



IMPORTANT NOTICE

January 2022

Dear Los Alamitos Business Owner and/or Property Manager:

As you may be aware, the State of California now requires automatic roll-out of mandated recycling programs by way of Senate Bill (SB) 1383, to all jurisdictions within the State to reduce statewide disposal of waste. SB 1383 also required the City of Los Alamitos to adopt significant municipal code changes (adopted in October 2021), codifying mandatory recycling requirements and penalties for non-compliance. As part of this legislation, the State will fine Los Alamitos for not providing all required recycling programs. More information on SB 1383 and its impact can be found at the website listed below:

<https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slcp>

Republic Services was the City's waste hauler for the past ten plus years and did a tremendous job servicing the residents and business community. Their contract was set to expire on December 31, 2021; therefore, the City's waste and recycling services went out to bid. The City developed an oversight committee comprised of various constituents to undergo a process that identified a new company that will service the City's waste and recycling needs. The Review Committee carefully and analytically reviewed seven received bids and made their recommendation to City Council for approval. City Council, with the recommendation of the Review Committee, selected Universal Waste Systems Inc. (UWS), due to several factors including providing Los Alamitos the most favorable and competitive rates, high quality of service, and meeting the SB 1383 mandates.

To avoid non-compliance in regards to SB 1383, the City has instructed the new hauler, Universal Waste Systems (UWS), to deliver required recycling containers to all Los Alamitos business owners/property managers; delivery of these containers is slated to occur within the next three months. SB 1383 will increase the price for service, which will be reflected on your statement from UWS once your recycling container has been delivered. Both UWS staff and the City's contracted consultant is available to help minimize cost impacts by advising you on how best to "right-size" your trash and recycling service levels. Please feel free to reach out, if you would like to have your services reviewed.

In the coming weeks, you will receive a brochure via mail explaining the State mandated programs and how your business can comply. In addition to the web-link provided above, the City's website has a page dedicated to SB 1383 compliance. That webpage link is:

<http://cityoflosalamitos.org/183/Universal-Waste-Systems-Inc---Los-Alamit>

Process to Apply for Waivers from Automatic Service

SB 1383 regulations allow limited waivers to be granted to locations that dispose of less than 20-gallons per-week of organic waste. These are referred to as “de minimis” waivers and can only be granted by the City. However, part of the new UWS franchise service is a program whereby most businesses (those generating less than four-cubic-yards of organic waste per-week) can continue to mix their organic waste with their trash for separation at the UWS’ facility. Therefore, this type of waiver is not necessary as bin-served multi-family properties and all business who might qualify for such waivers are not required to receive and pay an additional fee for an organic waste recycling container. That is a unique and cost-saving option.

SB 1383 also allows for a limited number of “space constraint” waivers, if a property cannot physically house a required recycling container. These waivers must be approved by the City and require an architect or similar professional, and/or the franchise hauler to agree with the property’s space constraint claim.

Those wishing to apply for a space constraint waiver can do so on the City’s website at the link provided above.

The City will be hosting a Zoom Webinar on Tuesday, February 15, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. to discuss SB 1383 and its impact on Los Alamitos and to answer any questions. Again, please visit the City’s website to obtain the meeting link.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation. Should you have any additional questions or require assistance you may contact me at rnoda@cityoflosalamitos.org or via phone at (562) 431-3538, extension 500.

Sincerely,

CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS



Ron Noda
Development Services Director

Cc: Michael Balliet Consulting, LLC