



DATE: September 13, 2021

AGENDA ITEM #5

TO: Environmental Commission
FROM: Emiko Ancheta, Staff Liaison
SUBJECT: Environmental Commission Work Plan

RECOMMENDATION:

Review and take action, as appropriate, on the 2021/22 Environmental Commission Work Plan

BACKGROUND

The Environmental Commission met in a Joint Meeting with the City Council on May 4, 2021 to review the Commission's 2020/21 Accomplishments and Draft 2021/22 Target areas and discussed issues and projects for the upcoming year. Based on this discussion, the targets were finalized, and the 2021/22 Work Plan was developed. The Targets and Work Plan are intended to focus the Commission's agenda items and will serve as a roadmap for projects and actions, as appropriate, during the 2021/22 year.

DISCUSSION

Environmental Commission Targets and resulting Work Plan for 2021/22 are:

1. Climate Action Plan
2. Green/Sustainability Activities
3. Solid Waste Diversion
4. Community Outreach and Education

The Commission will review the targets, projects, and status updates at each of its monthly meetings and act appropriately.

ATTACHMENT:

- A. 2021/22 Targets and Work Plan
- B. 2021/22 Legislative Tracking Update
- C. Cal Water Service's Rebate Programs

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

2021/22 Targets & Work Plan

September 13, 2021

Targets	Projects	Assignments	Target Date	City Priority related to	Status
Climate Action Plan	Building Electrification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subcommittee -Don Weiden, Laura Tekler and Lei Yuan 	Fall 2022	CAAP Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reach Codes approved at the November 10, 2020 Council meeting On January 25, 2021, the CEC approved the Reach Code ordinances Reach Codes currently implemented and in effect Work to implement CAP building electrification actions Council adoption of Reach Code ordinance update (2.0) targeted for Fall 2022
	Update of City's CAP (Climate Action and Adaptation Plan-CAAP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subcommittee- Don Weiden, Bruno Delagneau, Raashina Humayun to work with staff and consultant 	Dec. 2021	CAAP Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EC to work with staff and consultant to update the CAP - Climate Action and Adaptation Plan Staff and CAAP subcommittee update the EC at regular commission meetings Council CAAP adoption targeted for December 2021 CAAP survey #1 completed CAAP Community Workshop held June 28, 2021 CAAP survey #2 completed
	Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EC cooperative with Complete Streets Commission 	Ongoing	CAAP Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work to implement CAAP transportation actions Advance walking, biking, and shared transit

<p>Green/Sustainability Activities</p>	<p>Green Infrastructure and Other Sustainability Activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist staff in implementation of the Green/Sustainability Actions 	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Storm Water Regional Discharge Permit and other Environmental Related Plans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City’s Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Policy update finalized August 14, 2020 Assist with City Streetscape efforts such as rain gardens, storm water quality, surface water infiltration Assist with Land Use and Public Spaces efforts such as trees, street closures, pest management and storm water - cooperative with Complete Streets Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission
<p>Solid Waste Diversion</p>	<p>Solid Waste Disposal Contract- Recycling and Composting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subcommittee- Don Weiden, Laura Tekler and Lei Yuan 	<p>Monthly</p>	<p>Recycling and Composting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Amended and Restated Collection Service Agreement between the City of Los Altos and MTWS was executed on April 23, 2020 EC to assist staff and Mission Trail Waste System with education and implementation, set goals, measures and report for both Commercial and Residential Subcommittee to work on strategies for waste reduction Subcommittee to work with staff and MTWS on Public Education and Outreach plan
	<p>Reduction- Investigate initiatives on limiting Single-Use Plastics and CA SB 1383 compliance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subcommittee- Don Weiden, Laura Tekler and Bruno Delagneau 	<p>Fall 2021</p>	<p>Recycling</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft ordinance presented at EC meetings of Sept. 14, 2020, and Oct. 12, 2020 Staff presented Food Service Ware ordinances (option 1 and 2) to Council on Nov. 10, 2020 Council decided to hold on ordinance adoption due to COVID-19 Assist staff with SB 1383 compliance ordinance to divert food waste from landfills SB 1383 - Draft Muni Code update and Edible Food Recovery Ordinance review (included in packet)
	<p>Reuse- Develop Repair Assistance</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Recycling</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop repair assistance- information resource, Repair Café, volunteers, solid waste hauler diversion and more

