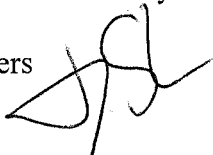




**JERRY SANDERS**  
MAYOR

CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 13, 2007  
TO: Honorable Members of the City Council  
FROM: Mayor Jerry Sanders  
SUBJECT: Recycling Update



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Recycling has always been a fundamentally important issue for the City of San Diego. We continue to be a leader in recycling and are currently diverting 52% of the wastestream coming into the Miramar Landfill, exceeding the state mandate of 50%. This achievement has come about because of all the great efforts of everyone in the community, from businesses, to residents, to the military. The City has an impressive list of accomplishments. Automated recycling carts are provided to over 250,000 residents, greenery recycling service to over 190,000 households, environmental education to thousands of school children every year, technical assistance to hundreds of businesses annually, and 100,000 tons of yard trimmings and food wastes are being composted at the Miramar Greenery every year - to name just a few of these accomplishments.

Despite these efforts, we estimate that as much as two-thirds of the waste that continues to enter the Miramar Landfill is recyclable. Given our need to conserve landfill space and our growing awareness about the causes and effects of climate change, we need to do all we can. In fall of this year, we will bring forward an ordinance that will include input from all affected stakeholders and will outline what more we need to do in our recycling efforts. It is our intent to have this ordinance reflect the needs of the entire community and addresses the concerns of the stakeholders regarding the timing for its implementation.

We do not plan on attending the July 18<sup>th</sup>, Natural Resources and Culture Committee meeting and will work with the City Council to bring our proposal forward this fall.

Cc: Honorable City Attorney  
Elmer Heap, Director of Environmental Services Department