Council Meeting of
May 20, 2008

Honorable Mayor and Members
of the City Council
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: City Manager, Community Development, and Public Works - Adopt Resolution to support the expansion of the Los Angeles County Recycling Market Development Zone.

Expenditure: $1,500.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the City Manager, Community Development Director and the Public Works Director that City Council adopt a Resolution to support the expansion of the Los Angeles County Recycling Market Development Zone as designated by the California Integrated Waste Management Board.

Funding

Funding of $1,500 is available in the Economic Development budget.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) program is an economic and technical assistance program that is dedicated to establishing, sustaining, and expanding recycling-based manufacturing businesses. Currently the Los Angeles County RMDZ encompasses all the unincorporated areas of the County of Los Angeles and the cities of Burbank, Carson, Commerce, El Monte, Glendale, South Gate, and Vernon. The Los Angeles County RMDZ program seeks to expand to include the cities of Compton, Inglewood, Palmdale, and Torrance.

Through its current and proposed waste management practices and conditions, the Los Angeles County RMDZ program assists local jurisdictions in meeting the established landfill reduction goals (cities and counties must meet a 50 percent reduction in landfill waste disposal as mandated in the California Integrated Waste Management Act). The program also includes a low interest loan for targeted businesses located in the RMDZ that either manufacture products using recycled materials or process materials that are difficult to recycle, such as construction and demolition debris. The RMDZ program thus stimulates a market for recyclables that includes post-consumer (products recycled by the public after use, such as water bottles) and secondary (by-products of production) materials.

The Economic Development Office of the City Manager's Office has determined that the expansion of the Los Angeles County RMDZ would facilitate local and regional planning, coordination, and support of existing recycling-based manufacturing businesses in Torrance and potentially attract private sector recycling business investments to the region. Both existing and new recycling-based manufacturing businesses located within the region would be eligible for the technical and financial incentives associated with the RMDZ program.

Respectfully submitted,

LeROY J. JACKSON
CITY MANAGER

By Eleanor Barthe-Jones
Eleanor Barthe-Jones
Management Associate

CONCUR:

Robert J. Beste
Public Works Director

Jeffery W. Gibson
Community Development Director

LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

Attachments:
A) Resolution

Attachment A

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-___

A RESOLUTION BY THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTING THE EXPANSION OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY RECYCLING MARKET DEVELOPMENT ZONE

WHEREAS, the California Public Resources Code Section 42010 provides for the establishment of the Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) program throughout the State to provide incentives to stimulate development of post-consumer and secondary materials markets for recyclables; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County RMDZ includes Burbank, Carson, Commerce, El Monte, Glendale, South Gate, and Vernon; and

WHEREAS, cities and counties must meet a 50 percent reduction in landfill waste disposal as mandated in the California Integrated Waste Management Act; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County RMDZ is dedicated to establishing, sustaining and expanding recycling-based manufacturing businesses, which is essential for market development and to assist local jurisdictions to meeting the established landfill reduction goals; and

WHEREAS, the City of Torrance wants existing and new recycling-based manufacturing businesses located within the region to be eligible for the technical and financial incentives associated with the RMDZ program; and

WHEREAS, the expansion of the Los Angeles County RMDZ is still necessary to facilitate local and regional planning, coordination, support of existing recycling-based manufacturing businesses, as well as attract private sector recycling business investments to the region; and

WHEREAS, the current and proposed waste management practices and conditions are favorable to the development of post-consumer and secondary waste materials markets; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act, has prepared, or caused to be prepared, and adopted a Negative Declaration for this zone expansion project that finds that the project will not have a significant impact on the environment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Torrance has reviewed and considered the information in the Negative Declaration adopted by Los Angeles County that finds that the zone expansion project will not have a significant impact on the environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HEREBY approves the submittal of a recycling Market Development Zone expansion application to include the cities of Compton, Inglewood, Palmdale, and Torrance, and agrees to administer the RMDZ program in a manner that seeks to ensure the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures and incomes, including but not limited to soliciting public participation in all communities within the RMDZ.

Introduced, approved and adopted this ___ day of May, 2008.

_____
Mayor Frank Scotto

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
JOHN FELLOWS III, City Attorney

by _____
Ronald T. Pohl, Assistant City Attorney

ATTEST:

_____
Sue Herbers
City Clerk