Community Outreach & Education

<p>Develop program in collaboration with the Los Altos History Museum</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Education Fund held by LACF • Subcommittee- David Klein, Laura Tekslar and Lei Yuan 	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Public outreach and education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC coordinates with History Museum for the EnviroThon Challenge • Ed fund balance \$1,636.85 as of Jan. 13, 2021 • A Subcommittee was established February 2021 • Subcommittee to develop programs that utilize LACF Environmental Education Fund balance
<p>Sustainability Lens- assist Council in project evaluations and update environmental webpage on the City web site</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC to assist Council 	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Public outreach and education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City’s Public Information’s Officer, Sonia Lee and staff will continue to update the City’s website • Dashboard updated as of January 2021 • EC to work with staff on updates to the environmental webpage on the City web site as needed • Assist Council in project evaluations for Policy Resolutions • Lehigh Hansen and Stevens Creek Quarry Subcommittee formed to assist City Council’s support and monitoring efforts
<p>Santa Clara County Healthy Cities Program assistance</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Public outreach and education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist with Santa Clara County Healthy Cities Program
<p>Continue to support SVCEA community outreach and education</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Public outreach and education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City’s Public Information’s Officer and staff will continue to update the community with programs and opportunities offered by SVCEA
<p>Assist staff with various outreach and education efforts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Action Plan • Water Conservation • Storm Water Management • Solid Waste Diversion • Native Landscaping 	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Public outreach and education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On July 14, 2021, Cal Water Service activated Stage 1 of their Water Shortage Contingency Plan (Schedule 14:1) • Los Altos has reduced water usage by approx. 7% from July of 2020 • Cal Water has re-launched their Lawn-to-Garden and Spray-to-Drip rebate programs

