



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FACT SHEET

SANDERS ANNOUNCES START OF NEW REGULATIONS EXTENDING LIFESPAN OF THE MIRAMAR LANDFILL

NEW DEPOSIT AND DIVERSION REQUIREMENTS WILL STEP UP RECYCLING OF CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION DEBRIS

San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders has announced the beginning of new requirements that will divert construction and demolition waste away from the City's Miramar Landfill. The City's new Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris Diversion Deposit Ordinance goes into affect today, July 1, 2008 and requires contractors, builders and homeowners to pay refundable deposits in advance of creating construction and demolition debris wastes.

The new ordinance requires that anyone pulling City of San Diego building, combination or demolition permits that are covered by the ordinance to describe how they will manage waste at their job sites. Permit applicants who recycle at least 50 percent of the waste from their project will receive a full refund of their deposit. The new law will keep recyclable items such as wood, concrete, metals, cardboard, and carpet padding out of area landfills.

The C&D ordinance will help extend the life of the Miramar Landfill and help the City maintain a waste diversion rate of more than 50 percent as mandated by the State of California. In 2006, the last year for which data is available, the City had a 55 percent diversion rate.

"The new ordinance is another step in keeping everyone involved in our waste reduction efforts. We are under a state mandate to get that work done plus, it just makes more sense to recycle wastes whenever we can rather than having them use up more of our dwindling landfill capacity."

Mayor Jerry Sanders

RECYCLING LESS EXPENSIVE THAN DISPOSAL

Fees to bury C&D material at the Miramar Landfill are higher than the fees for recycling this same material. Contractors and homeowners have the choice of recycling their C&D material in mixed loads or separated loads. Loads separated by material are cheaper to recycle than mixed loads. For

example, the disposal fees paid by the City's Franchise Waste Haulers would only be about \$10 a ton to recycle separated concrete, \$65-\$69 per ton to recycle mixed loads of C&D, and \$85 per ton to bury the material at the Miramar Landfill.

Recycling can also help reduce the cost of some new materials by recycling old materials on-site thus reducing the need for mining and/or production of new materials and for trucking the recycled material off-site and then bringing in new materials. C&D materials like doors, windows and fixtures can also be donated for reuse to avoid disposal costs.

ORDINANCE REQUIREMENTS

Beginning today, July 1, 2008, the C&D recycling ordinance requires homeowners, contractors and builders who get City permits for construction, demolition and remodeling projects that are covered by the ordinance to submit a Waste Management Plan to the Development Services Department.

Refundable deposits, based either on a project's size or a flat rate, are also required in order to get a permit. For example, a 2,000 sq. ft. tenant improvement project in a commercial building would incur a \$1,400 deposit. A 500 sq. ft. or larger residential remodel has a flat rate deposit of \$1,000 and is not based on size.

Deposits are fully refundable if 50 percent or more of the material is recycled or donated for reuse. The required documentation must be submitted following the final inspection of the permit.

Certified recycling facilities must be used in order to be eligible for a deposit refund. Donating reusable materials is also acceptable with appropriate documentation.

EXEMPTIONS

- Roofing projects that do not include the tear-off of the existing roof.
- Installation, replacement or repair of: a retaining wall; a carport, patio cover, balcony, trellis or fireplace; deck; fence; swimming pool or spa; a pre-fabricated sign which does not require modification to the structure to which the sign is attached; storage racks;
- Development which requires only an electric, plumbing or only a mechanical permit;
- Development which is expected to generate only hazardous waste and/or hazardous substances;
- Development for which the construction and demolition debris deposit is less than \$200.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information regarding the C&D recycling ordinance, the benefits of recycling C&D material, tips to recycle C&D debris at the job site, locations of recycling facilities, text of the ordinance and other facts on C&D recycling, visit www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/recycling/cdrecycling.shtml.

The City of San Diego's Environmental Services Department is charged with refuse collection disposal, recycling and environmentally sound management to meet the city's long-term waste disposal needs. For more information about the Environmental Services Department, visit www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/.