Disposal Site Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 through Fiscal Year 2013-2014**

Recommendation:

Adopt **Resolution No. 11-66**, approving the application for grant funds from the solid waste disposal site cleanup trust fund; and if selected, approving the execution of a standard agreement and any amendments thereto; and any related documents necessary to participate in the Public Entity Illegal Disposal Site Grant Program within the City of Lancaster. Authorize the City Manager or his designee to execute any documents necessary to receive such funds and to take other actions as needed to facilitate the proposed CalRecycle for Public Entity Illegal Disposal Site Grant Program in its entirety.

Fiscal Impact:

None.

Background:

On September 15, 2011, staff submitted an application to CalRecycle to receive grant funds in the amount of Three Hundred Ninety-Three Thousand, Seven Hundred and Forty-Four Dollars (\$393,744.00) for the Public Entity Illegal Disposal Site Grant Program, authorized by the California Tire Recycling Management Fund, to administer Assembly Bill 2136 (Eastin, Statutes of 1993, Ch. 655) and related legislation. As a requirement of the Public Entity Illegal Disposal Site Grant Program, an approved resolution is required to adopt the program and its implementation. If efforts are successful in acquiring the award of grant funds, the City will use the funds to address complaints, educate the public on illegal dumping, and eliminate health and safety hazards within our community.

The primary objective of the Public Entity Illegal Disposal Site Grant Program is to cleanup solid waste sites and solid waste at co-disposal sites where the responsible party is unknown, unwilling, or unable to pay for timely remediation and where cleanup is required to protect public health and safety and/or the environment. Historically, properties where illegal dumping occurs lose economic value; create public health and safety problems; and degrade the enjoyment and pride in the affected communities.

The Public Entity Illegal Disposal Site Grant Program encourages activities that promote awareness of illegal dumping and the reduction of blight, as well as education on proper disposal practices. Activities include illegal disposal site cleanup, hazardous waste disposal, sorting of recyclables, and the installation of barriers to reduce illegal activity. Additionally, the program allows City Inspectors to conduct surveillance on active illegal dumping areas, seek cost of recovery for cleanup projects, and criminally prosecute violators. These activities will contribute to recycling and waste reduction efforts throughout the City of Lancaster, as well as address health and safety hazards within the community.

Currently, the City of Lancaster has 153 observed illegal disposal sites. Supplementary observations have revealed that most of the dumping is comprised of household hazardous waste, construction materials, and green waste, which includes 30 locations with possible hazardous waste materials. The City of Lancaster's Public Works Department will be active in observing, reporting, and participating in the cleanup activities throughout the City. Public Works staff will report, log, and identify patterns of illegal dumping activity throughout the City in order to reduce waste and restore areas prone to illegal dumping.

The intent of the Public Entity Illegal Disposal Site Grant Program is to directly increase services to our citizens and the community as a whole, and enhance efforts to remove solid waste that poses a health and safety hazard and a source of blight within the community. Additionally, this program conforms to the City of Lancaster's "Going Green" philosophy and works in harmony with the goals and directives of the Public Works Department's environmental compliance objectives and community service goals.

Attachment:

Resolution No. 11-66