



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE

December 09, 2025

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**SERVICES CONTRACT
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES CORE SERVICE AREA
SOLID WASTE COLLECTION RATE INCREASE UNDER THE
SANTA CLARITA VALLEY EXCLUSIVE RESIDENTIAL FRANCHISE CONTRACT
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5)
(3-VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Public Works is seeking delegated authority for the Director of Public Works or his designee to approve a one-time extraordinary increase in the rates for solid waste collection services under the Santa Clarita Valley Exclusive Residential Franchise Contract.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Determine that the recommended actions are within the scope of the Santa Clarita Valley Exclusive Residential Waste Collection Franchise Contract project impacts analyzed in the Negative Declaration and Addendum previously adopted by the Board.
2. Authorize the Director or his designee to allow the franchisee to increase the monthly customer rate for Task 1 - Customer Services by \$6.61 and Task 2 - County Services by 17.37 percent.
3. Authorize the Director or his designee to execute an amendment to the Santa Clarita Valley Exclusive Residential Waste Collection Franchise Contract to implement the change referenced above.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended actions is to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and authorize the Director of Public Works or his designee to approve an extraordinary rate adjustment under the Santa Clarita Valley Exclusive Residential Franchise Contract for unincorporated areas of the Santa Clarita Valley (see enclosed map). This adjustment responds to increased disposal costs resulting from the closure of Chiquita Canyon Landfill.

The Santa Clarita Valley Exclusive Residential Franchise Contract provides for weekly automated curbside collection of refuse, recyclables, and organic waste (Task 1 - Customer Services) and daily monitoring and removal of illegally dumped waste from the public right of way (Task 2 - County Services). The Santa Clarita Valley Exclusive Residential Franchise Contract allows for annual rate adjustments to cover standard cost increases and extraordinary rate adjustments for unanticipated cost escalations, such as the closure of disposal facilities.

Since the closure of Chiquita Canyon Landfill in January 2025, the franchisee, Burrtec Waste Industries, Inc., (Burrtec), has been transporting collected material to Waste Management's Sun Valley Transfer Station, which is then sent to Simi Valley Landfill. Although alternative facilities were considered, Sun Valley offered the most viable long-term option based on location, capacity, and disposal fee. However, Waste Management's disposal fee is nearly three times higher than Chiquita Canyon Landfill's disposal fee, resulting in a substantial increase in the contractor's cost to deliver services.

Public Works recommends approval of an overall rate increase of 17.37 percent to Burrtec's Task 1 - Customer Services and Task 2 - County Services. The current rate of \$37.49 would increase to \$44.67, effective with the January 2026 billing cycle. This new rate would include the previously authorized annual rate adjustment of \$0.57 to account for changes in the trash collection industry affecting the cost of labor, fuel prices, and management of recyclables and organic waste, as well as an extraordinary rate adjustment of \$6.61 due to the closure of the Chiquita Canyon Landfill. The \$6.61 adjustment was calculated based on the increased cost of disposal divided by 11,800 customers in the franchise service area.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

These recommendations support the County Strategic Plan: North Star 2, Foster Vibrant and Resilient Communities, Focus Area Goal D, Sustainability, Strategy I, Climate Health, by improving the environmental, economic, and social well-being of our communities while maximizing and leveraging resources by collecting adequate funding to provide solid waste collection and recycling services, including the collection of illegal dumping, which protects the environment and improves the quality of life of the residents within the service areas and surrounding areas.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact on the County General Fund.

The County collects an annual fee from the franchise hauler equal to 10 percent of hauler revenue in exchange for the exclusive right to operate within the franchise area. The franchise fee will not exceed the County's reasonable costs to administer the franchise.