2021-2022 Legislation Tracking Sheet					Revised: 9/3/2021			
Bill Information								
Bill	Author	Name	Description	Status	Status Date	SATUS UPDATE- Sept 2021		
SB-605	Eggman	Medical Device Right-to-Repair Act	SB 605, also known as the Medical Device Right to Repair Act, would require powered medical equipment manufacturers to provide parts, service access methods and manuals for repair to a hospital and an independent service organization engaged by the hospital for the purpose of providing medical equipment maintenance and repair.	Failed to Move	6/6/2021			
SB-42	Wieckowski	Department of Toxic Substances Control: Board of Environmental Safety	Would establish the Board of Environmental Safety in the Department of Toxic Substances Control. The bill would prescribe the membership of the board and would require the board to conduct no fewer than 6 public meetings per year. The bill would impose duties on the board, which would include, among others, hearing and deciding appeals of hazardous waste facility permit decisions; proposing statutory changes for hazardous waste management in the state; developing a multiyear schedule for long-term goals for specified department activities; and annually preparing and transmitting to the Secretary for Environmental Protection a review of the department's performance. The bill would establish an office of the ombudsperson in the board to receive complaints and suggestions from the public, to evaluate complaints, to report findings and make recommendations to the Director of Toxic Substances Control and the board, and to render assistance to the public.	Passed by Committee on Environmental Quality (Ayes 7. Noes 0.). Placed on Appropriations committee's suspense file.	5/10/2021			
SB-451	Dodd	Beverage container recycling: pilot program	This bill would authorize CalRecycle to establish a recycling pilot program for the collection and recycling of beverage containers. The bill would define the terms "beverage" and "beverage containers" for purposes of the pilot program to include certain beverage containers that are otherwise excluded for other purposes. The bill would make an appropriation by changing the terms and conditions under which the department is authorized to make payments from a continuously appropriated fund. The bill would require the recycling pilot program to include a requirement for a pilot project operator to submit to the department a pilot project plan with specified goals and elements, including that the pilot project operator provide the department with annual updates and a final report on or before April 1, 2026. The bill would require the department to review and approve, disapprove, or conditionally approve a pilot project operator plan within a reasonable timeframe. The bill would require the department to annually include an update on the recycling pilot program in a specified report to the Legislature. The bill would make these provisions inoperative on July 1, 2026, and would repeal them on January 1, 2027. This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.	Passed off the Senate Floor with a 39-0 vote with 1 vote not recorded. Will be heard next in the Assembly- committee and hearing date TBD.	6/6/2021			
SB-54	Allen	Plastic Pollution Producer Responsibility Act	This bill would establish the Plastic Pollution Producer Responsibility Act, which would prohibit producers of single-use, disposable packaging or single-use, disposable food service ware products from offering for sale, selling, distributing, or importing in or into the state such packaging or products that are manufactured on or after January 1, 2032, unless they are recyclable or compostable.	On 20-MAY-21 - Ordered to inactive file on request of Senator Allen."	6/6/2021			
SB-244	Archuleta	Lithium-ion batteries: illegal disposal: fire prevention	This bill would prohibit a person from knowingly disposing of a lithium-ion battery in a container or receptacle that is intended for the collection of solid waste or recyclable materials, unless the container or receptacle is designated for the collection of batteries for recycling. The bill would require CalRecycle, on or before July 1, 2024, and in consultation with the Department of Toxic Substances Control, to develop a guidance document relating to the proper handling and disposal of lithium-ion batteries and products that contain lithium-ion batteries. The bill would require the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, before January 1, 2023, in consultation with relevant state agencies and stakeholders, to develop a model protocol and training that identifies best practices for the detection, safe handling, and suppression of fires that originate from discarded lithium-ion batteries or products that contain lithium-ion batteries on or in solid waste or recycling collection vehicles, transfer or processing stations, or disposal facilities.	Passed by Environmental Quality committee (Ayes 7. Noes 0). Passed by Natural Resources and Water committee (Ayes 9. Noes 0.). Placed on Appropriations committee's suspense file.	5/10/2021			
AB-962	Kamlager	Returnable bottles	This bill allows returnable ("refillable") bottles to more broadly enter the California market by allowing them to flow through the state's Beverage Container Recycling Program. By making returnable bottle washing/filling facilities eligible for the same payments as other recyclers, this bill would allow for glass bottles to remain intact for reuse rather than crushed for recycling.	Passed off the Assembly Floor with a 31 - 6 vote with 3 votes not recorded. Will be heard next in the Senate Environmental Quality Committee, hearing date TBA.	6/6/2021			
SB-619	Laird	Organic waste: reduction regulations	This bill, until January 1, 2023, would require the department to only impose a penalty on a local jurisdiction, and would require a penalty to only accrue, for a violation of the regulations if the local jurisdiction did not make a reasonable effort, as determined by the department, to comply with the regulations.	On 20-MAY-21 Read third time. Passed. (Ayes 35. Noes 0.) Ordered to the Assembly."	9/3/2021	On 30-AUG-21 the following history action was applied:"Read second time and amended. Ordered to second reading."		
AB-480	Carrillo	Hazardous substances	Current law requires a business that handles a hazardous material, or an employee, authorized representative, agent, or designee of that business, to, upon discovery, immediately report any release or threatened release of a hazardous material, or an actual release of a hazardous substance, as defined, to the UPA and the Office of Emergency Services, as provided. This bill would require that reporting of the release or threatened release to the UPA and the Office of Emergency Services, as provided. The bill would require a handler, employee, authorized representative, agent, or their designee to provide state, city, or county fire or public health or safety personnel and emergency response personnel with access to the handler's facility if there is a release or threatened release at the facility.	Passed by Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials committee and re-referred to committee on Appropriations (Ayes 6. Noes 1). Set for hearing at Appropriations committee on May 12 at 9am.	5/6/2021			
AB-1	Cristina Garcia	Hazardous waste	Would create the Board of Environmental Safety in the California Environmental Protection Agency. The bill would provide requirements for the membership of the board and would require the board to conduct no less than 6 public meetings per year. The bill would provide for the duties of the board, which would include, reviewing specified policies, processes, and programs within the hazardous waste control laws; proposing statutory, regulatory, and policy changes; and hearing and deciding appeals of hazardous waste facility permit decisions and certain financial assurance decisions.	Passed by Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials committee and re-referred to committee on Appropriations (Ayes 7. Noes 0). Set for hearing at Appropriations committee on May 12 at 9am.	5/6/2021	Ordered to second reading.		

