

KC Council Committee Proposes Tire Fee

The Kansas City Council's Public Safety and Neighborhoods Committee gave preliminary approval to an August ballot measure that would ask voters for permission to charge dealers in new or used tires an annual \$250 fee.

Gary Majors, manager of Kansas City's Regulated Industries Division, said the fee would allow the city to hire two new full-time inspectors to regulate dealers and tire haulers and make sure they properly dispose of used tires.

The new law would also require anyone hauling or transporting more than five tires in a vehicle in the city to obtain a permit. If police see a vehicle carrying hundreds of tires late at night, they could stop that vehicle to make sure it has the proper registration.

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Colorado Senate Committee Approves Scrap Tire Measure

A bill that would direct more resources to cleanup, enforcement and market development continues to work its way through the Colorado legislature. Last month HB 1018, which passed the House in March, was unanimously approved by the Colorado Senate Transportation Committee. The measure will next be considered by the Senate Finance Committee.

The Rubber Manufacturers Association (RMA), representing tire manufacturers in the U.S., has been working to change Colorado's scrap tire law since the last changes were made to the program several years ago. RMA testified in favor of the legislation.

"HB 1018 is the result of eight months of negotiation among all major scrap tire stakeholders in Colorado," said Michael Blumenthal, RMA vice president, who testified in support of HB 1018. "If enacted, Colorado will be able to address some of the gaps in their program, while focusing on market development and continued stockpile abatement."

Colorado currently imposes a \$1.50 fee on new tires that should be used for enforcement of state scrap tire regulations, cleanup of waste tire piles and market development.

"Unfortunately, Colorado has not effectively managed scrap tires," Blumenthal said. "The state has the greatest number of tires in stockpiles in the nation and unless the system is changed, those piles will continue to grow." See **Colorado** page 16...

Manex and UC Berkeley Issue Study On Recycled Rubber In Artificial Turf Applications

The Corporation for Manufacturing Excellence (Manex) and the Laboratory for Manufacturing and Sustainability (LMAS) at the University of California, Berkeley, have released the results of their study on the impact, effectiveness, and safety of recycled tire crumb in artificial turf applications.

The Manex/UC Berkeley study reviews the benefits of recycled crumb rubber in artificial turf applications, providing insight for the material's growth in popularity and addressing common issues surrounding its efficacy and safety. The research also analyzes the primary features, economic benefits and other advantages that have led to the widespread expansion and adoption of artificial turf using recycled crumb rubber infill.

The research conducted by Manex and Berkeley is among the most comprehensive reports to date, reviewing and assessing existing studies from the past 12 years, as See **Manex** page 5...

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