21 November 2019

**RE: Compost Collection in the City of San Diego**

Short-lived climate pollutants (SLPCs) such as methane, refrigerants, and soot particles are some of the most potent contributors to global warming. Methane (CH4) has a global warming potential of 25, indicating that 1 gram of methane (CH4) is equivalent to 25 grams of Carbon dioxide (CO2) over a 100-year time frame. The State of California Air Resources Board passed new rules aiming to meet targets first set in 2015: a 40% reduction in methane and fluorinated gases and a 50% reduction in non-forest black carbon emissions by 2030, below 2013 levels. These rules went into effect January 2018.

Landfill emissions are the 3rd largest source of methane gas in California, accounting for 21% of methane emissions. In landfills, organic matter decomposes under anaerobic conditions and landfill gas is comprised of 50% methane and 50% carbon dioxide. By removing organic waste from landfills, methane emissions can be significantly reduced.

The Peninsula Community Planning Board asks that the City and County of San Diego be a leader and champion to reach the goals set by the Air Resources Board and re-evaluate the current waste management policies. We ask that the City start compost collections for commercial and residential trash pick-up as many cities across the country, such as Seattle and San Francisco are doing already. With increasing housing density and decreasing yard space, backyard composting is not a viable alternative in the long run. We have the opportunity to be a leader in the fight against global warming!

Sincerely,

Robert (Bob) Goldyn  
*PCPB Chairman*

_Approved by Action of the Peninsula Community Planning Board on 21 November 2019._

**Distribution:**

Mayor Kevin Faulconer  
City Council  
County Supervisor