Appendix 1.1. California Cities that have Pursued a Polystyrene Ban

Please note that not all of these bans are in place: many have been challenged or overturned.

Alameda Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be compostable or recyclable	(2008)
Albany Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be compostable or recyclable	(2008)
Aliso Viejo Government facility expanded polystyrene ban	(2005) Ordinance #2004-060
Berkeley Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that 50% of takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable	(adopted 1988) Title 11.58 and 11.60 of Municipal Code
Calabasas Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable	(2008)
Capitola Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all disposable takeout food packaging be compostable	(2009)
Carmel Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that 50% of takeout food packaging be recyclable, compostable or reusable	(1989)
Del Ray Oaks Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable	(effective July 1, 2010) More information available on page 35 of Agenda Packet
Emeryville Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable	(2008)
Fairfax Expanded polystyrene ban for all restaurants and food retail vendors	(1993) Title 8.16 of Municipal Code
Fremont Expanded polystyrene ban for food vendors, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable	(effective January 1, 2011)

Hayward Expanded polystyrene ban for restaurant vendors, requirement that takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable	(effective July 2011)
Hercules Expanded polystyrene ban	(2008) Sec. 5-3109, Title 5, Chapter 3 of Municipal Code
Huntington Beach Government facility expanded polystyrene ban	(2005)
Laguna Beach Polystyrene ban, requirement that all plastic takeout food packaging be recyclable	(2008) Title 7. 05 of Municipal Code
Laguna Hills Government facility expanded polystyrene ban	(2008)
Laguna Woods Government facility expanded polystyrene ban	(2004)
Los Angeles City Government facility expanded polystyrene ban	(2008) Chapter IV, Article 13 of Municipal Code
Los Angeles County Government facility expanded polystyrene ban	(2008)
Malibu Expanded polystyrene ban	(2005) Title 9.24 of Municipal Code
Marin County Expanded polystyrene ban	(effective January 1, 2010)
Millbrae Polystyrene ban, requirement that all plastic takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable	(2008)
Monterey City Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable	(2009)
Monterey County Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable	(effective November 2010) Title 10, Chapter 10. 42 of Municipal Code
Newport Beach Expanded polystyrene ban	(2008) Title 6, Section 5 of Municipal Code

Oakland Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be compostable	(2007) Businesses that generate a large portion of litter must pay a litter fee Title 8. 07 of Municipal Code
Orange County Government facility expanded polystyrene ban, including cities of Aliso Viejo, Huntington Beach, Laguna Hills, Laguna Woods, San Clemente, San Juan Capistrano and the Santa Margarita Water District	(2005/6)
Pacific Grove Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable	(2008) Title 11, Chapter 11. 99 of Municipal Code
Pacifica Expanded polystyrene ban	(effective January 1, 2010)
Palo Alto Expanded polystyrene ban	(effective April 22, 2010)
Pittsburg Polystyrene ban	(1993) Title 8. 06. 210 of Municipal Code
Richmond Polystyrene ban, requirement that all plastic takeout food packaging be compostable	(effective August 5, 2010)
Riverbank Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be compostable or recyclable	(2008)
San Bruno Polystyrene ban, requirement that all plastic takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable	(effective April 1, 2010)
San Clemente Government facility expanded polystyrene ban in 2004	(effective July 1, 2011) Council passed a city wide ban in 2011
San Francisco Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable	(2007)
San Jose Government facility expanded polystyrene ban for special events	(effective May 1, 2010)
San Juan Capistrano Government facility expanded polystyrene ban	(2004)

San Mateo County Government facility polystyrene ban	(2008)
Santa Cruz City Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable	(2008)
Santa Cruz County Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable	(2008) Title 5, Section 46 of Municipal Code
Santa Monica Polystyrene ban with requirement that all plastic takeout food packaging be recyclable	(2007)
Scotts Valley Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable	(2009)
Seaside Polystyrene ban with requirement that all plastic takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable	(effective August 4, 2010)
Sonoma County Government facility expanded polystyrene ban	(adopted 1989) Title 19, Section 19. 6-1 of Municipal Code
South San Francisco Polystyrene ban, requirement that all plastic takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable	(2008)
Ventura County Government facility expanded polystyrene ban	(2004)
Watsonville Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable	(2009) Title 6, Chapter 6 of Municipal Code
West Hollywood Polystyrene ban for restaurants and food vendors	(adopted 1990)

Source: "Polystyrene: Local Ordinances." Californians Against Waste, 2010. http://www.cawrecycles.org/issues/plastic_campaign/polystyrene/local

Appendix 1.2. Environmental and Social Reasons for Banning Polystyrene

San Francisco's ordinance states that polystyrene directly impacts the biology of the waterways that surround their community. The City of Palo Alto makes the case on their website that polystyrene constitutes 15% of the litter collected in local storm drains, and according to a 2004 CIWMB study it is the second most abundant type of marine debris. The City of Monterey acknowledges that their economy is largely dependent on tourists who visit their beaches, and that polystyrene take-out containers comprise a large percentage of litter on their beaches.

Detailed Outreach Strategies by City

Written Information

Examples of written information-based outreach efforts are as follows:

- The City of Monterey created a video to post on their website that explains the reasons behind the ban, food vendor roles in ban enforcement, and alternatives to polystyrene use. This video targets businesses and residents alike, guiding businesses towards correct practices and explaining to residents the logic behind the ban and how their compliance impacts Monterey's community. This video can take the place of individual presentations at businesses. (City of Monterey Recycling Programs)
- The City of Santa Cruz, like most other cities with a ban, has developed a brochure regarding the program, a frequently-asked-questions flyer, and biodegradable alternative product vendor list, all available online (Public Works, Santa Cruz County).
- The City of Palo Alto offers a factsheet on its website explaining acceptable and available alternatives to polystyrene in preparation for implementation of the ban. To aid businesses in customizing alternative service ware for their businesses, the City created three separate lists of alternatives, targeting events/business cafeterias, eat-in restaurants, and take-out restaurants. The City also created a factsheet that explains the ordinance requirements to affected businesses, and provides ideas for practices businesses can implement to reduce the cost of compliance (City of Palo Alto Public Works).

Active Outreach

Examples are as follows:

- Santa Cruz County began the educational outreach for their polystyrene ban ordinance with an introductory letter to all food service business owners in unincorporated Santa Cruz County. This letter introduced businesses to the program and to the outreach materials available to them; it included a poster to educate their staff, a FAQ sheet, and a list of sources for alternative products. Santa Cruz County offered free consulting services to help businesses transition to alternatives to using polystyrene for food service take-out containers (County of Santa Cruz Department of Public Works). The County also held a workshop for restaurants that covered the

ordinance and hosted supplier representatives to talk about alternative products (Public Works, Santa Cruz County).

- The City of Monterey Recycling Programs Office offers technical assistance to businesses that directly request it (City of Monterey Recycling Programs).
- The City of Seattle has hired consultants to provide outreach to businesses on behalf of the City through their Resource Venture program. These outreach personnel visit businesses affected by the ban to help them transition to alternative take-out containers and to ensure that the take-out food container system they transition to reduces landfilled waste. These visits came in phases, the first educational and the second tending more towards documentation of current practices to distribute to the City for potential enforcement. Outreach personnel distributed waste, recycling, and compost educational posters, binlabels and containers for businesses to use to collect alternative take-out service ware. These personnel also guided business owners in the purchase of alternative containers accepted by Cedar Grove, Seattle's local composting facility. In addition to direct targeted outreach, the city's comprehensive outreach program includes quarterly stakeholder meetings and events with foodservice businesses, waste service providers, and food packaging manufacturers, and a print, television, radio, and social media campaign. (Hibbs)

Supplemental Information to Measureable Outcome of the Bans

In 1989, the City of Santa Cruz put a voluntary polystyrene foam takeout food service ban in place for food establishments. Despite extensive education and outreach to both business and the public, food service businesses and consumers continued to use polystyrene take-out containers. After 18 years, the City adopted mandatory restrictions in (August, 2008).

Many Milpitas food service businesses interviewed cited a high cost of purchasing alternative containers as a main concern surrounding a polystyrene ban. However, since the implementation of its polystyrene food serve ware ban, the City of San Francisco has experienced an influx of alternative container distributors, and the price of alternative containers has dropped significantly.

Strategy: Work Directly with Foodservice Ware Vendors to Ensure Compliance

As one of the first cities in the Bay Area to ban polystyrene, the City of Berkeley instituted a handful of trailblazing policies. Berkeley structured their polystyrene ban ordinance to include sections outlining food service business relationships with suppliers of take-out containers. Suppliers must sign an agreement to not supply food service businesses with any polystyrene products; every delivery invoice must state that the delivery does not include polystyrene (Councilmembers: Chandler). The Berkeley ordinance also requires that each restaurant and retail food vendor establish separate waste receptacles for each type of recyclable food packing generated on the premises. This ensures that the alternative materials are recycled or composted and not mixed with materials to be sent to landfill (Councilmembers: Chandler).

