



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Whittier Chapter



An activity of UNA Whittier

May 15, 2023

Esteemed Mayor and City Council members:

At the city council meeting of May 9, 2023 a discussion took place regarding the issue of contracting one trash service provider for all of the city. Currently, two providers serve Whittier, Republic, and Athens. It was decided that negotiations would be held between the city, these current providers, and any other trash service provider that is interested in bidding for a contract. Mayor Vinatieri suggested that the trash service provider that is "hungry" needs to be sought to get the lowest rate.

A recent follow-up study of the city's carbon footprint revealed that vehicle emissions are the main contributor to our air pollution. Wisely, the city has invested in converting 8 city-owned trucks to ones powered by CNG (compressed natural gas). As part of the contract negotiation, the city needs to include the provision that the trash service trucks operate with a clean energy source and preferably electric power.

Furthermore, the city should incentivize the provider by offering to share in the expense of upgrading their trucks to zero-emission ones while at the same time making this an incentive to keep their customer rates low.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anthony J. Arula".

Whittier Area Environmental Coalition

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