



Zero Waste in Alameda

April 25th, 2009



Envision a world without waste

Garbage without Guilt

Assembly Bill 939

Alameda County Measure D

**Local Action Plan for
Climate Protection**

Assembly Bill 32

25% diversion by 1995

50% diversion by 2000

75% diversion by 2010

**Reduce GHG emissions to 25% below
2005 levels by 2025**

**Reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020
Reduce to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050**



Alameda Firsts

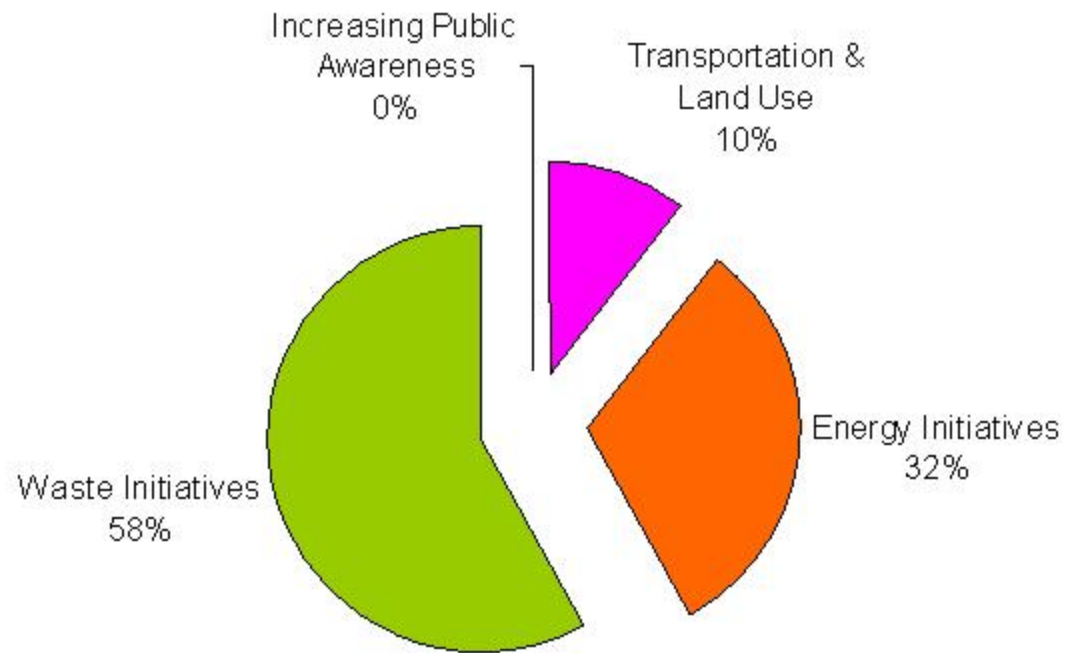
- Cart collection program 1997
- Food scrap diversion 2002
- Comprehensive construction and demolition recycling requirements 2002
- Climate Protection Local Action Plan 2008
- Ban on polystyrene to-go containers 2008
- 48% diversion 1995
- 65% diversion 2000
- 68% diversion 2005



Zero Waste and Climate Change

- **Landfills**
 - Create carbon dioxide and methane
 - Account for 25% of U.S. methane emissions
 - Methane is 21 x more potent than carbon dioxide
- **Waste prevention, recycling and composting**
 - Save energy
 - Divert materials from landfills
 - Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- **Recycling & composting all discards = eliminating all auto exhaust**

City of Alameda GHG Reduction Analysis



Integrated waste management system offers
the most effective GHG reduction potential

Climate Protection Local Action Plan

Zero Waste Initiatives

- ☒ Ban on polystyrene foam to-go containers
 - Stronger environmental purchasing policy
 - Stronger construction and demolition ordinance
 - Develop more locations for bottle and can recycling
 - Work with Alameda Unified School District to implement recycling, reuse and composting at schools

What is Zero Waste?