Appendix 2.1. Price Comparisons

Material/Size	RD Shelf	Case Pack	Price Each	With Lid	MULTIPLIER
Polystyrene Foam					**VS FOAM**
8" Single Compartment	$ 12.69	150	$ 0.085		
8" 3 Compartment	$ 12.80	150	$ 0.085		
8" 3 Compartment	$ 14.34	200	$ 0.072		
Aluminum					
9" Single compartment	$ 47.64	500	$ 0.095		
Clear PS lid	$ 25.89	500	$ 0.052	$ 0.147	173%
Foil paperboard lid	$ 23.12	500	$ 0.046	$ 0.142	166%
Molded Fiber/Bagasse					
8" Single Compartment	$ 28.39	200	$ 0.142		167%
8" 3 Compartment	$ 28.39	200	$ 0.142		167%
OPS					
8" Single Compartment	$ 33.50	200	$ 0.168		197%
8" 3 Compartment	$ 33.50	200	$ 0.168		197%
Polypropylene					
8" Single Compartment	$ 34.00	200	$ 0.170		200%
8" 3 Compartment	$ 34.00	200	$ 0.170		200%
Medium size	$ 38.05	200	$ 0.190		224%
Large Size	$ 48.34	200	$ 0.242		284%
PLA (compostable)					
8" Single Compartment	$ 65.00	200	$ 0.325		382%
8" 3 Compartment	$ 65.00	200	$ 0.325		382%
8" Single Compartment	$ 78.79	150	$ 0.525		618%
8" 3 Compartment	$ 60.03	150	$ 0.400		471%
Hot Cups					
12oz	$ 20.10	1000	$ 0.020		
16oz	$ 14.11	500	$ 0.028		
20oz	$ 17.24	500	$ 0.034		
Lids - PS White	$ 15.45	1000	$ 0.015		
Lids - PS Translucent	$ 13.01	1000	$ 0.013		
12oz	$ 29.07	1000	$ 0.029		145%
16oz	$ 40.62	1000	$ 0.041		144%
20oz	$ 59.83	1000	$ 0.060		174%
Lids - PS Translucent	$ 26.12	1000	$ 0.026		169%
Lids - PS Translucent	$ 28.75	1000	$ 0.029		186%

Material/Size	RD Shelf	Case Pack	Price Each	With Lid	MULTIPLIER
Coated Paper Hot Cups					
12oz	$ 28.08	600	$ 0.047		233%
16oz	$ 34.21	600	$ 0.057		202%
20oz	$ 34.65	500	$ 0.069		201%
Coated Paper Hot Cups					
12oz	$ 28.84	600	$ 0.048		239%
16oz	$ 36.85	600	$ 0.061		218%
20oz	$ 39.47	500	$ 0.079		229%
Lids - PS White	$ 33.08	1200	$ 0.028		178%
Cold Cups					
12oz	$ 20.10	1000	$ 0.020		
16oz	$ 14.11	500	$ 0.028		
20oz	$ 17.24	500	$ 0.034		
Lids - PS White	$ 15.45	1000	$ 0.015		
Lids - PS Translucent	$ 13.01	1000	$ 0.013		
Coated Paper Cold Cups					
12oz	$ 27.24	600	$ 0.045		226%
16oz	$ 34.94	600	$ 0.058		206%
20oz					
Lids - PS Translucent APET Cups					
12oz	$ 27.50	500	$ 0.055		274%
16oz	$ 30.99	500	$ 0.062		220%
20oz	$ 39.95	500	$ 0.080		232%
Lids Flat 12/20	$ 29.40	1000	$ 0.029		190%
Lids Flat 16/24	$ 30.51	1000	$ 0.031		197%
12oz	$ 69.18	1000	$ 0.069		344%
16oz	$ 74.10	1000	$ 0.074		263%
20oz	$ 92.08	1000	$ 0.092		267%
Lids Flat 12/20	$ 31.75	1000	$ 0.032		206%
HIPS Party Cups					
16oz	$ 52.71	1200	$ 0.044		156%

Appendix 3.1. Definitions of Material Types and Characteristics

Biodegradable: A material that can degrade outside of specific composting conditions, but that still requires the enzymatic action of microorganisms to mineralize **(Herrera Environmental Consultants).**

Compostable: A material that can achieve total mineralization (degrade) under specific composting conditions involving the coordinated action of microorganisms **(Herrera Environmental Consultants).**

PLA: A biodegradable and recyclable commercial-grade plastic resin which is produced by fermenting and distilling corn sugar **(Gilman).**

PET: Polyethylene Terephthalate. A thermoplastic material used to manufacture plastic soft drink containers and rigid containers. Can be re-used or recycled **(U.S. Environmental Protection Agency).**

GPPS: General-purpose polystyrene (GPPS) is a clear, hard, usually colorless thermoplastic resin **(The Dow Chemical Company , 2008)**.

Bagasse: Bagasse is a biodegradable and compostable disposable tableware that is made from sugarcane fiber leftover after juice extraction **(World Centric)**.

Polystyrene: A plastic polymer used to make a variety of products including plastic cutlery and food containers. It is often used in its foamed state, expanded polystyrene **(U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)**.

PP: Polypropylene. A plastic polymer that has good resistance to heat is used in flexible and rigid packaging, film, and textiles **(U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)**.

Paperboard: Paperboard is a thick paper-based material. It comes in a variety of grades that can be used for different packaging purposes. The grade most frequently used for take-out containers is coated unbleached kraft paperboard(CUK). CUK is made from at least 80 percent virgin unbleached, natural wood pulp. It can be coated with a polyethylene (PE) resin for wet strength food packaging **(Paperboard Packaging Alliance)**.

zero WASTE PALO ALTO Achieving zero waste together www.cityofpaloalto.org/zerowaste zerowaste@cityofpaloalto.org (650) 496-5910	**Compostable Food Service Ware Vendor List**

Palo Alto has a community-wide goal of sending zero waste to landfills. One way organizations can help eliminate waste going to landfills is to stock their lunch and break rooms with reusable and washable dishes, cups, and silverware. With a little planning, special events can be serviced with reusable products as well.

If the use of reusable dishes and cutlery is not possible, consider purchasing compostable service ware instead. While not as environmentally friendly, because compostable dishes, cups and cutlery are still meant to be used once and then disposed, composting them does reduce their impact. Instead of being landfilled and releasing methane, a powerful greenhouse gas, compostable service ware is turned into a soil amendment for landscaping purposes.

The information in this document is meant to assist you in selecting compostable service ware for your organization or event.

Types of products available:
Containers may be made from paper, sugarcane fiber, potato or corn starch, and other plant-based fibers.

- Hinged clamshell
- Folded to-go container
- Plates and bowls
- Cutlery
- Straws
- Bags and liners
- Cold cups/lids
- Hot cups/lids
- Trays

Consider products:
- Made from recycled content
- Labeled as compostable
- Certified by the Biodegradable Products Institute (www.bpiworld.org)
- Meeting the ASTM standards for compostability. ASTM D6400 covers plastic films and bags. ASTM D6868 covers packaging that is designed to be composted, including plastic coated paper and paper board.

Please note that starch-based compostable plastics (e.g., cutlery, clear cups) are designed to be composted in a large-scale commercial composting facility. Composting these items in a backyard system is slow and success varies depending on the conditions.

Compostables Collection Service:
Please visit www.greenwaste.com/paloalto for a detailed list of accepted compostable materials. Contact GreenWaste Customer Service, at (650) 493-4894, for collection of compostables from your business, multi-unit residential complex, or special event.

Compostable Food Servicewares Vendors

Compostable = Bamboo (BA), Compostable Plastic (CP), Molded Fiber (F) and Paper* (P)**

Vendor	Phone	Website	Boxes	Bowls	Cold cups & lids	Hinged & lidded containers	Hot cups* & lids	Paper & compostable plastic Bags	Plates	Trays and Cup Holders
Alliance	(312) 666 6424	allpfs.com	P		CP, P	F, P	P	P	F, P	P
American Paper and Plastic Inc	(626) 444 0000	appinc.com	P	P	CP	CP	P	P	P	
Arrow Tableware	(650) 871 8226	arrowtableware.com		F		F	F		F	F
Asean Corporation	(503) 295 4977	stalkmarketproducts.com		F	F, CP	F	P, F		F	
Bio Smart	(888) 310 2008	biosmartpackaging.com	F, P	F	CP, P	CP, F	CP, P	CP	F	F
Biodegradable Foodservice	(541) 593 2191	bdfs.net		F, CP	CP	CP, F	CP		F	
Biodegradable Store		biodegradablestore.com		F, P	CP	CP, F	P, CP	CP	F	
Bio-Tuf	(800) 527 2247	heritage-bag.com						CP		
BiRite	(800) 227 5373	birite.com	P	F,CP	CP	F	P	CP	F, P, CP	F
Bridge-Gate Alliance	(925) 417 0638	bridge-gate.com		F		F			F	F
California Recycles	(877) 478 3001	californiarecycles.com		F	CP	CP, F	CP, F		F	F
Cash and Carry		smartfoodservice.com		P	P		P		P	
Cereplast	(310) 676 5000	cereplast.com		CP	CP	CP			CP	
Costco	(800) 774 2678	costco.com		F, P	P		P	CP	P	
Disposable Food Service Products	(818) 674 6112	sala-dfsp.com		F	F, P	F,CP	P	CP	F	F
Earth Cycle	(604) 899 0928	earthcycle.com				F			F	F
EarthSmart LLC	(310) 834 7336	earthsmartllc.com		F		F			F	F
EcNow Tech	(541) 223 3369	ecnowtech.com	P	F	CP	F, CP	P	P, CP	F, CP	CP
Eco Greenwares	(510) 656 9440	ecogreenwares.com		F	CP	F	P	CP	F	F
Eco-Products	(303) 449 1876	ecoproducts.com		F	CP	CP, F	P	CP	F	CP
Everything Eco-Store	(415) 337 8814	everythingecostore.com		F	CP	F	P	CP	F	
Excellent Packaging and Supply	(800) 317 2737	excellentpackaging.com	P	F, CP	CP	CP, F	F	CP	F	CP, F
Genpak	(518) 798 9511	genpak.com		F, CP	CP, F	CP, F			CP, F	CP, F
Global Bio Alternatives	(650) 375-1950	http://www.gba-us.com/		CP		CP			CP	
Go Earth	(310) 371 0797	goearthcentral.com		F	F	F	F		F	
Good Flag Biotechnology Corporation	(886) 328 3911	biodegradable-product.com			CP	CP				
Goodwill Fair Trading Co.	(415) 203 7323	goodwillfairtrading.com					P			
Green Duck	(804) 240 8757	shopgreenduck.com		F, P	CP	F	P	CP	F	CP, F
Green Earth Office Supply	(800) 327 8449	greenearthofficesupply.com		F, P	CP, F	CP, F, P	F, P	CP, P	F, P	F

* Paper hot cup with exterior polyethelene foam coating is not acceptable.
** (F) = Bagasse and Potato starch products (City of PA's Compostable Plastics do take these)

References to any commercial business, organization, or product does not constitute endorsement. Note that some vendors may carry non-compliant products in addition to those approved and listed above.

