

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Organic waste recycling pilot program to launch in April

The City of Cerritos is launching an organic waste recycling pilot program in April within one residential section of the City. Residents who live within the pilot program area will be notified and instructed to dispose of food scraps along with green waste in the green trash container. The City will evaluate the pilot program and then implement a citywide organic waste recycling program later in 2022.

California state law (Senate Bill 1383) requires all jurisdictions in the state to mandate participation in organic waste recycling programs to recover and divert non-edible organic waste from reaching landfills. Organic waste, which includes food waste, green waste and un-waxed food-soiled paper, emits greenhouse gas emissions when they decompose in landfills.

In 2021, the City Council adopted an ordinance establishing organic waste recycling requirements in compliance with the state law. The ordinance includes requirements for residential and commercial waste generators. Certain businesses, such as grocery stores and large restaurants, will be required to arrange for the collection and distribution of unused edible food for human consumption.

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The City will provide updates about the organic waste recycling program in future editions of "The Cerritos News" and on the City's website. For more information, call the City's Public Works Department at (562) 916-1220.

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