City of Santa Rosa

May 31, 2024

The Honorable Alex Lee
State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 6330
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support -- Assembly Bill 2346 (As Amended on April 10, 2024)

Dear Assemblymember Lee:

On behalf of the City of Santa Rosa, I am writing to express our support for your bill, Assembly Bill 2346, which would provide additional pathways for local governments to meet Senate Bill 1383 procurement requirements and expand market development for recycled organic waste products such as compost and mulch. This bill would provide common sense fixes to increase flexibility and reduce costs to jurisdictions while furthering SB 1383's overarching goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions across the state.

NATALIE ROGERS
Mayor

MARK STAPP
Vice Mayor

EDDIE ALVAREZ
VICTORIA FLEMING
DIANNA MACDONALD
JEFF OKREPKIE
CHRIS ROGERS

Under SB 1383 (Lara, 2016) regulations, local governments are responsible for procuring recycled organic waste products such as compost, mulch, renewable natural gas or electricity from biomass to build a market for organic material collected within their jurisdictions. Since the enactment of these regulations, most jurisdictions have encountered barriers in meeting the requirement.

Barriers differ for regions with mature organics collection programs and established compost and mulch markets than for regions with new collection programs and limited organics processing infrastructure, but jurisdictions all across the state are struggling to meet the requirements. AB 2346 provides solutions that help jurisdictions up and down the state to effectively expand the use of and markets for organic waste products.

This bill will provide flexibility to local governments in how they comply with this aspect of SB 1383, which will reduce costs for jurisdictions and advance the objectives of the law. Additionally, the bill will streamline administrative processes. The goal is to develop both mature and emerging markets for compost resulting in significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. Ultimately, this bill will help the state achieve its goals through effective and practical SB 1383 implementation.

For the above reasons, the City of Santa Rosa supports adoption of AB 2346. Should you have any questions please contact our legislative advocate, Alyssa Silhi with the Renne Public Policy Group, at (916) 849-5536.

Sincerely,

Natalie Rogers
Mayor

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