Compostable Food Serviceware Vendors

Compostable = Bamboo (BA), Compostable Plastic (CP), Molded Fiber (F) and Paper* (P)**

Vendor	Phone	Website	Boxes	Bowls	Cold cups & lids	Hinged & lidded containers	Hot cups* & lids	Paper & compostable plastic Bags	Plates	Trays and Cup Holders
Green Home	(877) 282 6400	greenhome.com	P	F, BA	CP	CP, F	F	CP, P	CP, F, BA	CP, BA
Green Is Green, Inc.	(415) 215 8553	greenisgreeninc.com		CP, F, P	CP	CP, F	F	CP	F	F
Green Paper Products	(216) 990 5464	greenpaperproducts.com		F, CP P	CP	F	CP	CP	F	F
Green Starfish		gogreenstarfish.com		F, CP	CP, F	F	F		F	F
Green Tooth	(800) 775 5193	green-tooth.com	P	CP, P	CP, F	CP, F, P	F	CP	F	F, P
Green Wave	(714) 634 8822	greenwave.us.com		F		F			F, P	F
Greeno Products	(800) 313 6568	greenoproducts.com		CP, P		F	P		F	
Huhtamaki	(913) 583 3025	us.huhtamaki.com		F	CP, P	P	P		F	F
IFN Green	(510) 868 2891	ifngreen.com		F, BA	CP	BA, F			BA, F	F, BA
Innoware (UC)	(800) 237 8270	innowareinc.com				CP			P	
Kuan Chun Paper Company	(01) 886 4 771 9458	kuanchun.com/english		CP			CP			
Lets Go Green	(678) 344 6834	letsgogreen.biz	F	F,CP, P	CP, F	CP, F	P	CP, P	CP, BA, F	F
Litin Eco	(612) 607 5700	litineco.com		F	CP, F, P	CP, F	F	CP	F	F
Nat-ur	(310) 676 5000	nat-urstore.com			CP			CP	P	
Nature Friendly Prodcuts	(216) 464 5490	nfpco.com	F	F, CP	CP	CP, F	P	CP	F	F
Natur-Tec	(763) 404 8700	natur-tec.com						CP		
Nexus Group	(510) 567 1000	accessgroupnca.com	P	F	CP, F	F, P, CP	F	P, CP	CP, F	CP, P
P & R Paper Supply	(909) 794 1237	prpaper.com	P	F, P	CP, P	F	P	P	F, P	
Pactiv	(888) 828 2850	pactiv.com		F			P		F	F, P
Prime Link Solutions	(650) 375 1398	primelinksolution.com		F		F			F	F
Rainbow Grocery	(415) 863-0620	rainbowgrocery.org						CP	P	
Restaurant Depot (UC)	(714) 666 8211	restaurantdepot.com	P	P	P	P	P		P	
RestockIt	(800) 680 0859	restockit.com		F, P	P		P	P	P, F	
Simply Biodegrdable	(509) 764 0233	simplybiodegradable.com		F	CP	F		CP	F	F
Sinless Buying	(415) 279 3221	sinlessbuying.com		F	F	F	F		F	F
Smart and Final	(800) 894 0511	smartandfinal.com			P				P	
Sysco Food Services (UC)	(510) 226 3000	syscosf.com	P	F, P	CP, P	P	P	P, CP	F, P	F, P
Tahoe Green	(530) 550 9440	tahoegreeninc.com		F, P	CP, P, F	F, CP	F, P	CP	F	F, CP

* Paper hot cup with exterior polyethelene foam coating is not acceptable.
** F Bagasse and Potato starch products (City of PA's Compostable Plastics do take these)

References to any commercial business, organization, or product does not constitute endorsement. Note that some vendors may carry non-compliant products in addition to those approved and listed above.

Compostable Food Serviceware Vendors

Compostable = Bamboo (BA), Compostable Plastic (CP), Molded Fiber (F) and Paper* (P)**

Vendor	Phone	Website	Boxes	Bowls	Cold cups & lids	Hinged & lidded containers	Hot cups* & lids	Paper & compostable plastic Bags	Plates	Trays and Cup Holders
The Webstaurant Store		webstaurantstore.com	P		CP, P	CP, P		P	BA	F, BA, P
US Foodservice (UC)	(877) 583 9659	usfoodservice.com		F, P	CP, P	F, P	P	P, CP	F, P	F, P
VerTerra Ltd.	(718) 383 3333	verterra.com		F					F	F
Washington Bio-Plastics	(415) 869 1028	washingtonbio-plastics.com		CP	CP	CP, F	CP, P	CP	F, CP	
WorldCentric Store	(650) 283-3797	worldcentric.org		F, CP, P	CP	CP, F	CP, F	CP	F, P	F

* Paper hot cup with exterior polyethelene foam coating is not acceptable.
** F = Bagasse and Potato starch products (City of PA's Compostable Plastics do take these)

References to any commercial business, organization, or product does not constitute endorsement. Note that some vendors may carry non-compliant products in addition to those approved and listed above.

Recyclable Food Serviceware Vendors

Updated 4/29/2010

Recyclable= Aluminum (A) and Recyclable Plastic (RP)

	Vendor	Phone	Website	Boxes (No Vendors for this products)	Bowls	Cold cups & lids	Hinged & lidded containers	Hot cups & lids	Paper & compostable plastic Bags	Plates	Trays and Cup Holders
1	Alliance	(312) 666 6424	allpfs.com		RP	RP	A	RP		RP	RP
2	American Paper and Plastic Inc	(626) 444 0000	appinc.com		RP	RP		RP	P	RP	
3	Anchor Packaging	(314) 822 7800	reusecontainers.com		RP		RP				RP
4	Biodegradable Store		biodegradablestore.com								RP
5	California Recycles	(877) 478 3001	californiarecycles.com				RP				
6	Cash and Carry		smartfoodservice.com					RP			
7	Costco	(800) 774 2678	costco.com			RP					
8	Disposable Food Service Products	(818) 674 6112	sala-dfsp.com				RP				
9	Eco-Products	(303) 449 1876	ecoproducts.com					RP			
10	Excellent Packaging and Supply	(800) 317 2737	excellentpackaging.com					RP			
11	Good Flag Biotechnology Corporation	(886) 328 3911	biodegradable-product.com			RP	RP				
12	Goodwill Fair Trading Co.	(415) 203 7323	goodwillfairtrading.com		RP		RP	RP			
13	Green Duck	(804) 240 8757	shopgreenduck.com					RP			
14	Green Paper Products	(216) 990 5464	greenpaperproducts.com					RP			
15	Green Starfish		gogreenstarfish.com					RP			
16	Greeno Products	(800) 313 6568	greenoproducts.com					RP			
17	Huhtamaki	(913) 583 3025	us.huhtamaki.com				RP	RP			
18	Innoware	(800) 237 8270	innowareinc.com				RP			P	
19	Lets Go Green	(678) 344 6834	letsgogreen.biz					RP			
20	Nexus Group	(510) 567 1000	accessgroupnca.com		RP	RP	A, RP	RP			RP
21	P & R Paper Supply	(909) 794 1237	prpaper.com		RP			RP		RP	A
22	Pactiv	(888) 828 2850	pactiv.com		RP	RP	RP				A, RP
23	RestockIt	(800) 680 0859	restockit.com			RP				RP	
24	Sabert	(800) 722 3781	sabert.com		RP		RP				RP
25	Restaurant Depot	(714) 666 8211	restaurantdepot.com					RP			
28	Sysco Food Services	(510) 226 3000	syscosf.com		RP	RP	RP	RP		RP	RP
29	The Webstaurant Store		webstaurantstore.com				RP	RP			A, RP
30	US Foodservice	(877) 583 9659	usfoodservice.com		RP		RP			RP	

References to any commercial business, organization, or product does not constitute endorsement. Note that some vendors may carry non-compliant products in addition to those approved and listed above.

Appendix 5.1. Existing Enforcement Procedure Information

The following section details the information we collected about cities in the Bay Area and elsewhere that currently have polystyrene bans in place: Berkeley, Fremont, Hayward, Millbrae, Monterey, Oakland, Palo Alto, Santa Cruz (City), and San Francisco.

In 1988, the **City of Berkeley** adopted an ordinance banning the use of EPS take-out food containers in food service establishments and requiring 50% of take-out food packaging to be recyclable or compostable. A Registered Environmental Health Specialist responds to complaints from the public, takes enforcement action, and interprets and clarifies polystyrene foam food packaging guidelines.

Penalties can include a fine of up to one thousand dollars, or by imprisonment not to exceed six months, or by both a fine and imprisonment. Each day a violation is committed will be considered a separate offense.

In May 2010, the **City of Fremont** adopted a polystyrene ban which prohibits all food vendors selling food prepared and served in Fremont, to use compostable or recyclable food serve ware. Union Sanitary District is responsible for conducting annual restaurant inspections and will monitor, and report when a business is out of compliance and the Environmental Services staff will follow up. There is also an online "report a Styrofoam user" form on the City's website which allows for citizen complaints. Penalties vary from a verbal or written warning with further fines at the discretion of the enforcement officer and violations may result in fines of up to $500 per day.

