



# Minutes

## Lakewood City Council

Adjourned Regular Meeting held  
April 8, 2008

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**MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER** at 6:31 p.m. by Mayor Croft in the Council Chambers at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

**ROLL CALL:** PRESENT: Mayor Steve Croft  
Vice Mayor Todd Rogers  
Council Member Diane DuBois  
Council Member Joseph Esquivel  
Council Member Larry Van Nostran

### **REFUSE COLLECTION OPTIONS**

Public Works Director Lisa Works displayed slides and reviewed the history of refuse collection. She stated that BZ/EDCO had an exclusive contract for the collection of residential and commercial refuse, with a contract extending to 2012. Lakewood residents have used their own containers and were not required to do any separation of their refuse. Refuse collected in Lakewood was taken to either CR&R, a dirty MRRF, for separation, with approximately 50 percent of material recovered for recycling, or to the SERRF waste-to-energy facility in Long Beach. She advised that the City did receive some diversion credit for the ash from SERRF that was used at the landfill. She noted existing waste diversions programs such as used oil recycling, Christmas tree collection and recycling, green waste recycling, composting of street sweeping debris, bulky item collection (including e-waste) and neighborhood recycling centers. She presented issues related to the current regulatory environments including potential changes to AB 939, the waste diversion legislation; the closure of the landfill in 2013; the end of the SERRF power contract in 2018; and the City's "green" conservation efforts.

A DVD was shown which outlined EDCO recycling programs.

Ms. Rapp introduced Marty Simonoff, Steve South and Efrain Ramirez from BZ/EDCO. Mr. South outlined a proposal to provide source separated collection. As proposed, refuse would be separated by the residents into trash, recyclables and greenwaste. Rolling carts would be provided for recyclables and trash, with residents using an unlimited number of their own containers for greenwaste. Existing trucks would be retrofitted for cart collection and recycled materials and greenwaste would be handled by EDCO. Trash would continue to be directed to the SERRF facility. He noted that a source separation program could put the City into a better position should the State adjust the diversion goals. The proposal put forward a phased implementation plan that would begin with distribution of carts for recycled materials, which would be collected by a separate truck. Trash carts would be distributed during the second phase of the program, as well as minor adjustments to be made for some residents collection days. A major component of the plan would be an extensive public information and education campaign.

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**REFUSE COLLECTION OPTIONS - Continued**

Council Member DuBois and Vice Mayor Rogers questioned the cost of the proposed educational campaign. Mr. South responded by stating that the cost of the campaign would be paid by BZ/EDCO.

Responding to a question from Mayor Croft, Ms. Rapp stated the proposed program would eliminate the need for the services of CR&R, currently the most expensive component in the City's refuse collection and disposal program.

Council Member Van Nostran expressed concern about elderly or disabled residents finding it difficult to manage the large carts. Ms. Rapp stated that residents had the option to request smaller carts and that in limited circumstances, other assistance could be available.

Council Member DuBois inquired how such a change would impact the City's diversion credits. Michelle Leonard, SCS Engineers, stated that the proposal was only for residential at this time and that the commercial refuse would make up the difference with SERRF. Ms. Leonard also stated that removing the recyclable materials at the source would reduce the City's total amount of waste and the adjusted tonnage would make it easier to meet recycling goals.

Mr. South confirmed for Mayor Croft that statistics could be made available from the experience in other communities that would show the numbers the City could expect.

Council Member Van Nostran determined from Ms. Rapp that although commercial recycling was not a requirement at this point, it could become necessary to meet future diversion goals. Ms. Rapp also confirmed for Council Member Van Nostran that a contract extension for BZ/EDCO was part of the proposal.

Mayor Croft determined from Mr. Simonoff that some of the truck fleet would be retrofitted for cart collection, with the remainder to be used for greenwaste collection and that collection would be accomplished with three separate trucks for each route.

Responding to a question from Council Member Van Nostran, Ms. Rapp stated that staff had estimated that up to nine percent of households could experience a change of collection days and street sweeper days in order to balance the routes.

Determining from the BZ/EDCO representatives that some problems had been experienced with scavengers taking the most profitable items from recycling carts, Council Member Van Nostran inquired if there was an enforcement plan.

Vice Mayor Rogers stated that he had serious reservations about the program at this point due to the requirement for three separate trucks for household collection, the lack of any plan to deal with scavengers and the potential for recyclable scavengers triggering an increase in other property crimes.

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**REFUSE COLLECTION OPTIONS - Continued**

Council Members discussed whether this matter was ready for further consideration by the City Council as a whole, or whether more committee work would be beneficial.

Mayor Croft suggested the matter be referred back to the Environmental Management Committee for one more round of inquiry before further consideration by the City Council.

**VICE MAYOR ROGERS MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER DUBOIS SECONDED TO REFER THIS MATTER BACK TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER STUDY BEFORE RE-PRESENTATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:**

**AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS:** Esquivel, DuBois, Rogers, Van Nostran and Croft

**NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Croft adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise R. Hayward, CMC

City Clerk