Funding for Task 2 County Service is included in the Solid Waste Management Fund and Road Fund (GD1 and B03 – Services and Supplies) Fiscal Year 2025-26 budgets. The Road Fund will be reimbursed for Task 2 County Service by the Solid Waste Management Fund.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Board awarded a residential solid waste collection franchise to Burrtec on October 16, 2018, for a base term of 7 years with two optional 2-year renewals and month-to-month extensions for up to 6 months. The Santa Clarita Valley Exclusive Residential Franchise Contract permits annual and extraordinary rate adjustments based on cost factors.

Because approval of the extraordinary rate increase exceeds the authority delegated to the Director of Public Works or his designee, Board approval is required to effectuate the adjustment. The franchise hauler has submitted sufficient documentation of its increased disposal costs to justify the proposed increase amount.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The Board previously adopted a Negative Declaration (ND) for the Residential Waste Collection Franchise Contracts on November 20, 2007, and an Addendum to the ND on January 30, 2018, in accordance with CEQA. The Addendum evaluated minor changes to the project that did not result in any new or severe environmental impacts. The recommended actions are within the scope of the project in the previously adopted ND and Addendum. The proposed extraordinary rate adjustment and corresponding contract amendment do not involve any changes to the type, frequency, or location of solid waste collection activities previously reviewed under CEQA, nor do they result in physical changes to the environment.

Public Works has further evaluated potential environmental impacts associated with the change in the disposal facility resulting from the closure of Chiquita Canyon Landfill. The change increases vehicle miles traveled by approximately 52,000 miles annually across 8 truck trips per day, 260 days per year. These trips are made by natural gas-powered refuse trucks, which generate approximately 1.4 kilograms of carbon dioxide-equivalent per mile, resulting in 72.8 metric tons of carbon dioxide-equivalent emissions annually—well below the CEQA significance threshold of 1,100 metric tons per year.

Air pollutant emissions associated with the change are also well below CEQA thresholds: nitrogen oxides at 1.01 pounds per day (lbs/day) (compared to a 55 lbs/day threshold), particulate matter with a diameter of 10 micrometers or less at 0.02 lbs/day (threshold: 150 lbs/day), and particulate matter with a diameter of less than 2.5 micrometers at 0.02 lbs/day (threshold: 55 lbs/day).

There are no changes to the project or to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken that require further review under CEQA.

The official records of the proceedings upon which your Board's decision is based in this matter are held at Los Angeles County Public Works, Transportation Planning and Programs Division, 900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor, Alhambra, California 91803.

Upon the Board's approval of the project, Public Works will file a Notice of Determination with the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk and the State Clearinghouse in accordance with section 21152 of the California Public Resources Code.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

12/9/2025

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Approval of the recommended actions will continue solid waste collection services without disruption to the public and will not result in the displacement of any County employees.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this Board letter to Public Works, Environmental Programs Division.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Pestrella". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" and last name "Pestrella" clearly distinguishable.

MARK PESTRELLA, PE

Director

MP:EKT:em

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Office (Christine Frias)
County Counsel
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors

