



City of St. Helena
Active Transportation and Sustainability
Committee
Regular Meeting
1088 College Avenue, St. Helena, CA 94574
Wednesday, August 7, 2024 @ 5:00 PM

PLEASE NOTE: Any person who wishes to speak regarding an item on the agenda or make a comment under the "Oral Communication" portion of the agenda may do so, but please observe the time limit of four minutes. Members of the public and other parties are welcome to email their comments to the Staff Liaison Rebecca White at rwhite@cityofstheleena.org

Page

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
Members: Glenn Smith, John Zimmerman, Jeff Farmer, Coral Posert, Natalia Ramirez Guzman
Alternate Members: Richard Seiferheld
City Council Member Liaison: Paul Dohring, Mayor
Staff Liaison: Rebecca White, Administrative Assistant
3. PUBLIC FORUM:
An opportunity for the public to directly address the Committee on items of interest to the public that are not listed on the agenda. Any person addressing the Committee should provide his or her name and address, and limit comments to four minutes. **Because of restrictions imposed by the Brown Act, the Committee may not engage in substantive discussion, nor take action on matters not described on the agenda.**
4. REPORTS BY STAFF AND COMMITTEE:
Reports by staff and/or committee on items of general interest. ***Brief questions for clarification may be posed and answered, and Committee may request that items be placed on a future agenda. Except under certain circumstances, the Brown Act prohibits any other discussion or action by the Active Transportation & Sustainability Committee.***
5. CONSENT CALENDAR:
Members of the Active Transportation Committee or the public may ask that any items be considered individually for purposes of considering alternative action, for extended discussion, or for public comment. Unless that is done, on motion may be used to adopt all recommendation actions.
 - 5.1. Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes of July 3, 2024. 3 - 5
[Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee - 03 Jul 2024 - Minutes](#)
6. SCHEDULED MATTERS:
 - 6.1. Oath of Office for New Members (this item will be heard out of order after roll call).
 - 6.2. Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair for Fiscal Year 2025 (this item will

be heard out of order after Oaths of Office).

- 6.3. Consideration of Regulations and Policies Regarding Reusable Foodware and Waste Reduction Within the City of St. Helena
Prepared By: Ian Dale, Environmental Services Technician

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[Foodware and Waste Reduction Staff Report](#)
[Foodware and Waste Reduction Presentation](#)
[Public Comment - Stuart](#)
[Public Comment - Napa Climate NOW! Steering Committee](#)
[Public Comment - Figoni](#)
[Public Comment - Chandler](#)

- 6.4. Pavement Restoration Plan Update
Prepared By: Mario Traverso, Project Manager

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Review open trails/open spaces programs/engagement with Vine Trail: TBD
2. CIP Update: Tentatively September
3. Revisit Pedestrian Safety Improvements Update: TBD
4. Revisit Safe Yield Water Neutrality Informational Update: TBD

8. ADJOURNMENT

The next regular Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee meeting is scheduled for September 4, 2024, at 5:00 pm, City Hall, 1088 College Avenue, St. Helena.

This agenda was posted at City Hall, 1088 College Avenue, St. Helena on August 2, 2024.

Rebecca White, Administrative Assistant

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in the meeting, please contact City Hall at (707) 967-2792. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title II). However, City staff will attempt to assist at any time with accessibility.

MINUTES
City of St. Helena
Active Transportation and Sustainability
Committee Meeting
Wednesday, July 3, 2024 @ 5:00 PM
City Hall, 1088 College Avenue, St. Helena

1 CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Farmer called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

2 ROLL CALL

Present: Vice Chair Farmer, Member Richard Seiferheld (departed at 6:10 p.m.), Member Glenn Smith (arrived at 5:05 p.m, departed at 6:10 p.m.).

City Council Liaison: Mayor Paul Dohring

Staff Liaison: Rebecca White and Public Works Assistant Director Eric Janzen

Absent: Member Coral Posert, Member Natalia Ramirez Guzman, Member John Zimmerman

3 PUBLIC FORUM:

Vice Chair Farmer opened public comment.

No comments were received.

Public comment was closed.

4 REPORTS BY STAFF AND COMMITTEE:

Brief updates were heard from Members Smith and Farmer, and Staff Liaison Rebecca White.