In October 2010, the **City of Hayward** adopted a polystyrene ban which prohibits all food vendors selling food prepared and served in Hayward, to use compostable or recyclable food serve ware. Enforcement is complaint-driven and the City Manager (or his/her designee) will have primary responsibility for enforcement.

In July 2008, the **City of Millbrae** adopted a polystyrene ban which requires all restaurants or sellers of take-out food to use only take-out containers that are reusable, biodegradable, compostable or recyclable. The ordinance includes cups, lids, straws, clamshells, plates, bowls, and utensils. Enforcement is complaint-driven and the City Manager (or his/her designee) will have primary responsibility for enforcement.

In February 2009, the **City of Monterey** enacted a polystyrene ban prohibiting the use of polystyrene foam food service containers within city limits. The Director is responsible for enforcement. Penalties range from the first violation with a written warning, with subsequent violations a possible fine. In lieu of a fine, the City may allow the violator to submit receipts demonstrating the purchase of at least $100 worth of biodegradable, compostable, or recyclable products as an alternative disposable food service ware for the items which led to the violation

In June 2006, the **City of Oakland** passed the Green Food Service Ware Ordinance which prohibits the use of polystyrene foam disposable food service ware and requires, when cost neutral, the use of biodegradable or compostable disposable food service ware by food vendors and city facilities. Enforcement is performed by the City of Oakland and is complaint-driven, meaning citizens may notify

the City of violations. Penalties range from a written warning to $100 for the first violation, up to $200 for the second violation, not more than $500 for the third and future violations.

In May 2009 the **City of Palo Alto** adopted an ordinance to restrict food vendors from providing prepared food in disposable food service containers made from expanded polystyrene or non-recyclable plastic. Enforcement is managed by environmental inspectors and the City will monitor compliance in part by responding to customer complaints. The penalty for non-compliance is a $500 fine, however the City uses that as a last resort and works closely with stores to educate them about recyclable and compostable alternatives.

In July 2007, the **City of San Francisco** passed a Food Service Waste Reduction Ordinance that prohibits the use of polystyrene foam disposable food service ware and requires the use of biodegradable, compostable or recyclable food service ware. Enforcement is by the City Administrator, however is also complaint driven. The community may notify the City by calling the City Customer Service Department or filling out an online form. Penalties range from a written warning to $100 for the second violation, $200 for the third violation and $500 for the 4th or additional violations.

In 2008 the **City of Santa Cruz** passed an Environmentally Acceptable Food Packaging Ordinance which prohibits food service providers within the City from using polystyrene foam disposable food service ware. The Director of Public Works (or the Director's designee) is responsible for enforcing the ban and has authority to issue citations for violations. The City of Santa Cruz may inspect any vendor's or food provider's premises to verify compliance. Penalties for violations range from up to $100 for the first violation, up to $200 for the second violation and up to $500 for the third violation. The Director of Public Works may allow the violator, in lieu of payment of the fine, to submit receipts demonstrating the purchase of at least one hundred dollars worth of biodegradable, compostable, or recyclable products purchased after the citation date.

Appendix 6.1. Further Evaluation of Alternatives

Evaluation of Alternative 1

Food service polystyrene containers are recovered for recycling in very few locations across the country because the material is typically contaminated with food. Also, polystyrene foam is so light that it cannot cost-effectively be shipped very far.

The City's franchised hauler, Allied Waste, is currently in the process of purchasing and installing a 'densifier,' which compresses and then extrudes polystyrene into a more dense and compact block, making the product more manageable for transport for remanufacturing or recycling. This process can only be effective if the polystyrene is clean enough to be recycled, like clean block polystyrene packaging materials. The City's curbside recycling program does not accept food service polystyrene containers or packing peanuts, because they cannot effectively be marketed for use in manufacturing any new product.

Additionally, despite their purchase of a densifier, Allied Waste does not have a program in place to accept food ware in their polystyrene recycling program. There currently is no date for when EPS food ware will be accepted for recycling and if it is accepted, the pilot program will not include curbside pick-up, thus residents will need to clean and stockpile their EPS food ware, then drop off at the recycling facility.

In addition, as long as polystyrene takeout food serve ware is still in use, it will still likely be disposed of it as garbage or as litter. In the later case, it will likely continue to find its way into storm drains, out to the bay, and ultimately into the ocean. Compostable alternatives, if littered, will eventually degrade completely, and are easier for animals to digest if they ingest small pieces of the materials; recyclable alternatives do not break into small pieces as polystyrene does.

Additionally, polystyrene has the potential to have a negative effect on human health; recycling polystyrene would not alleviate these health effects. According to a 2009 report by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), styrene (a chemical used to manufacture polystyrene) "can be ingested when styrene migrates from packaging into foods" (Center for Disease Control). The most notable affects to human health that the CDC reports following chronic exposure to styrene are neurological. However, the CDC also cited respiratory and eye irritation as possible health effects. (Center for Disease Control)

A rigorous education program will help to decrease polystyrene use, but will not eliminate disposal of the material as garbage or litter or possible health effects from the material. The City should evaluate whether or not the recycling benefits outweigh the benefits of a ban as the continued production of polystyrene will not alleviate concerns regarding the virgin materials used to continue creating the material, health affects, or litter problems.

Finally, as surrounding jurisdictions ban polystyrene, the supply of alternative products will likely increase, and the price will be more comparable. As a result, food service businesses and consumers may be driven to use alternative, more environmentally friendly products which could make the need for collection and recycling of food service polystyrene obsolete.

Evaluation of Alternative 2A

The City of Santa Cruz had a voluntary polystyrene reduction program in place for 18 years prior to its 2008 mandatory ban. In 1991, a survey of Santa Cruz businesses (52% response rate) reported that 66% of businesses did not use polystyrene foam products. Therefore, it was recommended that the voluntary compliance program continue with increased public education. However, in later years despite extensive public outreach and the decreased use of polystyrene by some businesses, Santa Cruz found that the reductions were not significant compared with their goals, and that polystyrene was a growing part of the waste and litter streams. A voluntary polystyrene reduction program for the City of Milpitas would likely require a joint public education program (city and affected businesses) that would be costly and time consuming without a guarantee of success as businesses would not be required to comply. Unless incentives such as lower product costs and better performance exist for alternative products, then businesses that do not have a strong desire to protect the environment would not be compelled to voluntarily give up polystyrene products.

Evaluation of Alternative 2B

Public outreach and education programs are typically performed in conjunction with a ban or recycling program, in the time leading up to an enforcement program. These programs are not typically successful when there is no enforcement that requires the target action (e.g., discontinued use or recycling of polystyrene) as this would be a voluntary decision by those individuals or businesses that had not only been reached by the outreach campaign but had also been positively impacted by the campaign to discontinue their use of polystyrene. A successful public outreach campaign would be costly and require staff time to develop outreach materials and visit businesses, as well as the cost of materials such as mailers and flyers. The City of Milpitas would have to determine a funding source for the public outreach campaign: the City of Issaquah, WA funded their public outreach program using solid waste franchise fees.

Evaluation of Alternative 3

Santa Monica developed a list of suppliers of alternative products which helped food vendors seek out economically alternative solutions to replacing polystyrene and encouraged manufacturers and distributors to expand the number of alternative products they carry. This effort increased the number of alternative product distributors in the area from 16 to 76. If the City of Milpitas were to develop a comprehensive list of alternative container suppliers, they would not be promoting any one company. The goal would be to ensure the prices of alternative containers can compete with polystyrene and hope that businesses make the choice on their own to use an environmentally friendly product.

Appendix 7.1. EPS Ban Stakeholders Survey Instrument and Results

SurveyMonkey

1. Are you a manager or assistant manager of this business?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	**100.0%**	**25**
No	0.0%	0
	answered question	**25**
	skipped question	**0**

2. Please input the following information for future follow-up:

	Response Percent	Response Count
Manager Name	0.0%	0
Phone Number	0.0%	0
Best Time to Visit Him/Her	0.0%	0
	answered question	**0**
	skipped question	**25**

3. Business Type:

	Response Percent	Response Count
Food Cart	0.0%	0
Restaurant	**72.0%**	**18**
Caterer	0.0%	0
Supermarket	0.0%	0
Deli	8.0%	2
Cafeteria	0.0%	0
Retail Food Vendor	20.0%	5
Catering Truck	0.0%	0
Shop	0.0%	0
Outdoor Vendor	0.0%	0
Special Large Event Organizer	0.0%	0
	answered question	**25**
	skipped question	**0**

4. Does your business have an environmental corporate policy?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	**54.5%**	**12**
No	45.5%	10
	answered question	**22**
	skipped question	**3**

5. What is your business' stance on environmental initiatives?

	Response Percent	Response Count
No opinion, no interest	20.8%	5
Somewhat involved and supportive	25.0%	6
Extremely environmentally concious	**45.8%**	**11**
Don't know	8.3%	2
	answered question	**24**
	skipped question	**1**

6. Do you think that polystyrene foam (Styrofoam cups, clam -shells, plates, and other items) litters the environment?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	**54.5%**	**12**
No	18.2%	4
Somewhat	27.3%	6
	answered question	**22**
	skipped question	**3**

7. Did you know that the City of Milpitas is considering a ban on polystyrene food service take -out containers?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	16.0%	4
No	**76.0%**	**19**
Somewhat	8.0%	2
	answered question	**25**
	skipped question	**0**

8. Do you think the City of Milpitas should ban food service businesses from providing polystyrene containers to customers?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	**60.0%**	**15**
No	24.0%	6
Somewhat	16.0%	4
	answered question	**25**
	skipped question	**0**

