Sample Mandatory Commercial Recycling Ordinance

Yvonne Hunter
California Climate Action Network
Sonoma County Solid Waste Meeting
May 19, 2010
About the Institute for Local Government

• Founded 1955
• 501(c)(3) Research and education arm of:
  – League of California Cities
  – California State Association of Counties
OVERVIEW OF THE SAMPLE COMMERCIAL RECYCLING ORDINANCE
Sample Ordinance Development Process

- Review existing ordinances
- Advisory Committee
- Work with attorney for drafting
- CIWMB stakeholder workshops
- Solicit broader review and comment
- Coordinate with CIWMB staff
Elements of Sample Ordinance

• Voluntary adoption by local agencies

• Flexibility to fit local conditions

• Background discussion of key issues

• Options and commentary on key provisions
LEAD BY EXAMPLE

The recycling requirements apply to the local agency adopting the ordinance.
Key Decision Points in Sample Ordinance

- Definition of recyclable materials
- Compost and food waste
- Include multi-family or not
- Threshold for inclusion
- Enforcement options
- C & D waste
- Special events
What about Mixed Waste MRFs?
WHAT WE LEARNED: KEY FEATURES FOR SUCCESS

• A tiered fee structure is needed to act as an incentive to recycle

• A robust and comprehensive education program is critical
WHAT WE LEARNED (cont)

• Enforcement can be resource intensive

• Compliance by businesses not always guaranteed—monitoring is important

• Exclusive franchise vs. open competition impacts – work with haulers
State Regulatory Update

• CalRecycle develops regulations
• Air Resources Board adopts
• Includes local flexibility
• “Mandate” on business and local agencies
• June 16 stakeholder workshop
Pilot Communities

- Monitor progress
- Learn from experience
- Voluntary
- Contact CCAN if interested
Sample ordinance and supporting material available at:

www.ca-ilg.org/commercialrecycling