



CITY COUNCIL

Darryl Moore
Councilmember District 2

CONSENT CALENDAR
December 18, 2007

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Darryl Moore
Councilmember Linda Maio
Councilmember Dona Spring

Subject: Exempting the Transfer Station and the Ecology Center Recycling Facility from the West Berkeley Auto Sales Zoning Amendments

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City exempt the solid waste and recycling facilities at Second and Gilman Streets from the West Berkeley Auto Sales Zoning Overlay and these sites are to be maintained for municipal services

BACKGROUND:

The Planning Commission approved a recommendation to the City Council during its September 26th meeting that would allow auto sales in the manufacturing zoning districts (MM and MULI), which includes the City-owned nine-acre recycling and solid waste facility at Second and Gilman streets.

The recycling and solid waste facility provides an important community environmental service that: Protects public health and safety, prevents greenhouse-gas generation by increasingly preventing landfilling, recovers resources for the community's benefit, will play a vital role in implementing the City's goal to achieve zero waste, provides green good jobs, and generates substantial income for the City from user fees; all functions the community values and wants to provide in the future on this site.

The contemplated zoning change is likely to increase property values in the zone and may cause increasing pressure for the City to consider a change of use on some or all of this site, displacing this vital community asset. There has been a significant amount of support from the community and several members of the Zero Waste Commission to protect this site and use from possible future financial pressures.

It is recommended that the City-owned property at Second and Gilman Streets: the Berkeley Transfer Station at 1201 Second Street, the Ecology Center Recycling Facility at 1231 2nd Street and the Community Conservation Center at 669 Gilman Street, where the City's recycling and solid waste facility currently resides, will be exempted from the contemplated zoning change that would allow auto sales in the manufacturing zone and will be retained for municipal services.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

To Be Determined

CONTACT PERSON:

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