SB-289	Newman	Recycling: batteries & battery-embedded products	This bill would make the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Act of 2006 and the Cell Phone Recycling Act of 2004 inoperative as of June 30, 2025, and would repeal those acts as of January 1, 2026. The bill would enact the Battery and Battery-Embedded Product Recycling and Fire Risk Reduction Act of 2021, which would require producers, as defined, either individually or through the creation of one or more stewardship organizations, to establish a stewardship program for batteries and battery-embedded products. The bill would require a stewardship organization or producer, on or before June 30, 2025, to submit to the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery a stewardship plan for the collection, transportation, and recycling, and the safe and proper management, of batteries or battery-embedded products in the state.	Failed to Move	6/6/2021			
AB-1454	Bloom	The California Beverage Container and Litter Reduction Act	This bill aims to modernize and increase funding for the State's Beverage Container Recycling infrastructure, including targeted Processing Payment increases for centers, expanded Handling Fee eligibility, Quality Incentives for Curbside, and financing to help open new centers in unserved areas. This bill would allow the department to designate a regional convenience zone serving up to 5 unserved supermarket-based zones based on specified factors. This bill would require a certified bottle drop recycling program to pay the refund value of the beverage container as an electronic payment within 3 business days of redemption, if not paid onsite at the time of redemption.	Passed off the Assembly Floor with a 78-0 vote with 1 votes not recorded. Will be heard next in the Senate - committee and hearing date TBD.	6/6/2021			
AB-1371	Friedman	Recycling: packaging and carryout bags	This bill would prohibit an online retailer that sells or offers for sale and delivers purchased products in or into the state from using single-use plastic packaging that consists of shipping envelopes, cushioning, or void fill to package or transport the products, on and after January 1, 2023, for large online retailers and on and after January 1, 2025, for small online retailers. The bill would prohibit a manufacturer, retailer, producer, or other distributor that sells or offers for sale and delivers purchased products in or into the state from using expanded polystyrene packaging to package or transport the products. The bill would require an online retailer that has at least one physical location in the state with in-person sales to provide at all physical locations in the state with in-person sales a take back container for plastic film and expanded polystyrene packaging that provides an opportunity for a customer to return to the location clean plastic film and expanded polystyrene packaging. The bill would require an online retailer that provides lockers for the secure pickup of purchased products at a store to provide a collection bin at the store near the lockers for the purpose of collecting and recycling plastic film and expanded polystyrene packaging. The bill would require an online retailer that delivers purchased products to customers in this state to have an at-delivery recycling program that provides for the pickup at the time of delivery of plastic film and expanded polystyrene packaging for products previously purchased from the online retailer, at no cost to the customer. This bill would establish the At-Store Recycling Program. The bill would require an operator of a store to establish an at-store recycling program that provides customers the opportunity to return clean plastic carryout bags and clean durable plastic bags to the store. The bill would require a plastic carryout bag or a durable plastic bag provided by a store to have specified information printed or displayed on the bag, and would require the placement of a collection bin in each store that is visible and easily accessible to the consumer. The bill would require a store to maintain records describing the collection, transport, and recycling of plastic bags pursuant to these provisions for 3 years and to make the records available to the department and the local jurisdiction, upon request.	Failed to Move	6/6/2021			
AB-707	Quirk	Mercury Thermostat Collection Act of 2021	This bill would repeal the Mercury Thermostat Collection Act of 2008 and recast the program, as part of the state's hazardous waste control laws, as the Mercury Thermostat Collection Act of 2021. This bill would establish the Mercury Thermostat Collection Fund in the State Treasury. The bill would require, beginning January 30, 2022, and annually thereafter until an unspecified date, each manufacturer, as defined, of mercury-added thermostats, or group of manufacturers, to contribute moneys to the fund until an unspecified amount has been contributed to the fund for that calendar year, as provided. This bill would require the Department of Toxic Substances Control to issue a request for proposals for a qualified third party to develop and implement a convenient, cost-effective, and efficient program, as specified, for the collection, transportation, and recycling or disposal of out-of-service mercury-added thermostats, as defined.	Passed off the Assembly Floor with a 72 - 0 vote with 7 votes not recorded. It will be heard next in the Senate - committee(s) and date(s) TBA.	6/6/2021			
AB-1311	Wood	Recycling: beverage containers	This bill would require, on or before July 1, 2022, CalRecycle to develop and implement a process pursuant to which a certified recycling center can annually apply to the department for authorization to operate on an alternative schedule. The bill would require the department to include in its process, among other components, criteria the department shall use to authorize a certified recycling center to operate on an alternative schedule. The bill would provide that, until July 1, 2022, a certified recycling center or location that is not a reverse vending machine is additionally "open for business" if the certified recycling center or location receives written authorization from the department to operate pursuant to an appointment system during the hours of operation and the certified recycling center or location meets specified requirements. The bill would require the department to authorize a certified recycling center or location to operate pursuant to an appointment system only if the department determines that high customer demand, weather, or public health and safety concerns warrant the implementation of an appointment system at the certified recycling center or location, and the certified recycling center or location posts certain information.	Passed off the Assembly Floor with a 77-0 vote with 2 votes not recorded. Will be heard next in the Senate - committee and hearing date TBD.	6/6/2021			
AB-881	Gonzalez, Friedman, Cristina Garcia	Mixed plastic waste exports	AB 881 will close an existing loophole in California law that allows mixed plastic exports to be counted as recycling regardless of their ultimate destination, which is often overseas landfills, incinerators or waterways. This bill will ensure that only materials that are truly being recycled get counted towards state and local recycling goals. Until January 1, 2024, or the expiration of a relevant trade agreement or arrangement with Canada or Mexico, whichever is later, these provisions would not apply to exports to Canada or Mexico.	Passed off the Assembly Floor with a 76-0 vote with 2 votes not recorded. Will be heard next in the Senate Environmental Quality Committee, hearing date TBA.	6/6/2021			
AB-818	Bloom	Solid waste: premoistened nonwoven disposable wipes	This bill would require, except as provided, certain premoistened nonwoven disposable wipes manufactured on or after July 1, 2022, to be labeled clearly and conspicuously with the phrase "Do Not Flush" and a related symbol, as specified. The bill would prohibit a covered entity, as defined, from making a representation about the flushable attributes, benefits, performance, or efficacy of those premoistened nonwoven disposable wipes, as provided. The bill would establish enforcement provisions, including authorizing a civil penalty not to exceed \$2,500 per day, up to a maximum of \$100,000 per violation, to be imposed on a covered entity who violates those provisions. The bill would establish, until January 1, 2027, the California Consumer Education and Outreach Program, under which covered entities would be required, among other things, to participate in a collection study conducted in collaboration with wastewater agencies for the purpose of gaining understanding of consumer behavior regarding the flushing of premoistened nonwoven disposable wipes and to conduct a comprehensive multimedia education and outreach program in the state. The bill would require covered entities to annually report to specified legislative committees and the State Water Resources Control Board on their activities under the program and would require the state board to post the reports on its internet website.	Passed by Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials committee (Ayes 9. Noes 0). Passed by Judiciary committee (Ayes 11. Noes 0). Passed by Appropriations committee (Ayes 16. Noes 0.). Read second time and ordered to Consent calendar.	5/6/2021			

