About Us

W.W.W. — Who, What, & Why

Who is L.A.R.A.?

LARA is a consortium of several cities in Southern California. We are currently 18 cities strong (and counting!) The Los Angeles Area Regional Agency was formed by conscious recycling advocates from the member cities.

In 2004, CalRecycle (California's Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery) approved the formation of LARA. All members of LARA work together to insure their city meets and exceeds the mandates set by State Assembly Bill 939.

Click Here for LARA'S 10 year anniversary presentation

What is L.A.R.A.’s Mission?

To enhance the quality of living in member communities through conscious means of promoting environmental sustainability and responsibility

LARA JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT & BY LAWS
5. Article 1 provides for agreements between two or more public agencies to jointly exercise any power common to the contracting parties, subject to certain mandatory provisions contained therein; and

Whereas, the State of California has enacted the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939), California Public Resources Code § 40000 et seq., mandating that municipalities and county unincorporated areas divert material from disposal, and has promulgated regulations promoting material reuse and recycling; and

Whereas, the foregoing Parties to this agreement have the power to provide waste management services including the storage, collection, recycling, and disposal of solid wastes within their respective jurisdictions; and

Bylaws

Of the

Los Angeles Area Regional Agency

Why Join L.A.R.A?

Here are some of the advantages of being in L.A.R.A.
LARA submits a consolidated report on behalf of its members for all of the 55 Source Reduction & Recycling Element Programs

- Cities can focus on program implementation rather than numerical compliance
- LARA allows cities to share cost and conduct new “regional level” base year studies, if required
- Provide member cites a unified voice on issues and concerns faced by each member
- LARA is allowed to average waste diversion and disposal over all cities in the agency, smoothing out fluctuations due to confusion about jurisdictional boundaries or changes in the Disposal Reporting System. The City of Los Angeles, because of our size can easily absorb these fluctuations. With the economy on the upswing, the disposal is likely to go up, hence the diversion rate goes down. The City of Los Angeles being the lead jurisdiction has a diversion rate of 76.4% as of 2012.
- Network coordination and peer sharing
- Low annual fee—based on the latest disposal report from Cal Recycle and the D.R.S. (Disposal Reporting System). This fee can be negotiated with the waste hauler so that the waste hauler pays the annual membership fee.

Here is what The City of Torrance said about LARA

"Without LARA, each jurisdiction will have to hire their own contractor/consultant to prepare the annual report and for some cities the cost of hiring a consultant is more than the annual fee each one pays to LARA. The C.O.W. is simple and easy to use. Torrance raves about it. Without the umbrella of LARA, it is easy for jurisdictions to fall behind in implementing their programs as detailed in their SRRE. There is enormous support and assistance from LARA."

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