

STAFF REPORT
City of Lancaster

CC 10
02/14/12
MVB

Date: February 14, 2012

To: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

From: Robert C. Neal, Director of Public Works

Subject: **California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)
Covered Electronic Waste Recovery and Recycling Collection Payment
System**

Recommendation:

Adopt **Resolution No. 12-11**, approving the application for the City of Lancaster (City) to become certified and participate in the Covered Electronic Waste Recovery and Recycling Payment System; and if selected, approving the execution of a standard agreement and any amendments thereto; and any related documents necessary to participate in the Covered Electronic Waste Recovery and Recycling Payment System within the City. Authorize the City Manager, or his/her designee, to execute any documents necessary to register and take other actions appropriate to facilitate the application, in its entirety, including the execution of all contracts or agreements with an approved certified electronic waste recycler.

Fiscal Impact:

An estimated \$30,000.00 in annual revenue could be generated by selling the e-waste to a certified recycling center.

Background:

Currently, the City's Maintenance Facility provides an invaluable service to its citizens by accepting and receiving electronic recycling products such as computers, televisions, monitors, circuit boards, and other miscellaneous electronic equipment at no charge, on a daily basis. These electronic waste items are picked up and removed by a certified recycling company in conjunction with Waste Management. The City's lack of State certification has reduced the City's monetary recycling rate by a significant amount. Additional expenses have also been levied against the City through charges associated with accepting and removing certain types of mixed electronics. Once the City becomes a certified collection and drop off point for electronic waste, it will be entitled to a minimum State recycling rate, standard for all electronics that are deposited at the City's Maintenance Facility.

In order to expand its electronic waste recycling efforts, and provide funding for administrative and operational costs with sorting, organizing, and assisting the public with electronic waste, the City is requesting to become a certified Electronic Waste Collector that is registered by the State. By becoming a certified Electronic Waste Collector, the City will

be able to obtain an increased recycling rate per pound for all electronics it receives. This increased rate, along with advertising and promotional activities, will create a residual revenue stream that supersedes the City's previous monetary compensation. Additionally, the City's Maintenance Facility will be listed as a location for citizens to dispose of and recycle their used or broken electronics at no cost.

As a condition of the Electronic Waste Recycling Act of 2003, an authorizing resolution is required to be submitted with the application to participate in the Certified Covered Electronic Waste (CEW) Recovery and Recycling Payment System. If the application is approved, the City will use assigned personnel to sort and organize electronic waste from illegal dumping activity, expand recycling opportunities to our citizens with community based events, and recover redemption values for all electronics collected to create a sustainable program within the community.

The Electronic Waste Recycling Act permits certified collection centers to recover scrap value up to a minimum of \$0.16 per pound from certified recyclers for cathode ray tubes (CRT) televisions, computer monitors, or screens. However, due to the high demand to recycle electronics and the City Maintenance Facility's capacity for increased volume, current registered recyclers can offer larger average rates, ranging from \$0.24 to \$0.45 a pound, for recycled CRT electronics. This additional funding, along with our illegal dumping cleanup activities and future business related electronic recycling endeavors, will bolster our efforts to expand recycling programs throughout the community and supplement administrative costs associated with maintaining current and future electronic recycling objectives.

The application and approval for the City to become certified and participate in the CEW Recovery and Recycling Payment System will directly support our efforts to obtain a 75% recyclability goal within our community and enhance methods to promote recycling at public events and educational institutions. Additionally, this application for certification will assist in developing and maintaining recycling programs throughout the community.

Attachment:

Resolution No. 12-11

JL:lcs