

PRESS RELEASE

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Greig Smith Council District 12



LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCILMAN GREIG SMITH

Councilman Smith Advances City's Green Policy With Adoption of Environmental Purchasing Policy

Los Angeles - Councilman Greig Smith's motion to implement an Environmentally Preferred Purchasing Policy for the City was unanimously approved by City Council Tuesday, Feb. 19.

The policy directs City Departments that need supplies to always purchase the available and appropriate product choices that are environmentally friendly, rather than choosing only based on the price. It is meant to minimize negative environmental impacts of the City's activities by reducing the waste going to landfills, boosting recycling and saving valuable natural resources.

"The City of L.A. purchases hundreds of millions of dollars worth of products every year," Councilman Smith said. "Our size means we can have a tremendous impact through leading by example and fostering the market for green products and services."

The motion is an important element of Councilman Smith's RENEW LA plan, a legislative package of 12 motions that has been adopted by the City Council as the City's resource management policy.

The core goal of RENEW LA is to achieve Zero Waste in Los Angeles through reducing, reusing, recycling, or converting municipal solid waste into clean electricity and valuable raw materials using a series of conversion technology facilities. It aims to recover 90 percent or more of municipal solid waste material by 2025 and create a clean, high-technology industry with quality "green collar" local jobs. (For more information on RENEW LA, visit our website at www.CD12.org and click RENEW LA.)

The Environmentally Preferred Purchasing Policy gives priority to products that reduce toxicity, conserve natural resources, materials and energy and maximize recycling and use of recycled products. This policy will boost the emerging market for recycled and environmentally preferred products. As these markets grow, competition will drive a greater range of product availability and drive down prices for environmentally friendly products and services.

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