

## STATE OF RECYCLING

#### **International Policies & Commodity Pricing**









#### Athens' Commitment to the Environment

- We are committed to providing services that help preserve our environment
  - Proper waste separation
  - Usage of fuel-efficient vehicles
  - Investing in technology that allows for better efficiency in capturing material
  - Selling and shipping material to environmentally responsible buyers
  - Ensuring compliance with international laws as they pertain to scrap shipments
  - Landfill avoidance



# How are Culver City recyclables processed?

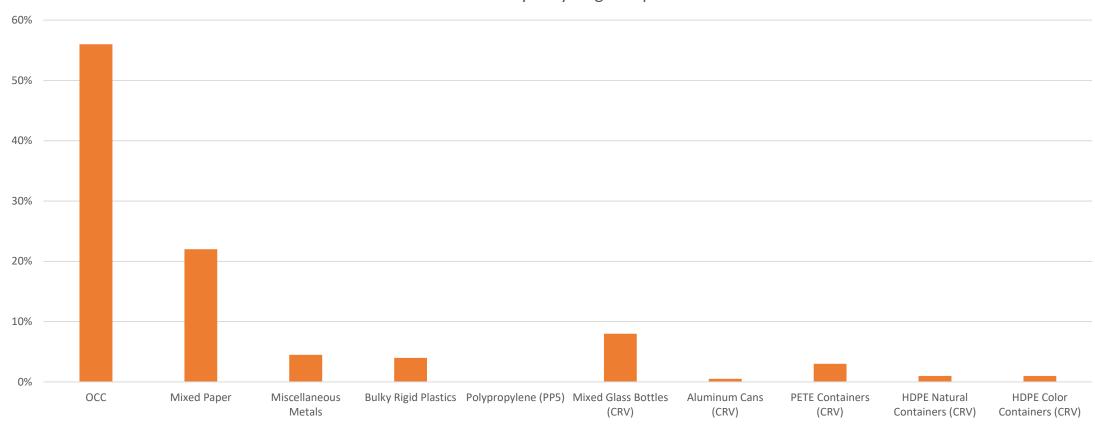
- Culver City materials are processed at Puente Hills MRF
- Recycling processing includes;
  - Pre-sorting and bag breaker
  - Debris Roll Screen
  - Heavy Material Separating
  - Fiber Separation
  - Magnetic & Optical Sorting
- Materials are then baled and shipped





### **Culver City Recycling Characterization**

#### 2022 Culver City Recycling Composition





#### Chinas Impact on the World's Scrap

- ♣In 2013 China's consumption: 13.6 million tons of plastic and 56.6 million tons of fiber
- ♣55% of the world's scrap was consumed by China
- ♣44% of the US scrap was consumed by China
- ♣In order to crack down on illegal solid waste imports and improve environmental health, China moved forward with several initiatives



- ♣ February 2013: Green Fence launched
- ♣ February 2017: National Sword announced
- △ July 18, 2017: China files intent to ban certain recyclables with WTO
- △ Late July 2017: China proposes 0.3 percent maximum contamination levels
- ♣ Mid-August 2017: Reports of slowdown in exports to China
- ♣ Late September 2017: Initial impacts of import restrictions reach curbside programs and MRFs
- ♣ November 2017: China increases contamination limit to 0.5 percent
- △ December 2017 to January 2018: China issues limited import permits for 2018



- △ January 2018: Significant shifts in material flow away from China
- △ March 2018: 0.5 percent contamination limit takes effect
- Mid-March 2018: Blue Sky 2018 announced
- ♠ Mid-April 2018: China announces additional materials prohibited by end of the year
- △ June-July 2018: Southeast Asian countries raise quality standards or ban imports
- △ July 2018: China declares intent for full recyclable import ban by 2020
- △ July-September 2018: Plastic scrap imports decline in SE Asia



- △ July-September 2018: Plastic scrap imports decline in SE Asia
- ♠ October 2018: Chinese investment in US recycling infrastructure continues to grow
- ♣ November 2018: Southeast Asian countries continue to limit scrap plastic imports
- △ January 2019: Plastic scrap imports to China down 99 percent in 2018, recovered fiber down 34 percent
- △ March 2019: India scrap plastic import ban announced, postponed until August 2019
- ♠ March 2019: Indonesia sets recovered paper import restrictions and quality requirements, then postpones changes until further notice
- △ March 2019: Vietnam announces plan to ban all plastic scrap imports by 2025
- ♣ April 2019: Exports of scrap paper and plastic declining since November 2018



- ♣ April 2019: Malaysia dealing with a spike of plastic scrap shipments fraudulently labeled as finished plastic products
- ♠ May 2019: China announces retaliatory tariffs on US goods that includes 20% duty on recycled paper pulp
- △ May 2019: Malaysia sending some non-recyclable plastic scrap back to countries of origin
- △ December 2019: China stops planned additional tariff increase on OCC, other fiber, and scrap aluminum imported from the US
- △ January 2020: China acknowledges scrap is different from solid waste in their updated standards for nonferrous metal imports
- ♣ January 2020: India will enforce 1% contamination limit on mixed paper imports



## Where is material going now?

- ♣ Stays domestic: California and anywhere in the US
- Mexico
- ♣ South America
- ♣ India
- Southeast Asia
  - Indonesia
  - Vietnam
  - Thailand
  - Malaysia
  - South Korea







### What affects Pricing?

- Supply and demand
- Scrap import policies
- Quality of the material
- Time of the year (Overseas holidays)
- International trade policies
- Finished product pricing
- Transportation costs (fuel, freight)

COMMODITY	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
GLASS	\$181	\$175		\$46	\$20	\$27	\$46
ALUM CANS	\$3,908	\$4,186	\$4,245	\$3,811	\$3,868	\$4,306	\$4,406
ALUM SCRAP	\$473	\$552	\$789	\$527	\$368	\$648	\$746
ALUM FOIL	\$226	\$592	\$515	\$290	\$257	\$658	\$711
METAL	\$92	\$145	\$231	\$148	\$119	\$198	\$177
TIN CANS	\$64	\$134	\$178	\$107	\$91	\$180	\$153
ASEPTIC CARTONS	\$74	\$50	\$45	\$12	\$9	\$15	\$13
SRPN						\$154	\$157
MAGAZINE	\$140	\$154	\$129	\$68	\$63	\$103	\$0
MIX PAPER	\$95	\$92	\$55	\$24		\$95	\$74
OLD NEWSPAPER			\$115	\$73	\$72	\$0	\$0
OFFICE PACK			\$180	\$119	\$116	\$180	\$214
осс	\$137	\$180	\$106	\$62	\$93	\$168	\$132
WHITE LEDGER	\$185	\$185	\$255	\$242	\$179	\$0	\$0
SCRAP CARTS					\$134		\$175
BULKY	\$160	\$87	\$56	\$68	\$84	\$141	\$152
HDPE COLOR	\$436	\$356	\$383	\$357	\$296	\$720	\$360
HDPE NATURAL	\$620	\$550	\$738	\$710	\$1,030	\$1,805	\$1,052
PET	\$2,058	\$1,890	\$1,748	\$1,833	\$1,555	\$1,693	\$1,653
PET- SCRAP		\$155	\$200	\$122	\$195	\$231	\$241
PP#5			\$170	\$185	\$92	\$303	\$181



### How can we improve our recycling?

#### Best practices

- Loose
- Dry
- Unbagged
- Make sure cart lids are closed
- Keep lids on PLASTIC beverage containers
- Remove lids on GLASS beverage containers
- Refer to the City's educational outreach materials







## Thank you