AB-318	Levine	Hazardous waste: classification: green waste	This bill would require, on or before January 1, 2023, the Department of Toxic Substances Control, in consultation with the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery and the Department of Food and Agriculture, to provide guidance to certified unified program agencies on how to characterize green waste, as defined, under the hazardous waste control laws and regulations.	Passed as amended by Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials (Ayes 9. Noes 0). Placed on Appropriations committee's suspense file.	5/5/2021		
SB-580	Hueso	DOT: highways and roads: recycled plastics study and certifications	This bill would authorize the department to conduct a study to assess the feasibility, cost effectiveness, and life-cycle environmental benefits and detrimental impacts of including recycled plastics in asphalt used as a paving material in the construction, maintenance, or rehabilitation of a highway or road. If the department conducts the study, the bill would require the Ocean Protection Council to analyze how including recycled plastics in asphalt for use as a paving material will impact the ocean's health and would require the department to assess, as part of the study, any life-cycle environmental benefits or detrimental impacts identified by the council. If the department determines that this use of recycled plastics is feasible and that recycled plastics can be included in asphalt in a manner that is cost effective and provides life-cycle environmental benefits, the bill would authorize the department to establish specifications for including recycled plastics in asphalt used as a paving material in the construction, maintenance, and rehabilitation of a highway or road. The bill would require the department to prepare and submit, on or before January 1 of each year, commencing January 1, 2023, an analysis to the Assembly Committee on Transportation and the Senate Committee on Transportation on its progress studying recycled plastics and its progress toward establishing specifications for including recycled plastics in asphalt, as described above. The bill would require a local agency that has jurisdiction over a street or highway to either adopt the specifications established by the Department of Transportation or discuss at a public hearing why the specifications are not being adopted. By increasing the duties of local agencies, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.	Passed by Committee on Transportation (Ayes 16. Noes 0). Placed on Appropriations committee's suspense file.	5/4/2021		
AB-1276	Carillo	Single-use food accessories and serviceware	This bill would prohibit a food facility or a third-party food delivery platform, as defined, from providing any single-use food accessories, as defined, to consumers unless requested by the consumer. The bill would require a third-party food delivery platform to provide each of its ready-to-eat food vendors with the option to customize the vendor's menu, on the online food-ordering platform, regarding the availability of single-use food accessories, as provided. The bill would, commencing on January 1, 2023, prohibit a full-service restaurant that has adequate dishwashing capacity to sanitize reusable serviceware from providing single-use serviceware to consumers except under specified conditions. The bill would require a city, county, or city and county governing body to select on or before June 1, 2022, to authorize an enforcement agency to enforce these requirements. The bill would specify that the first and 2nd violations of the prohibitions result in a notice of violation, and any subsequent violation is an infraction punishable by a fine of \$100 for each day in violation, but not to exceed an annual total of \$1000.	On 01-JUN-21:"Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate."	9/3/2021	On 26-AUG-21 the following history action was applied:"Read second time and amended. Ordered returned to second reading."	
AB-661	Bennett	Recycling: materials	This bill would require a state agency, if fitness and quality are equal, to purchase recycled products instead of nonrecycled products, without regard to cost. The bill would substantially revise product categories. The bill would require the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, in consultation with the DGS, to update a list of products and minimum recycled content percentages, as determined to be appropriate, commencing January 1, 2025, and every 3 years thereafter. The bill would require the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery and the DGS to incorporate the updated list of products and minimum recycled content requirements into the State Contracting Manual, the Financial Information System for California, and the financial system of any department not utilizing the Financial Information System for California. The bill would require the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery to maintain an internet website with current SABRC products and minimum recycled content requirements. The bill would establish product categories and minimum content and recyclability requirements, effective January 1, 2022, until updated by the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery.	May be enacted upon January 2022	6/6/2021		
AJR-4	Cristina Garcia	Mixed plastic waste exports	This resolution urges the United States federal government to ratify the Basel Convention, which is an international treaty that regulates the movement of hazardous waste across international borders, including mixed plastic waste.	Passed off the Assembly Floor with a 60 - 0 vote with 18 votes not recorded. Will be heard in the Senate Committee on Environmental Quality on 6/14.	6/6/2021		Ordered returned to second reading
AB-504	McCarty	Solid waste: commercial and organic waste: recycling bins	This bill would, for a theme park, amusement park, water park, resort or entertainment complex, zoo, attraction, or similar facility, restrict the requirement to provide customers with a recycling bin or container to permanent, nonmobile food service facilities with dedicated seating areas that are not full-service restaurants. The bill would authorize those facilities, instead of providing an organic recycling bin or container, to implement a process for recycling organic waste that yields results comparable to or greater in volume and quality to results attained by providing an organic waste recycling bin or container. The bill would also make other revisions to these provisions, including revising the definition of "full-service restaurant," deleting obsolete provisions, and making conforming changes.	In Senate. Read first time. To Rules Committee for assignment.	4/26/2021		
AB-246	Quirk	Contractors: disciplinary action	Existing law provides for the licensure and regulation of contractors by the Contractors' State License Board (board). Under existing law, a willful or deliberate disregard by a licensed contractor of various state building, labor, and safety laws constitutes a cause for disciplinary action by the board. This bill would reorganize these provisions and would add illegal dumping to the list of violations that constitute a cause for disciplinary action against a contractor by the board.	Passed off the Assembly Floor with a 77-0 vote with 2 votes not recorded. Will be heard in the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee on 6/7/2021	6/6/2021		
AB-1200	Ting	Plant-based food packaging: cookware: hazardous chemicals	This bill would prohibit, beginning January 1, 2023, any person from distributing, selling, or offering for sale in the state any food packaging that contains intentionally added perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances or PFAS, as defined. The bill would require a manufacturer to use the least toxic alternative when replacing PFAS chemicals. The bill would define "food packaging," in part, to mean a nondurable package, packaging component, or food service ware that is comprised, in substantial part, of paper, paperboard, or other materials originally derived from plant fibers.	Referred to Senate Committees on Health and Environmental Quality	6/6/2021		