9. Would you be willing to purchase (paper or biodegradable) alternatives to polystyrene, even if they were more expensive than polystyrene, if Milpitas banned polystyrene at all food service businesses in the city?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	**92.0%**	**23**
No	8.0%	2
	answered question	**25**
	skipped question	**0**

10. How much of an increase in your puchasing costs per month would you be able to tolerate? (pick the highest amount you would tolerate)

	Response Percent	Response Count
$100	**33.3%**	**5**
$150	6.7%	1
$200	20.0%	3
$250	6.7%	1
$300	13.3%	2
$350	6.7%	1
$400	0.0%	0
More	13.3%	2
	answered question	**15**
	skipped question	**10**

11. Does your business currently use polystyrene take -out containers?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	40.0%	10
No	**52.0%**	**13**
For some foods	8.0%	2
	answered question	**25**
	skipped question	**0**

12. How many of each of the following polystyrene containers do you use each month for food or beverage containers?

	None	0-250	250-500	500-750	750-1000	1000-2000	2000 and up	Response Count
Clamshell	**45.5% (5)**	27.3% (3)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	9.1% (1)	9.1% (1)	9.1% (1)	11
Soup cups with lids	**36.4% (4)**	**36.4% (4)**	9.1% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	9.1% (1)	9.1% (1)	11
Hot Drink Cups	**54.5% (6)**	18.2% (2)	9.1% (1)	9.1% (1)	9.1% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	11
Cold Drink Cups	**54.5% (6)**	18.2% (2)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	18.2% (2)	0.0% (0)	9.1% (1)	11
Plates	**90.9% (10)**	0.0% (0)	9.1% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	11
Other	**90.0% (9)**	10.0% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	10
							answered question	**11**
							skipped question	**14**

13. Where do you buy these products?

	Response Count
	11
answered question	**11**
skipped question	**14**

14. Does your current foodservice ware provider offer alternatives to polystyrene?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	**66.7%**	**8**
No	0.0%	0
Don't know	33.3%	4
	answered question	**12**
	skipped question	**13**

15. What types of and how many alternative take -out containers do you currently use per month? (Note: PET plastic #1 is not an alternative.)

	None	1-250	250-500	500-750	750-1000	1000-2000	2000 and up	Response Count
Paper	**44.0% (11)**	12.0% (3)	0.0% (0)	12.0% (3)	4.0% (1)	8.0% (2)	20.0% (5)	25
Biodegradable fiber	**84.0% (21)**	8.0% (2)	4.0% (1)	4.0% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	25
Fold-Paks (traditionally Chinese take-out containers)	**84.0% (21)**	4.0% (1)	4.0% (1)	4.0% (1)	0.0% (0)	4.0% (1)	0.0% (0)	25
Biodegradable plastic	**88.0% (22)**	0.0% (0)	4.0% (1)	8.0% (2)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	25
Plastic	**44.0% (11)**	8.0% (2)	16.0% (4)	12.0% (3)	0.0% (0)	8.0% (2)	12.0% (3)	25
Aluminum	**80.0% (20)**	8.0% (2)	8.0% (2)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	4.0% (1)	0.0% (0)	25
							answered question	**25**
							skipped question	**0**

16. Which of the following would most help you to comply with a ban like this one?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Staff training	39.1%	9
Free posters and fliers about the program to educate customers	56.5%	13
Guides to acceptable alternatives	**60.9%**	**14**
The threat of fines for businesses that do not comply	30.4%	7
	answered question	**23**
	skipped question	**2**

17. Is there anything else you would like to share with me regarding this issue?

	Response Count
	14
answered question	**14**
skipped question	**11**

Appendix 7.2. Text of Interviews with Key Stakeholders

Single-Use Bag and Polystyrene Foam Questions

Ryan Kenny(American Chemistry Council) and Sherry Jackson-Progressive Bag Affiliates (subset of ACC)

1. **What are your concerns over a single-use bag ban?**

Sherry (bags):

Unintended consequence of ordinances is that they don't take all issues into effect. If you ban plastic bags only, the customer is forced to use paper bags. In San Francisco, a plastic bag ban increased overall bag litter, and did nothing to alleviate litter associated with plastic bags. Studies show paper bags have a worse environmental impact than plastic in terms of the energy to manufacture, GHG emissions, and water use,-increase impacts that force consumer out of one product to another.

The best was to capture plastic bags is through recycling: cleaner, more value. If we ban bags, we remove reasons for manufacturers and retailers to collect recyclable product at the source. Plastic bags are an important component of recycling programs; other types of film are collected at these plastic bag recycling sites as well; banning plastic bags discourages infrastructure. Grocery drop-offs tend to be cleaner than curb-side recycling.

Ryan (polystyrene):

30 cities in California have banned polystyrene, and none of which have shown any significant change. The mentality is: "Other cities have done it- we should too." No facts. The ban just encourages cities to replace one product with another product. The 2008 San Francisco Litter Streets Re-Audit showed a reduction in polystyrene food service containers, but an increase in other types of food service litter. Only .5% of the litter was food service polystyrene; most polystyrene was packaging for computers, tvs, etc. The plastic industry has been hit hard with these bans, and there has been no conclusive evidence that it alleviates litter composition.

Also, foam is the least expensive material for restaurants with high levels of performance. Many restaurants complain of performance issues of alternatives; for example, Jamba Juice reported leaking cups with alternatives. A mandate for businesses to use compostable alternatives without a compostable infrastructure for disposal is ineffective. Products go directly to landfill. Polystyrene is 100% recyclable- clean in both cases. Some cities are accepting polystyrene as recyclable. Recyclable infrastructure- cleaner the better.

2. **Do you believe a single-use bag ban would benefit the environment??**

Sherry: Studies have shown no change in litter composition. Bans force consumers to use materials with higher carbon costs, such as paper. (GHGs, energy, water, etc) A ban is not the right answer. A

ban on foam would not contribute to zero-waste. Zero waste implies a reduction in materials, while a ban would encourage a different material type but not material reduction.

3. **What actions would you recommend to reduce single-use bag use?**

   Sherry: Reduce, reuse, recycle approach. Efficient bagging practices also work, instructing checkers not to double-bag, use extra bags, etc., as a way to reduce wasteful bagging.

4. **Do you believe businesses would be willing to charge customers for single-use bags, if it would help the City meet state mandates?**

   Sherry: Some businesses are already doing that without mandates. Not something we ascribe to, but some businesses have adopted.
   Ryan: The business opinion differs between larger stores vs. mom and pops. stop the bag police.com; over 500 business associations that came out against it publicly. Businesses are concerned that the ban wouldn't do much good, and were concerned about business and economy. Regulating proposals, ban on plastic, fee on paper- many large stores benefit because they get a price break on buying in bulk. Businesses don't prefer to charge customers for bags, they don't think it is good business practice to do that. The Milpitas Chamber is opposed to fee on plastic bags.

5. **Do you believe customers would be willing to pay for bags? How much do you feel that they would be willing to pay?**

   Sherry: DC- has implemented a tax on paper and plastic bags, and residents have expressed a lot of displeasure, as they don't feel they should be charged. There was lots of anger from residents in the beginning. We heard from retail allies that compliance is an issue, as businesses don't want disgruntled consumers and thus don't charge customers for the bags. People did eventually forgo the bags and carried purchases in their hands because did not want to pay.

   Have not done any consumer reaction studies.

   A California State bill died decidedly for a tax on plastic and paper, as the State was concerned about impacts on businesses and consumers.

6. **Do you believe customers would be willing to bring in their own bags?**

   Consumers do bring their own bags, but it's not practical for all people. People won't always have a reusable bag in tow. Seniors like plastic bags. We are not opposed to this idea of people bringing their own bags.

   The ACC would support an incentive for bringing back bags for recycle. Incentivizing reuse, recycling is a good approach.

7. **Do you think businesses would be willing to absorb the costs of a bag fee so they don't need to charge customers?**

   NA- opposed to bag ban.

8. **What do you believe would make it easier for <u>businesses to comply</u> with a single-use bag ban? (training, free posters/fliers, guides with list of alternatives, fines for businesses that don't comply, etc.)**

   Ryan: If the City is going to spend money on enforcement and public education, spend money instead on more general recycling education.
   Sherry: General education about waste reduction overall, and recycling plastic bags is the best approach. Recycling plastic bags is also addressing waste and helping to aid the environment.

9. **In your opinion, what are the <u>biggest hurdles to a single-use bag ban</u>?**

   NA-opposed to bag ban.

10. **Do you have any recommendations or suggestions?**

    Sherry: There are different approaches to solve this problem. Look at ban options, consequences, etc., and other options that might be as effective. Recycling with aggressive public education efforts is one. Look more broadly at a comprehensive approach with a goal to reduce litter. I've worked with communities around the country, and it's best if a community looks at multitude of options. How to reduce litter? Increase recycling of plastic bags and film, reduce waste, and prevent litter and waste in the beginning, from the source in the stores, but more broadly than a tax or ban. Those have unintended consequences.

    Ryan: Our preference from this report is that both sides are presented in a quantitative manner, with no opinions and unproven allegations in final report to council. I am happy to answer further questions or provide clarifications if needed. I will send reports that might be helpful.

Save the Bay

QUESTIONS FOR STAKEHOLDERS- Save the Bay <u>Polystyrene Questions</u>

1. **What <u>concerns</u> do you have about a potential food service takeout polystyrene ban?**

   We have not yet seen any legal challenges to a polystyrene ban per the California Environmental Quality Act. The industry seems more interested in challenging the plastic bag bans: jury is still out on Prop 26. I think ordinances should cover paper and plastic bags. It's good for cities to charge for paper bags at the local level, but cities should be prepared to answer lawsuits and claims about Prop 26. There have not been any Prop 26 lawsuits, but cities should feel confident that any charge on paper bags is legally sound before they pursue it.

