CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

PUBLIC WORKS SERVICES DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION

FROM: Trish Rhay, Assistant Director of Public Works Services - Infrastructure & Field Operations

Michelle Tse, Senior Management Analyst

DATE: May 11, 2015

SUBJECT: ZERO WASTE STRATEGIC PLAN

ATTACHMENT: None

This item was originally agendized for the April 9, 2015, Public Works Commission Regular Meeting, but has been carried over to the May 11, 2015, Commission Meeting.

Staff will be providing an overview regarding the development of a Zero Waste Strategic Plan. Zero Waste refers to waste management and planning approaches which emphasize waste prevention as opposed to waste management. The City Council identified a feasibility study for a zero-waste program as a "B" priority item during the FY 2015-16 City Council priority setting exercise.

The concept of "zero waste" does not literally mean zero waste, but encourages the establishment of programs and policies that allow cities to go beyond the State's current 50% diversion rate. For example, cities such as San Francisco, Pasadena and Santa Monica have adopted a Zero Waste Strategic Plan, establishing key milestones over the next several years and gradually increasing diversion rates, with the goal to eventually reach zero or near zero waste generation.

As part of the process, staff intends to work with a consultant to evaluate and establish the following:

- Establish zero waste guiding principles and goals
- Develop a zero waste resolution
- Establish baseline of current policies, programs and facilities
- Zero waste plan development

Staff will seek City Council approval for consultant services to assist with the process during the May 18, 2015, meeting. If approved, staff will be seeking the Commission's involvement with developing the City's Zero Waste Plan.