5 CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a) Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes of May 1, 2024.

Member Smith made a motion to approve the May 1 meeting minutes.

Member Farmer seconded.

All voted in favor.

- b) Special Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes of May 22, 2024.

Member Smith made a motion to approve the May 22 special meeting minutes.

Member Seiferheld seconded the motion.

All voted in favor of approving the minutes.

Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee
July 3, 2024

6 SCHEDULED MATTERS:

- a) Oath of Office for New Members (This item was heard out of order after roll call).

Richard Seiferheld was sworn in by Rebecca White.

- b) Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair for Fiscal Year 2025

This item was tabled for the August 7, 2024, meeting.

- c) Pedestrian Safety Improvements Update
Prepared By: Jose Calderon, Engineering Technician & Mario Traverso, Project Manager

Jose Calderon presented on the current and potential upcoming safety improvements for pedestrians.

- d) Safe Yield Water Neutrality Informational Update
Prepared By: Eric Janzen, Assistant Public Works Director

Eric Janzen provided an update on safe yield & water neutrality.

- e) Downtown Specific Plan Update
Prepared By: Eric Janzen, Assistant Public Works Director

This item was not heard.

- f) Consideration of Regulations and Policies Regarding Reusable Foodware and Waste Reduction Within the City of St. Helena
Prepared By: Antoinette Freeman, Planning & Public Works Intern and Ian Dale, Environmental Services Technician

This item was tabled for the August 7, 2024, meeting.

7 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- a) Review open trails/open spaces programs/engagement with Vine Trail: TBD

8 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee
July 3, 2024

APPROVED:

Chair

ATTEST:

Staff Liaison, Rebecca White



STAFF REPORT

Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee

Regular Meeting | Wednesday, July 3, 2024

SUBJECT: Regulating reusable foodware and waste reduction within the City of St. Helena

PREPARED BY: Antoinette Freeman, Planning & Public Works Intern

APPROVED BY: Ian Dale, Environmental Services Technician
Lesley Milton, Assistant Public Works Director

DESCRIPTION

Consideration of amendments to the Municipal Code to introduce new regulations pertaining to the use of reusable and disposable foodware, with the aim of promoting waste reduction in the City of St. Helena

OBJECTIVE

1. Furtherance of *Council Goal Number 2: Improve Infrastructure & Further Environmental Sustainability* ¹, which includes adopting a foodware ordinance.
2. The proposed limitations on the use of disposable foodware combined with waste reduction practices, specifically by food vendors and providers, are in furtherance of the St. Helena General Plan.²

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Provide guidance to staff regarding (1) the relevant components to be incorporated into the forthcoming draft Municipal Code Amendments and (2) the development of a public outreach and stakeholder engagement strategy.

BACKGROUND

State Initiatives

In October 2021, the State of California passed Assembly Bill 1276³ prohibiting a food facility from providing any single-use foodware accessory or standard condiment to a consumer unless requested by the consumer and requiring cities to authorize enforcement of the requirements of the bill on or before June 1, 2022, as referenced in Chapter 5 of the California Public Resources Code.⁴ Since then, similar regulations have been implemented in over 60 cities and counties across California and two dozen jurisdictions in the Bay Area. Jurisdictions have also expanded the requirements of AB 1276 to all non-compostable and non-recyclable products.

STAFF REPORT
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BACKGROUND (continued)

Regional Initiatives

The Napa County Climate Action Committee (CAC)⁵ was established in 2021 by the County of Napa, along with the Cities of American Canyon, Calistoga, Napa, and St. Helena and the Town of Yountville; the CAC focuses on coordinated actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change. As a part of its ongoing efforts, the CAC directed staff to prepare a draft ordinance⁵ that would extend to food sellers, including businesses, nonprofits, organizations, entities, groups, or individuals offering prepared food for retail consumption. These sellers would be required to utilize reusable or compostable foodware items.

On January 1, 2022, the County of Sonoma adopted an ordinance⁷ to Prohibit the Use And Sale Of Disposable Food Service Ware And Other Products Containing Polystyrene Foam, Perfluoroalkyl, And Polyflouroalkyl Substances. After the adoption of this ordinance, the County, in conjunction with the local government entity Zero Waste Sonoma⁸, released a model ordinance accompanied by web resources that were published with resources and assistance available to communities within Sonoma County. Currently, eight of the ten municipalities in Sonoma County have adopted the model ordinance.