2. **Do you believe a food service polystyrene ban would benefit the environment?**

   Yes we do. Absolutely.

   Measurable outcomes: In San Francisco, piece for piece, polystyrene was replaced with paper trash. This was not a great study. SF Environment has good stats about litter related to bags, etc. Jack

Macy good person to talk to for any studies results. Recology, a local waste hauler, notes that one of the problems associated with recycling plastic bags is that they clog the machinery and increase efficiency. Bayrock is a Bay Area recycling outreach coalition that conducts surveys throughout the Bay area, noting the number of people using reusable bags to gauge effectiveness of the Bag Your Bag Campaign. The Bayrock results are not scientific, but give a good idea of current use rates.

Tax on bags in DC resulted in 50% fewer bags in the Anacostia River.

Public education needs to be coupled with legislation. Education on its own has been proven to promote only a slight increase in the use of reusable bans. Education thus needs to be coupled with legislation. Recycling can only do so much: California recycles fewer than 5% of plastic bags a year. Foam containers are a similar issues (though it's a little different as people rarely bring their own containers for take-out); public education alone does not reduce polystyrene use. We are absolutely supportive of moving restaurants to sustainable alternatives.

3. **What do you believe <u>businesses would need</u> in order <u>to easily comply</u> with a ban? (training, free posters/fliers, guides with list of alternatives, fines for businesses that don't comply, etc.)**

   A strong public education push from the City is important, as is engaging business associations ahead of time, providing businesses with a list of vendors and pricing for polystyrene, in-person visits to answer questions, and providing information in various languages for ethnically operated businesses. Flyers and posters are not as effective; direct communication with the businesses is more effective. San Jose sent out a certified mail piece so they know who signed for it, and if a business didn't sign for it, outreach personnel can perform more targeted outreach. In San Francisco, a team of volunteers goes out into the city to perform outreach, which is a low-cost way to disseminate information. Outreach doesn't need to be fancy, it can be a website with all information and regulations that businesses need to have access to, and a help hotline for businesses to ask questions and obtain information.

4. In your opinion, what are the <u>biggest hurdles to a ban of polystyrene containers</u>?

   Financial, given the legal landscape that includes costly EIRs, hiring consultants, getting started because of legal concerns. It all requires a significant investment to fight one of the wealthiest corporations in the country. Cities and advocacy groups are telling the environmental side of the story, but businesses are worried about the impacts of a ban. It's the fear of the unknown. Businesses in DC are happy that they can now charge for something they weren't charging for before. Many businesses are initially worried that they won't be able to afford the alternatives, but upon researching they realize that the alternatives are ok. Cities should work with businesses to help them see the advantages of a ban. Residents and businesses are already paying for cleanup and municipal recycling of polystyrene, so a ban is a long-term investment in reducing taxes and environmental problems.

5. **Do you have any recommendations or suggestions?**

Don't back down. Don't succumb to industry pressure. Cities are doing the right thing: over 40 cities have already banned polystyrene, and many more interested in banning bags.

Recycling program proposed by waste haulers would not and may not ever include foodservice ware. This means that even if a program were to be initiated, residents would be required to clean and stockpile used containers before driving them to a facility because curbside pickup would not be offered. This has been confirmed by the haulers.

In regards to the phone survey used in San Jose:

Don't draw too many conclusions on what residents self-report to inform taxes. There are high reports of people bringing their own bags, because people are hesitant about relaying the truth. People do not negatively report about themselves. In San Jose, when asked the question: "If you had to pay 10 cents for a bag, would you bring your own," 70% said "Yes." When asked the question: "If you had to pay 25 cents for a bag, would you bring your own," 90% said "Yes." People don't know how they are actually going to act, so the City shouldn't draw examples from that. Instead, cities should look to real examples in the US, Washington D.C., for example. Even a small charge for bags results in a drastic and immediate behavior change. Set a charge consistent with what other Bay Area Cities are adopting: 10 cents.

I would like residents to understand that the material is not recyclable curb-side and would not be initially included in a pilot program. Residents would be required to wash and stockpile polystyrene before recycling, which requires lots of work, and they would need to self-haul the materials. It is important for residents to know about that so they can make an informed decision. We need to respond to reality, that polystyrene recycling does not currently exist.

California Restaurant Association

QUESTIONS FOR STAKEHOLDERS- CA Restaurant Association Polystyrene Questions

1. **What concerns do you have about a potential food service polystyrene ban?**

   For most operators, the number one issue is the cost difference between polystyrene and alternatives. This cost difference is usually significant, especially for mom and pop restaurateurs; for these small businesses, a ban affects the bottom line. Especially in this economy, it's tough for restaurants to comply, as they have high overhead and low profit margins. A 3 cent difference per cup, etc. can demolish the entire profit margin of a small restaurateur.

2. **Do you believe a food service polystyrene ban would benefit the environment?**

   There have been studies that have shown no impact or benefits of a ban; there have not necessarily been proven benefits in cities where these bans exist.

3. **What actions do you think restaurants in your association would be willing to take to reduce their use of polystyrene containers?**

Most restaurants that can afford to make the change have already done so; many have sought alternatives where possible. The issue becomes one of performance: alternatives don't always perform as well. Restaurateurs are committed citizens trying to find solutions. Many have reduced usage if possible; our community has made huge strides to move in that direction.

4. **Do you believe businesses would purchase alternatives to polystyrene containers, even at a higher cost, to help the City meet State mandates? a. If so, how much of an increase do you think businesses could reasonably absorb?**

   This issue is typically not a matter of restaurants wanting to use alternatives; they will assist the City to meet a State mandate or to stay in business.

   We have not really done surveys; it's difficult to get a read on restaurants, as one month not indicative of the next few months, and opinions change from city to city. Restaurants are unlike any other business. We cannot legislate restaurants the way we do other business, as they work in such a volatile industry

5. **Do you know if alternatives to Polystyrene are easily available to most restaurants in your association?**

   This varies from city to city, though in larger metropolitan areas, product availability is not an issue. Although I'm still getting calls that restaurants are still having problems with getting alternatives.

6. **What type of alternative take-out containers would you support for restaurants in your association? Why?**

   Cheapest.

7. **What types of implementation and outreach do you believe businesses would need in order to easily comply with a ban? (trainings, free posters/fliers, a vendor listing of alternatives, fines for businesses that don't comply, etc.)**

   First, make sure that there is adequate supply in the area: does the city have an infrastructure for composting? Cities pass bans and usually require compostable alternatives, but do not have the infrastructure to process this material.

   Second, creating a co-op to bring down the costs of alternatives would help businesses.

   Outreach in some cities has been attempted more than in others: when dealing with restaurants, it's not necessarily easy to get info to the right people. Small restaurants may not be web-savvy. Outreach is challenging with restaurants, not to mention language barriers.

8. **Do you have any recommendations or suggestions for the City of Milpitas to consider as they weigh the pros and cons of such a ban?**

   Ask that they keep Restaurant Association involved in the process, and keep restaurants informed along the way. We would like to come to the table to have some robust conversations about this before moving forward.

Appendix 7.3. Respondent Comments

14 respondents shared additional comments with the interviewees:

Fines for other businesses that do not comply would be helpful to ensure that we are all on a level playing field. We decided to stop providing polystyrene to our customers when we realized that polystyrene can have negative health effects on humans; we didn't even know Milpitas was considering a ban when we started a few years ago.

The Loving Hut is already likely in compliance with any ban that would take place (polystyrene and plastic bag). The Loving Hut (Vegan Restuarant) would make a good case study. They are already using plant-based compostable containers and bags and they provide regular outreach to their customers in the form of reusable bags, fliers, cds, discussions, etc.

We are switching from polystyrene to paper cups for smoothies right now.

He is going to contact corporate to see if they can replace polystyrene coffee cups. He lived in Mexico where they tax people on plastic bags - worked well and he wants the same thing here.

Alternatives cannot effectively hold curries, etc.

The City could also motivate businesses to participate by publicizing businesses that participate. The biodegradable plastics that I use retain liquid really well. If something like this passes, it should be partly up to the distributor to lend a helping hand, reduce prices to make it easier for businesses to comply.

If we use paper products and biodegradable or regular plastic for soup, customer can get burned and businesses can get sued. Paper and plastic cups cannot hold heat the way polystyrene can.

If this were approved by corporate, their store would need to comply. Their biggest concern is the cost, they must purchase the most inexpensive products right now due to the economy.

Coffee store - they believe knowledge and outreach is the key. They already are using alternative products, so they don't really need to worry, they already comply.

Very much in favor of a ban, but they won't be affected by it because they already use alternative materials.

They have been using alternative products for some time now.

Consider the size of the business and the revenue stream when deciding what businesses to target for a ban; give smaller businesses a break. For larger corporations and chain restaurants, take-out packaging is such a tiny part of the budget, buying alternatives would hardly phase the businesses.

If people say there aren’t alternatives for curries and soups, that’s BS. We have been using a re-usable and recyclable plastic take-out container for curries, and it works extremely well for us and for customers. It has actually increased our business from some customers. Paper containers are even fine for food to keep from dripping for a short ride in the car. There has been a large price increase, though, about $500 per month (they were a large business that provided more than 2000 take-out containers

per month). At their other, smaller, location, they haven't been able to fund the change to alternative containers.

There is a large cost increase to purchase alternatives (as I have). It would be awesome if we could find a way for businesses to band together and purchase alternatives from one place in bulk, to lower the price. It would also be ideal if that place were local, to save on shipping costs. Also, a local paper should have a section to highlight local businesses that are really going above and beyond to comply, and are passionate about it.

