



**CITY OF NEWARK, CALIFORNIA**

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Cal Recycle

Delivered via email – [mattresses@calrecycle.ca.gov](mailto:mattresses@calrecycle.ca.gov)

Subject: Comments on the Mattress Recycling Council draft 2016 California Annual Report and proposed 2018 Program

Dear Cal Recycle:

I would like to take the opportunity to offer my comments on the draft first annual report by the MRC on the California Mattress Stewardship Program. First and foremost, the City of Newark appreciates any efforts that potentially reduce the number of mattresses that are dumped in our community. The issue of illegal dumping in general is problematic in Newark and the Tri-Cities area and appears to be growing. The high cost that local transfer stations charge for “self haul” contributes to this problem as lower income residents and apartment renters cannot afford to properly dispose of mattresses and other large household appliances and furniture.

It appears that the terms offered by MRC to current solid waste facilities have not been effective in establishing a collection location anywhere in East County, where there are two transfer stations (if you include LSI, which is not open to the public), two landfills, and a permanent HHW facility. There are no collection sites in the east, south or north areas of our county and many heavily populated areas are far from any of the current sites. None of the major transfer stations or landfills are participating, regardless of whether they are privately or publically owned and operated even though most of the transfer stations have been separating mattresses for recycling for many years.

This issue coupled with the low “incentive” payment of \$3.00 per unit for up to five units per vehicle per day at the two collection/recycling locations in Oakland and San Leandro, has resulted in no perceptible reduction in illegal dumping of mattresses in the service area. The City of Newark recommends that the MRC look to increase this amount per unit to further incentivize recycling and increase the number of collection sites. The MRC should not look at reducing the fee on sales of new units until the program has proven to be more effective than it is now.

Thank you for allowing the City of Newark to provide input on this issue.

Sincerely,

JOHN BECKER

City Manager