<p>AB-478</p>	<p>Ting</p>	<p>Solid waste: thermoform plastic containers: postconsumer recycled plastic</p>	<p>This bill, on and after January 1, 2024, would require the total thermoform plastic containers, as defined, sold by a producer, as defined, in the state to contain, on average, specified amounts of postconsumer recycled plastic, as defined, per year pursuant to a tiered plan that would require the total thermoform plastic containers to contain, on average, no less than 30% postconsumer recycled plastic per year on and after January 1, 2030.</p> <p>The bill would impose annual administrative penalties in a specified amount, calculated as prescribed, on a producer for violating these requirements. The bill would require collected administrative penalties to be deposited into the Recycling Enhancement Penalty Account, which the bill would create. The bill would make moneys in the penalty account available only upon appropriation by the Legislature.</p> <p>The bill would require, on or before March 1 of each year, a producer to report to the department, under penalty of perjury, the amount in pounds and by resin type of virgin plastic and postconsumer recycled plastic used to manufacture the thermoform plastic containers sold or offered for sale in the state in the previous calendar year.</p>	<p>Passed off the Assembly Floor with a 54 - 3 vote, with 21 votes not recorded. Ordered to the Senate - committee and hearing date TBA.</p>	<p>6/6/2021</p>
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Cal Water Service Rebate Programs