Appendix 7.4. Businesses Interviewed

All of the contacts interviewed were business owners, managers, or assistant managers. Most of the contacts interviewed did not provide their name to maintain confidentiality.

Business Name	Business Address	Contact Name
Bento Xpress	23 N. Milpitas Blvd.	
Varsha's Indian Vegetarian Food	263 W. Calaveras Blvd.	
Noah's Bagels	124 N. Milpitas Blvd.	
Sushimaru	599 E. Calaveras Blvd.	Kenichiro Miyamoto
Erik's Deli Café	148 N. Milpitas Blvd.	
Foster's Freeze	78 Serra Way	
McDonald's	99 N. Milpitas Blvd.	
Giorgio's	643 E. Calaveras Blvd	Ron
El Torito's	477 E. Calaveras Blvd.	
Peet's	543 E. Calaveras Blvd.	Chloe
Quizno's	55 N. Milpitas Blvd.	
Mountain Mike's Pizza	85 N. Milpitas Blvd.	
Red Lobster	503 E. Calaveras Blvd.	
Anh Hong Restaurant	233 W. Calaveras Blvd.	Le
Papa Murphy’s	119 N. Milpitas Blvd.	
Jamba Juice	547 E. Calaveras Blvd.	
Subway	61 Serra Way	
So Yong Dong Tofu House	231 W. Calaveras	
Burger King	175 W. Calaveras Blvd.	
Milan Indian Cuisine	420 S. Main Street	Sanjay Milan
Nutrition House, Chinese Cuisine	496 Barber Lane	
Swagat	68 S. Abel Street	
Loving Hut	516 Barber Lane	
Blush Frozen Yogurt	489 E. Calaveras Blvd.	Cynthia Abad

Appendix 8.1. Residential Survey Instrument and Results

1. Do you live in a:

	Response Percent	Response Count
Single Family Dwelling	**87.0%**	**254**
Condominium	5.5%	16
Apartment	5.5%	16
Mobile Home	0.0%	0
Other (please specify)	2.1%	6
	answered question	**292**
	skipped question	**1**

2. Do you think that single use bags and polystyrene (a.k.a. Styrofoam) foam food take -out containers litter our creeks, the bay, and the oceans?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	**73.2%**	**202**
No	6.5%	18
Don't Know	20.3%	56
	answered question	**276**
	skipped question	**17**

3. Are you concerned that single-use bags and polystyrene take-out food containers can harm wildlife and the environment?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	**75.1%**	**208**
No	6.9%	19
Maybe	18.1%	50
	answered question	**277**
	skipped question	**16**

4. Did you know that the City of Milpitas is considering bans on:

	Yes	No	Somewhat	Response Count
polystyrene food service take-out containers	19.6% (57)	**69.4% (202)**	11.0% (32)	291
single-use bags	21.4% (62)	**65.2% (189)**	13.4% (39)	290
			answered question	**291**
			skipped question	**2**

5. Do you think the City should ban businesses from providing polystyrene food service take -out containers and single use bags to customers?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes (both)	**48.4%**	**139**
No (both)	24.4%	70
Ban polystyrene but not single use bags	21.6%	62
Ban single use bags but not polystyrene	5.6%	16
	answered question	**287**
	skipped question	**6**

6. Have you bought food at a fast -food restaurant (like McDonalds, Carl's Jr., and Burger King) that did not use foam packaging, and did you notice any loss of quality in their food as a result?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	6.2%	18
No	**85.5%**	**248**
Maybe	8.3%	24
	answered question	**290**
	skipped question	**3**

7. Would you continue to support a business that had to increase their prices to cover the costs of complying with a polystyrene take-out container ban?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	**50.3%**	**146**
No	22.8%	66
Maybe	26.9%	78
	answered question	**290**
	skipped question	**3**

8. Approximately how many of each of the following bag types do you use or receive when shopping at grocery stores, retail stores, and food service establishments each month?

	None	0-5	6-10	11-15	16 or more	Response Count
Single-Use Paper	20.3% (59)	**36.6% (106)**	16.9% (49)	9.7% (28)	16.6% (48)	290
Single-Use Plastic	11.4% (33)	12.1% (35)	14.1% (41)	13.4% (39)	**49.0% (142)**	290
Reusable Bags	33.1% (95)	**33.4% (96)**	15.7% (45)	5.6% (16)	12.2% (35)	287
					Other (please specify)	3
					answered question	**291**
					skipped question	**2**

9. Would you be likely to use reusable bags if single use bags were banned?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	**81.0%**	**235**
No	4.1%	12
Maybe	14.8%	43
	answered question	**290**
	skipped question	**3**

10. Which of the following would make complying with a single -use bag ban easier? Please rank the following from one to three.

	First	Second	Third	Rating Average	Response Count
Getting a discount on your purchase every time you use a reusable bag.	**77.9% (211)**	14.4% (39)	7.7% (21)	1.30	271
Receiving tips on remembering to bring your reusable bag when you shop.	11.2% (30)	**48.1% (129)**	40.7% (109)	2.29	268
Having the option to purchase a reusable bag for future use at every business affected by the ban.	15.2% (41)	34.9% (94)	**49.8% (134)**	2.35	269
			Other (please specify)		17
			answered question		**274**
			skipped question		**19**

11. Hypothetically, what would your response be to a business that hasn't yet complied with a ban (after the ban came into effect)?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Report them to the city for investigation.	6.6%	19
Mention that, as their customer, you would appreciate it if they complied with the ban.	33.8%	98
Tell them that you will no longer frequent their establishment if they will not comply.	5.2%	15
Not say anything, but avoid shopping there again.	15.2%	44
Shop there as usual; non-compliance will not affect your shopping habits.	**39.3%**	**114**
	answered question	**290**
	skipped question	**3**

12. Do you or anyone in your household use Household Dump Days?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	**55.0%**	**160**
No	45.0%	131
	answered question	**291**
	skipped question	**2**

13. How many times in the last 12 months have you used Household Dump Day?	
	Response Count
	161
answered question	**161**
skipped question	**132**

14. What is the minimum number of Household Dump Days per year necessary to meet your household's needs?	
	Response Count
	155
answered question	**155**
skipped question	**138**

15. Is the respondent:		
	Response Percent	**Response Count**
Male	47.9%	138
Female	**52.1%**	**150**
Other (please specify)		0
answered question		**288**
skipped question		**5**

16. Which of the following age ranges best describes you?

	Response Percent	Response Count
18-24	2.8%	8
25-34	10.1%	29
35-44	16.0%	46
45-54	18.4%	53
55-64	20.5%	59
65 or older	**27.8%**	**80**
Refused to answer	4.5%	13
	answered question	**288**
	skipped question	**5**

17. What is the highest level of education you have received?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Completed Elementary	1.0%	3
Some High School	1.4%	4
Graduated High School	18.5%	53
Some College	19.2%	55
Graduated College (Undergraduate)	**35.0%**	**100**
Some Graduate School	3.5%	10
Graduate School (Completed)	16.1%	46
Refused to answer	5.2%	15
	answered question	**286**
	skipped question	**7**

18. What ethnicity are you?

	Response Percent	Response Count
White	**39.2%**	**111**
African American	2.5%	7
Hispanic/Latino	9.5%	27
Asian	27.2%	77
Filipino	4.9%	14
Native American	0.4%	1
Refused to answer	8.8%	25
Other (please specify)	7.4%	21
	answered question	**283**
	skipped question	**10**

19. Which of the following income categories best represents your TOTAL household income?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Less than $30,000	9.5%	27
Less than $45,000	12.3%	35
Less than $60,000	12.6%	36
Less than $100,000	14.4%	41
$100,000 or more	20.0%	57
Refuse to answer	**31.2%**	**89**
	answered question	**285**
	skipped question	**8**

20. Additional Questions/Comments?	
	Response Count
	93
answered question	93
skipped question	200

Appendix 8.2. Residential Survey Methods: Continued

Cascadia staff members administered the survey on behalf of the City of Milpitas between December 7th 2010 and January 10th 2011. Cascadia initially called residents at all times of day between 10am and 7pm, but focused calls on the late afternoon through early evening (2 pm until 7pm), times that yielded the largest response rate from residents.

Cascadia gathered Milpitas resident phone numbers from Allied Waste records. Staff made 2799 calls to achieve 293 completed surveys, of which 984 (35%) calls resulted in an answering machine picking up, 522 (19%) numbers were no longer in service, 468 (17%) were residents who did not want to talk us, 371 (13%) had no answer, 103 (1%) were residents that did not speak English, and 78 (1%) were not Milpitas residents.

The project manager trained the six Cascadia staff people to administer the survey in the same way every time they spoke to a resident. Surveyors only deviated from the script to answer clarifying questions from residents, and to the extent possible, Cascadia anticipated frequently asked questions and gave surveyors responses appropriate to represent the City and Cascadia.

Appendix 8.3. Additional Responses from Residents

A certain percentage of a shoppers re-use them as garbage bag liners; although single use bags do get in the waters and affect wildlife, and that's a concern, consumers find it beneficial to have the single use bags as liners for garbage containers.

Uses re-usable bags as bin liners for indoor garbage.

We need to put some type of ban into place in Milpitas, especially in grocery stores. I lived in Europe for 11 years, and we had to carry our plastic bags everywhere, they had a tax on plastic and paper bags.

Some bans don't have any effect: you should provide the City with information about how much of an impact a ban like this one would actually have on the environment.

Cannot see life without plastic bags. Owns a Household Cleaning business that uses plastic bags and would have to raise fees to customers. Uses them regularly for personal life-shopping, cat litter, garbage liners.

Survey questions are set up to get the answers they want. Don't want a ban, use plastic bags regularly. Will be forced to buy bags on their own. Still need bags even with a ban. Won't save their household any money because they used to get the bags for free from stores.

