August 18, 2026

The Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Support for the Modern Organics Processing and Composting Master Plan Motion

Dear Councilmembers,

I'm writing on behalf of LA Compost to share our support for Councilmember Blumenfield's Modern Organics Processing and Composting Master Plan Motion (Council File 26-0925).

This motion gives the City an opportunity to move beyond simply complying with State organics recycling requirements (SB1383) to build a system that produces tangible benefits for Angelenos: healthier soil, cooler neighborhoods, less truck pollution, and greater access to thriving community gardens, urban farms, and locally grown food. We appreciate the Councilmember's leadership in taking steps to solve for the climate emergency and for advancing our mission to foster a Los Angeles that protects the health of both soil and people.

LA Compost turns food scraps into healthy soils for the betterment of the environment, our neighborhoods, and the local food system. We are working in partnership with 11 jurisdictions across LA County to maintain a network of 60 community compost hubs. Amidst all of that momentum, this action stands out. This motion, in combination with Mayor Bass' climate targets, would establish the City of LA as the Countywide leader on organics recycling, soil health and support for local food systems.

LA Compost is confident that the City can lead, and we encourage urgent action on these opportunities catalyzed by the Motion:

LA Sanitation can develop a plan.
We are proud to be based in a City where curbside organics recycling service is available to most residences and businesses. While this is a strong first step, universal curbside access required under SB1383 is a one-size-fits-all mandate that is meant to be improved upon at the local level. Considering the high cost of compliance that

has increased garbage rates, Angelenos should receive direct benefits from the City as a result of these changes. The City can innovate beyond baseline compliance to capitalize on the unique structure of the City's franchise agreements, the extensive service provided by the City to residential accounts, and our supportive network of local advocates who are eager to support this initiative. LA Sanitation can develop a plan that contemplates how universal green bin service will be of benefit to the environment, our neighborhoods and the food system, at no additional cost.

The City of LA can now process organics locally.
City Council took action in 2025 to change State compliance rules to allow existing local infrastructure to be relevant towards SB1383 compliance. Council supported SB279 (McNerney) which allows the City and community composters to process more organic material locally without burdensome permitting processes. Existing City-owned facilities that process tree trimmings and yard waste can now accept food scraps, re-establishing local recycling infrastructure, generating healthy soils within our communities, and reducing long-haul trucking pollution. LA should benefit from the compost we produce. Processing and distributing locally allows neighbors to see and understand why utilizing new curbside composting services is important and beneficial, increasing awareness and decreasing contamination as more neighbors become familiar.

SB1383 procurement compliance can benefit local composters and gardens.
The State legislature also took action via AB2346 (Lee) to allow cities to achieve SB1383 procurement compliance by resourcing community composters. The City can now achieve 10% of its procurement compliance goals by resourcing local organizations that produce and distribute compost in our neighborhoods. LA Sanitation already commits funding to SB1383 procurement compliance, but the benefits can now resound to LA-based community composters, community gardens and urban farms. Producing and distributing compost locally bolsters soil health and our food system, which are both in need of investment and repair.

These recent advancements offer cost-neutral opportunities for the City of LA to lead on climate action, improve our neighborhoods, and see beyond baseline compliance with SB1383. A plan is needed, and we are pleased to support its implementation. Please adopt this motion.

Sincerely,



Ryan Jackson
Executive Director
LA Compost