On March 21, 2023, the Calistoga City Council approved new regulations pertaining to food packaging and single-use foodware.⁹ This ordinance builds upon and extends the regulations outlined in the 2021 CA Assembly Bill 1276 concerning single-use foodware accessories. The newly established rules came into effect on March 20, 2024, providing businesses with a full year to deplete non-compliant foodware inventory as they transition to more environmentally sustainable alternatives. In line with the introduction of the new ordinance, the City of Calistoga has disseminated a Compliance Guide¹⁰ to offer guidance to businesses and residents.

Data & Research

According to the EPA, in 2018, only 8.7 percent of plastics in the United States were recycled, which contributes to approximately 8 million tons of plastic that end up in the oceans annually, and food and beverage packaging comprise approximately one-quarter of California's disposed waste stream annually. Greenhouse gas emissions from plastics alone exacerbate climate change, jeopardizing our ability to keep the global temperature rise below 1.5°C. Over the last year, the Green Committee has encouraged the city to draft a foodware ordinance to further regulate the use of non-compostable and non-recyclable products currently used by food vendors for disposable foodware due to their significant environmental impacts. These impacts include littering waterways and streets, generating greenhouse gasses, harming wildlife, and increasing solid waste generation and water consumption during manufacturing.¹³

STAFF REPORT
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BACKGROUND (continued)

Local Existing Conditions

- Waste management within the City of St. Helena is handled by the Upper Valley Waste Management Agency¹⁴, and Upper Valley Disposal & Recycling Service¹⁵ is the service provided.
- The City of Saint Helena Municipal Code includes existing regulations for foodware and waste reduction. Specifically, Solid Waste Collection regulations in Chapter 8.04¹⁶ and Single-Use Carryout Bag Reduction in Chapter 8.36.¹⁷

DISCUSSION

- Updated Definitions
 - Foodware, Recyclable, Compostable, Natural Fiber, Green Container, BPI Certified, Polystyrene
- Requirements for Local Businesses
 - Three Collection Containers: Landfill, Recycle, Organic Waster
 - On-site: Use of reusable foodware
 - Off-site: Use of compostable foodware
 - Polystyrene ban
 - Exemptions
- Single-Use Bag Regulations
 - Reflect State requirements
 - Prohibited with exemptions
 - Bag charge of \$0.25
- The staff is currently seeking guidance from the Commission with regard to the endorsement of the proposed regulations. Additionally, they are looking for input on any additional or different regulations that should be integrated into the final draft, which will subsequently be presented to the City Council as a recommendation for approval by the Commission.

STAFF REPORT
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REFERENCES

1. [St. Helena City Council Goals](#)
2. [City of St. Helena General Plan \(Chapter 10: Climate Change\)](#)
3. [CA Assembly Bill No. 1276: Single-use foodware accessories and standard condiments](#)
4. [CA Public Resources Code, Division 30, Part 3, Chapter 5.2: Single-Use Foodware Accessories and Condiments](#)
5. [Napa County - Climate Action Committee](#)
6. [Napa County - Draft Reusable Food Ware and Waste Reduction](#)
7. [Sonoma County - MODEL ORDINANCE](#)
8. [Zero Waste Sonoma - Disposable Food Service Ware & Polystyrene Ban](#)
9. [City of Calistoga - Foodware And Waste Reduction Ordinance](#)
10. [City of Calistoga - Foodware and Waste Reduction Compliance Guide](#)
11. [EPA - Plastics: Material-Specific Data](#)
12. [Upper Valley Waste Management Agency](#)
13. [Upper Valley Disposal & Recycling Services](#)
14. [SH Municipal Code: Chapter 8.04](#)
15. [SH Municipal Code: Chapter 8.36](#)



Active Transportation and
Sustainability Committee

Consideration & Guidance

Regulating Reusable Foodware & Waste Reduction

Presented by
Antoinette Freeman
Planning & Public Works

Date: July 3, 2024



Agenda

01

Overview

- Description
- Objective
- Action

02

Background

- Initiatives
- Data
- Conditions

03

Discussion

- Definitions
- Requirements
- Bags

Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee

Date: July 3, 2024

A photograph of a white plastic bag lying on a grassy field. In the background, there are trees and a bright sunset or sunrise, creating a warm, golden light. The scene is slightly out of focus, emphasizing the plastic bag as a symbol of waste.