Brown paper bags should not be banned, only white paper bags, plastic bags and styrofoam should be banned. Lived places where you never used plastic bags before moving to CA in 1990. We can get to not using plastic bags again. Brown paper bags biodegrade, are made from recycled content, and are a natural color (don't contain chemicals) unlike white paper bags that have a manufacturing prcoess that contaminates the air and water. Plastic bags and styrofoam are very bad. Costco is a good example-they don't have bags, so you either bring your own, uses boxes provided, or go without a bag.

If the City wants to ban bags and styrofoam, it makes it hard for businesses at times when we need to help the green. It would be better to increase the littering ban, but I don't think this ban helps at all. The green people will come out and protest it because of a turtle which can be relocated. Energy will get more and more expensive, it's getting dirtier and dirtier. The United States in clean, and China is making us dirtier. Don't give free education to illegal immigrants. Worse education because of it. People line their garbage cans with them, it keeps a cleaner environment. Cask for clunkers put more cars into the landfill. Go ahead and ban the bags, we'll look liek Russia, I don't think banning the bags will be a huge issue. Reusable bags, bacteria will collect, they have lead in the bags, we have to be careful what we use from China. No place will take them to recycle them when they're done. We need to stop, take a deep breath, and re-think how we're doing this. We need to stop and plan and think; we need to consider what we're doing before we're doing it. We're going to charge more, people won't be able to afford their groceries. Going to hurt people that can't afford what's going on.

Most people are thinking about cost, not convenience. People like myself may be more likely to shop outside of Milpitas to avoid paying a fee if one is enacted.

Had concerns about too many leaves in street, clogging storm drain. Surveyor instructed them to call the City Public Works Dept. as this is a stormwater issue.

Loves Milpitas and all they do for the environment, would like to see improvements to the recycling program.

Resident mentioned concern about smell from the landfill out by 237. Surveyor discussed that the smell may actually be coming from the waste water treatment plant in the area as there are strict regulations in place for the landfill.

Limit or minimize the use of bags: there is only one way. We use the plastic bags from the supermarket for bagging the garbage. I don't see the elimination of plastic bags as possible, she doesn't like the idea of dumping it all in the garbage can. I'm not convinced that any other materials can be used. Still not fair

For Household Dump Days would prefer a program such as San Jose's where you can leave items at the curb. Have a brand new car that they do not want to take into the dump where there is broken glass and other hazards.

Would like a yearly dump day on the street/curbside at their home, like Santa Clara offers.

We recycle a lot.

Reusable bags aren't water-resistant enough and create a mess.

Would hate to see them stop using paper bags because so many ways to reuse them.

I hope that this will take effect; it would be great for the city.

You just so happened to reach the Chairman of RSRAC. My policy has always been to RECYCLE as opposed to RESTRICT. RESTRICTING is ineffective unless a suitable REPLACEMENT has been thoroughly tested and implemented. Furthermore, plastic bags were forced on us by the environmentalist wackos who didn't want trees harvested to product paper bags. We need to adjust people's habits and encourage the use of reusable bags. I have and use these and love them. And, in case you were not aware, polystyrene is recyclable. Check out Dart Container Corp in Lodi, CA.

Doesn't want to be charged for bags.

They should bring the bans into effect as soon as possible.

When will this happen. Especially in this town where the majority are Asian (I am Asian) and as an ethnicity we are not very environmentally friendly.

I use single use paper bags for garbage bags, if they are banned I would have to use plastic bags as garbage bags. I feel plastic bags are worse than paper bags.

concerned about the hassle of the reusable bags and the cost of buying them.

Balance the budget before taking this issue on.

We never throw these on the streets after use! We normally use the Plastic bags to collect the garbage and throw it in the Garbage Containers for the Garbage Company to pick up! From there on we do not know! I think the easiest way is to create controls at that level.

Only thing I see bad about it is putting small businesses out; added cost will not help those smaller businesses to stay afloat.

A lot of businesses are struggling, and this type of ban will not help them. I'd be willing to see large chains put something like this in place, but smaller stores cannot handle the extra burden of cost.

Survey questions aren't really well written: force people to give the answers that we want rather than involve them in discussion.

I would prefer if paper bags were not banned, because I use them at home and they're biodegradable.

This does not at all affect my decision to live or play in Milpitas

Nope

This survery is to long

Don't ban plastic bags.

Will comply with whatever is best for the environment.

Most times you can use a reusable bags, but when there is wet food material, it makes it difficult. Is concerned about inconvenience.

hopes they are banned.

Thinks its a good idea.

encourage the community to use reusable bags and encourage retail stores to incentivize customers to bring in their own bags before enacting a policy. Reusing plastic bags for dog poop and will have to buy purchase these bags. Appreciates when the city supplies dog poop bags at parks.

I would go to San Jose rather than pay more at businesses for a ban like this one. I re-use all of my plastic bags. I would not stand for any kind of tax on my plastic bags. There are too many taxes already.

Feels that government intervention should me minimized; corporate responsibility should be emphasized.

I think this particular approach (a ban) is a waste of my taxpayers money.

Dead set against banning plastic grocery bags; don't think it's a good idea to ban plastic grocery bags in stores.

I really don't like plastic bags; I use pyrex to avoid plastic poison. I hate plastic, when I get anything from the grocery I put in glass. I don't care that it's heavy as long as it's healthy. Melaleuca (all natural products I am using), made in Iowa, is what I use.

send residents information about harmful effects of single use bags and polystyrene.

concerned about them floating out in the Bay. implement asap.

Environmental nonsense, I hope this doesn't pass.

We need the plastic bags for groceries.

Works for a recycling company and would like to see it go into effect.

hopes the bans will go into effect soon

Concerned that she won't be able to reuse plastic bags for food scraps and other wet waste.

Doesn't want government to interfere in consumer purchases.

Think there should be a ban or strict rules concerning stryofoam. I think Styrofoam is really messy. Paper bags are difficult to carry in to the household, especially for those people who live in apartments.

She saves all plastic bags for reuse as garbage bags. If she doesn't use all of them she puts them in the recycle bin.

Glad Milpitas is looking into this. Concerned that trash bins are larger than recycling bins. She thinks it needs to be reversed.

I think it would be a great idea.

We should think about having the option to let consumers bring their own tupperware to businesses as well. But, if businesses have to charge more, I can appreciate that they have to run a business and must do that to stay afloat. Eventually, this will all be a non-issue because we'll have to carry re-usable bags in our cars. I wouldn't get in the face of a business if they weren't in compliance. The burden falls on me to bring my own bag and do the right thing.

Interested to know what the viable alternatives are.

If these materials are harming the environment then the bans should be put into place.

Thinks that its a statewide problem that needs to be handled on a statewide level.

I think is the most stupid thing that the Milpitas Council has ever done. Researching whether we should use alternatives and spending $60,000 on a survey is absurd. Every council member who voted for this should resign.

I think the decision to use or not use plastic bags should be left up to the consumer.

Here are some issues this person had with a single use bag ban: 1) they agree with a plastic bag ban but not a paper bag ban 2) They wonder how folks will carry meat products that are fresh from the butcher - this is the only time plastic bags are necessary. 3) It would be good if plastic bags were eliminated because they are less sturdy than reusable bags and they are backed by the oil industry.

If they no longer allow styrofoam, then what happens to the styrofoam that is already in the stores? Will they use up stock?

Depend less on the government and more on personal responsibility.

We need to use the systems we already have to implement a recycling program for polystyrene rather than banning it. Otherwise, this will be another beauracratic mess.

Seen lots of styrofoam in waterways and you want to prevent that.

Bags should not be a high priority. Make the streets safer and repairs should taken care of first.

It would be great if the City would let us bring our own, reusable containers to restaurants to take food home.

Concerned about the environment and wants to protect it.

I think it's good for the environment, so I would be in favor of it.

I think Milpitas should ban styrofoam just like Oakland.

These bans would be a great thing for the City to do.

feels we need to clean up our environment

The survey is to long

Please do not call my house again

Resident simply asked how the survey was being conducted and when a ban might occur.

Plastic bags are not the problem, it's the people that don't reuse/recycle them properly. If you get rid of plastic bags you will have major health issues if bags are not available for raw meat, which often leaks from their packaging. There are bigger issues to worry about, such as feeding and educating children. Please do not do away with Household Dump Day.

Doesn't want to be bothered with reusable bags.

hopes ban will be in effect asap.

appreciates solicitation of public opinion

Uses plastic bags for her garbage bags, so doesn't want plastic bags banned.

There are other more pressing needs to focus their attention on besides this matter.

I think it's time we did it, becuase we have to do better. The grocery store always asks, "paper or plastic" and it's time for a change. If people can bring paper bags back in for a profit. We have to get trained, and I think this is a good way to start the training.

Wanted to make sure we wouldn't give her phone number to someone else.

Probably a good thing, but it would just take me getting used to it. I really like the plastic bags for convenience and for lining my garbage can.

I think it's a great idea and I hope it goes through.

I think it would be good to keep paper bags around. I use them for garbage bags, and would continue to even if they were taxed.

Difficult to get a truck to use Household Dump days.

Was not familiar with household dump days

I totally agree with banning styrofoam because it's very affordable to replace styrofoam with other containers. Afraid the bags would really affect low income people unless it's done in an affordable way. That's my only concern about that ban.

I know it's a tough thing about banning the bags, and I think the answer would be to have a CRV on that stuff, and that would clean things up. If we had something like that with the bags, it wouldn't be a problem, and things would go up tenfold. I believe that we can't recycle styrofoam, but I would like to see it built into the recycling program. I would like to see it built into the recycling program. If more people threw their Styofoam in there we wouldn't have as much of a problem.

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