



CITY OF MENIFEE

SUBJECT: Waste Management Senior Bill Assistance Program Review

MEETING DATE: February 1, 2023

TO: Mayor and City Council

PREPARED BY: Kori Jones, Senior Management Analyst

REVIEWED BY: Jonathan Nicks, Community Services Director

APPROVED BY: Armando G. Villa, City Manager

RECOMMENDED ACTION

1. Review Senior Bill Assistance Program and provide direction to staff regarding modification, extension, or continuation until funds are exhausted.

DISCUSSION

California Senate Bill 1383 (SB 1383) requires households and most businesses to separate organic waste such as food scraps and yard waste into their green organics bin. These items are then recycled into compost and thus diverted from state landfills. California has a lofty goal of reaching 75% diversion of organic materials from landfills by 2025. As such, local jurisdictions have been tasked with ensuring implementation, education, outreach, and compliance of the state mandate.

In April 2022, the City negotiated with Waste Management to phase in the costs of collecting and processing residential organics over a two-year period for regular residential accounts and a three-year period for accounts designated as senior accounts. To additionally off-set the cost increase to the Menifee senior community, the City Council approved a Senior Bill Assistance Program as part of the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 mid-year budget in the amount of \$150,000. The one-time \$50 credit has been made available to Menifee residents over the age of 60 who furnish proof of residency and a recent Waste Management bill to the Community Services Department. As of January 2023, the Program has approved 2,645 one-time bill credits or \$132,250, leaving \$17,750 remaining in the Program budget.

Staff requests that Council review the Program and provide direction on extending or concluding the program once funds have been exhausted. If extended, the Program will continue to be available to Menifee seniors where it is estimated there are an additional 3,000 households that have not applied for assistance. Funding to extend the Program for seniors who have not already applied for the one-time bill credit is estimated at \$150,000. This estimate does not include the

potential for senior residents who have already taken advantage of the bill credit, to reapply for a second \$50 credit.

The City is not required to off-set the costs of waste bill increases attributed to the state law and is on-track with compliance in areas mandated under SB 1383 which include collection, reporting, capacity planning, edible food recovery, outreach/education, and enforcement.

STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE

Responsive and Transparent Community Government

FISCAL IMPACT

Should City Council provide direction to continue the Senior Bill Assistance Program beyond the originally budgeted \$150,000, an additional appropriation to account 100-4661-52852 will be required based on the parameters of the extension of the Program.

ATTACHMENTS

None.