

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE CHAPTER 8.27

The proposed ordinance would amend Title 8 of the County of Fresno Ordinance Code that addresses and governs the management, collection, and diversion of solid waste. Chapter 8.27 shall establish the Organics Disposal Reduction Program, applicable with respect to the collection, transportation, and recycling of organic waste within the County. The State of California, through its enactment of Senate Bill 1383 ("SB 1383," Chapter 395, Statutes of 2016), mandated that jurisdictions achieve significant reductions in Short-Lived Climate Pollutants through reduction of organic waste disposal in landfills by 2025. SB 1383 authorized creation of regulations (14 CCR, Sections 18891.1-18998.4) that prescribe standardized solid waste collection systems and protocols that facilitate traditional gray container (trash) and blue container (recyclables) waste collection, but expand green container materials collection to include "organics" which is both green waste (grass, leaves, branches, etc.) and food waste. The proposed ordinance would: (1) create an organic waste collection program in the County that would be executed through the existing solid waste "Exclusive Service Area Program" or "ESAP"; (2) establish the County's "Designated Collection System" which would be a three container source separated materials system; (3) outline waste diversion requirements for single-family, multifamily, and commercial generators of organic waste; (4) outline requirements for commercial edible food generators, food recovery organizations and services, haulers, and facility operators; (5) establish criteria applicable to commercial organic waste generators for qualifying for a waiver from waste diversion requirements; (6) establish "self-hauling" and outline requirements for generators who opt to forego collection service and provide for hauling themselves; (7) create protocols for performing inspections and investigations related to compliance with the proposed ordinance and State of California regulations; and (8) establish enforcement powers and protocol and authorizes the use of punitive enforcement tools such as administrative citations, fines, as well as less punitive tools such as education and outreach materials for addressing non-compliance.