Cal Water just re-launched two water savings programs. The [lawn-to-garden](#) rebate program enables customers to transform grassy areas into water-wise gardens and landscapes. The [spray-to-drip](#) program pays customers for every square foot of landscape area that is converted from spray-to-drip irrigation.

All applications for these two new programs must be submitted through the new online application system.

Single-family, multi-family residential, and commercial customers are eligible to receive \$3.00 for every square foot of lawn removed, with the option of receiving an additional \$0.50 per square foot if converting from spray-to-drip irrigation. The spray-to-drip rebate is also available as a standalone option.

Single-family residential

- Minimum converted: 250 square feet; maximum eligible: 1,500 square feet
- Eligible areas include front yards, backyards, and side yards

Multi-family residential and commercial

- Minimum converted: 250 square feet; maximum eligible: 10,000 square feet
- Eligible areas include common landscape areas, median islands, and parkways (small strips of landscape located between the sidewalk and curb)

- Artificial turf is not allowed in the converted portion of the landscape
- At least 50% of the converted landscape must include water-wise, climate-appropriate, California-friendly plant material
- A simple site plan showing plant selections and irrigation layout is required
- Clear, current, and colored before and after photos of the project are required
- Once a Cal Water conservation representative reviews and approves the preliminary application, applicants will receive a “Notice to Proceed” email. Applicants have 90 days to complete their project after receiving the Notice to Proceed approval
- Participants who have removed their lawn prior to receiving the Notice to Proceed email will be disqualified from applying
- The irrigation system in the converted landscape must be converted to drip irrigation or high efficiency sprinkler nozzles
- Only drip equipment and high efficiency sprinkler nozzles listed on Cal Water’s Qualified Product List as evidenced by a purchase receipt are rebate eligible

For additional details on the lawn-to-garden and spray-to-drip program, please visit conservation.calwater.com to review the application process, frequently asked questions, and terms and conditions of the rebates.

Cal Water has additional rebates and programs available to customers and free Conservation Kits, please visit Calwater.com to learn more.