

Section 5

Concluding Remarks: Implications for CalRecycle Market Development Efforts

This concluding section briefly summarizes CalRecycle's tire market development program and some implications of the preceding analysis.

Synopsis of Current Programs

CalRecycle's waste tire research and market development program is perhaps the best funded and most expansive in the nation. With an average annual budget of \$14,721,000 per year (not including program staffing),¹² the program has helped to spur the establishment of a strong waste tire collection and processing infrastructure. The program has been instrumental in the expansion of rubberized paving and playground applications, and is currently making progress in two additional priority areas: incorporating crumb rubber into new and existing products (i.e., feedstock conversion) and expanding use of TDA in civil engineering. Prior to a change in policy, CalRecycle also helped to spur expansion of TDF markets in the 1990s.

CalRecycle's current tire market development programs include:

- Grants to qualified purchasers (mainly government agencies) for rubber pavement;
- Grants to qualified purchasers of miscellaneous tire-derived products and direct payments to qualified manufacturers or compounders using recycled tire rubber, with funding allocations shared between the two programs;
- Technical assistance and educational services related to promoting rubber pavement products and use of TDA in civil engineering projects;
- Outreach activities to inform government agencies, architects, and private businesses about the range of California-made TDPs available and to track market trends through the Tire Outreach and Market Analysis Program;
- Provision of product testing, technical support, and other services to qualified manufacturers that add tire crumb rubber as a feedstock to replace plastic,

¹² The average, annual budget is based on figures presented in "Report to the Legislature: Five-Year Plan for the Waste Tire Recycling Management Program (Eighth Edition Covering Fiscal Years 2015/16-2019/20)," page 6.

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Publications/Detail.aspx?PublicationID=1528>