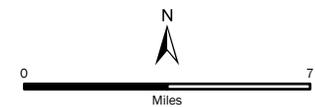


RESIDENTIAL TRASH COLLECTION FRANCHISE
SANTA CLARITA VALLEY

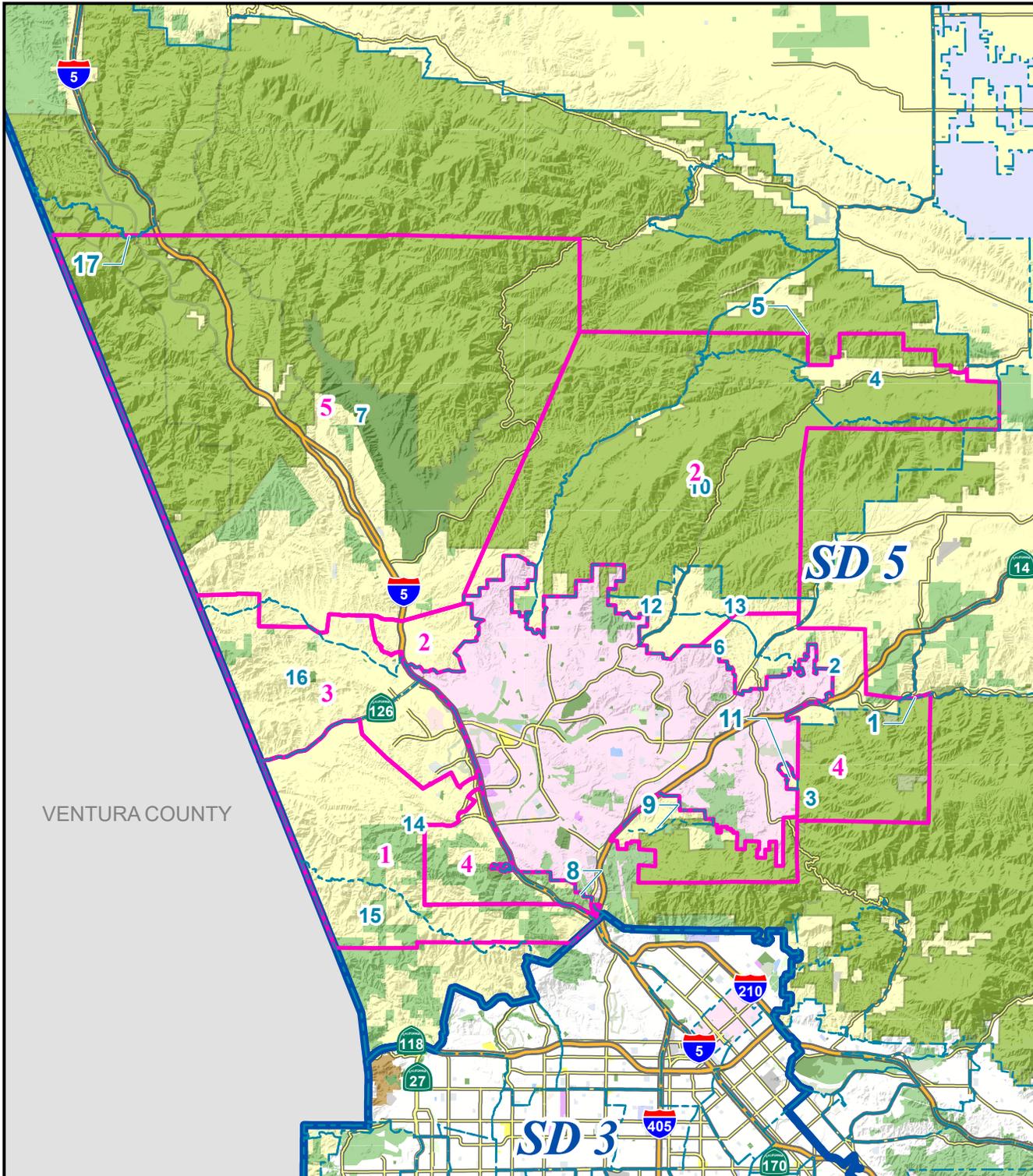
Communities

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1 Acton | 10 San Francisquito Canyon/
Bouquet Canyon |
| 2 Agua Dulce | 11 Sand Canyon |
| 3 Angeles National Forest | 12 Saugus |
| 4 Bouquet Canyon | 13 Saugus/Canyon Country |
| 5 Bouquet Canyon | 14 Stevenson Ranch |
| 6 Canyon Country | 15 Twin Lakes/Oat Mountain |
| 7 Castaic | 16 Val Verde |
| 8 Newhall | 17 West Antelope Valley |
| 9 Placerita Canyon | |

-  Supervisorial District Boundary
-  Santa Clarita Valley
-  Community Boundary



AREA	TRASH COLLECTION
1	Monday
2	Tuesday
3	Wednesday
4	Thursday
5	Friday



Date: 7/18/2023
 SMPM Division, Mapping & GIS Services Section (HCHANG)
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