- **Zero Waste**

- Recognizes that “waste” is not inevitable
- Discarded materials are potentially valuable resources
- Goes beyond “end of the line” strategies
- Maximizes recycling and composting
- Reduces consumption
- Designs “waste” out of the system

Paradigm Shift

- Recyclables used to be what we kept out of the trash
- Now trash is what we have leftover after we reuse, recycle and compost





**Reduce
Reuse
Recycle**
= Zero Waste

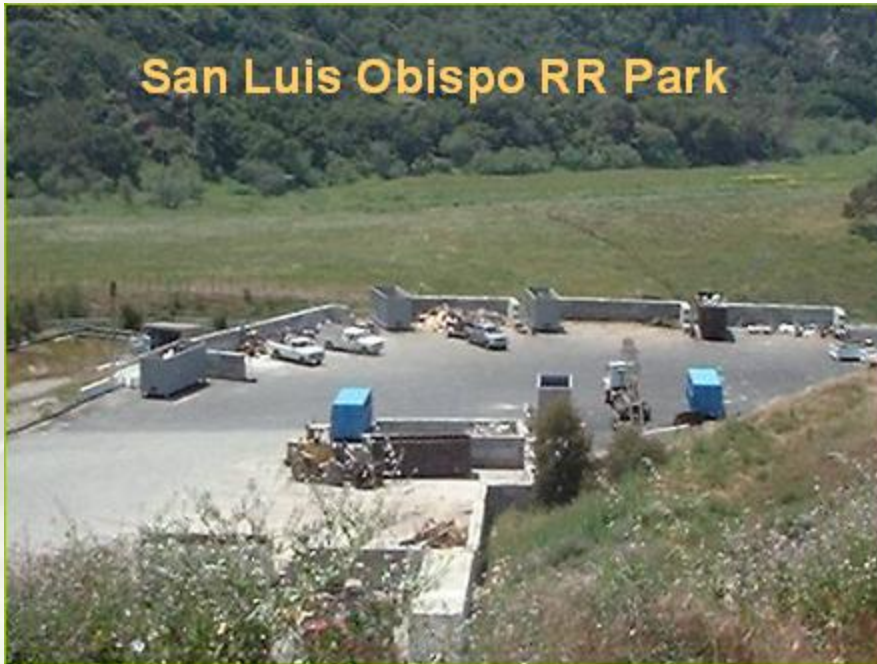
Upstream Zero Waste Policies and Programs

- Advocate for Extended Producer Responsibility for toxics
- Advocate for Extended Producer Responsibility for difficult to recycle materials
- Advocate for state packaging legislation
- Single use bag ban
- Precautionary Principle for City purchases
- Update Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy

Downstream Zero Waste Policies and Programs

- Modify collection rates to increase recycling
- Increased recycling technical assistance
- Add textiles and more plastics to the blue cart
- Increase bulky item reuse and recycling
- Add compostable plastics to the green cart
- Large scale media/social marketing campaign
- Mandatory recycling
- Mandatory organics
- Recycling code enforcement
- Require all construction and demolition (C&D) debris loads to be processed
- Increase diversion requirements in C&D ordinance

Community Scale Zero Waste Facilities



- Reuse stores
- Building materials reuse
- Creative reuse
- Electronics repair
- Fix-it shops
- Pallet repair
- Food donation
- Equipment rental
- Resource Recovery Parks
- Community gardens and composting
- Household hazardous waste drop-off
- Product care centers
- Recycling and remanufacturing

If not Zero Waste, how
much waste are you for?



Zero Waste Plan Schedule

- **June 11th Workshop**
 - 7 p.m.
 - Alameda Free Library
 - 1550 Oak Street
 - Results of analysis of
 - Policies and programs
 - Service opportunities
 - Economics
 - Input on zero waste implementation plan

Check for updates at:

www.planetalamda.com