Part 1:

Overview

Consideration of amendments to the Municipal Code to introduce new regulations pertaining to the use of reusable and disposable foodware, with the aim of promoting waste reduction in the City of St. Helena

Objectives

01

Furtherance of Council Goal Number 2: Improve Infrastructure & Further Environmental Sustainability, which includes adopting a foodware ordinance.

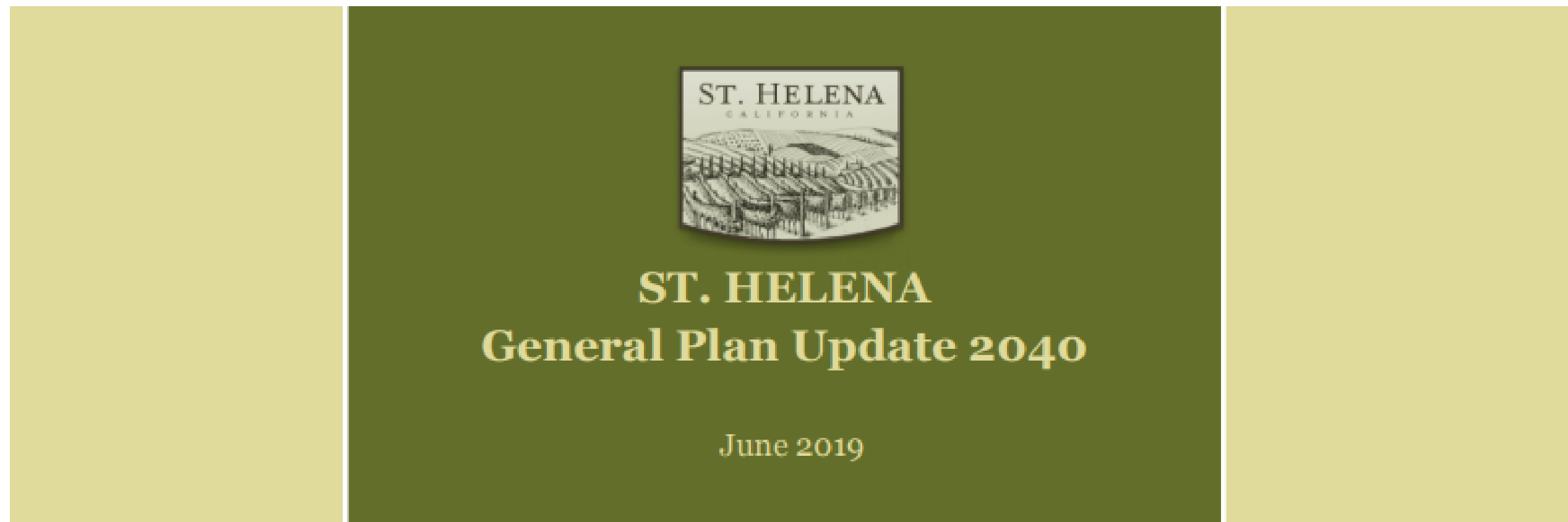
Table 1 - Goals by Topic

City Council Goals		Total Objectives	Objectives for FY 2024
Goal 1	Financial Sustainability	9	4
Goal 2	Infrastructure and Environmental Sustainability	46	27
Goal 3	Water Security	11	6
Goal 4	Community Information & Engagement	20	14
Goal 5	Quality of Life	44	22
Other Goals/Items			
Goal 6	Employee Recruitment, Retention, and Morale	9	6
Goal 7	Organizational Effectiveness	19	13
CIP	CIP Projects*	54	15
TOTALS		212	107

Objectives

02

The proposed limitations on the use of disposable foodware combined with waste reduction practices, specifically by food vendors and providers, are in furtherance of the St. Helena General Plan.



Action

Provide guidance to staff regarding:

Item # 1

the relevant components to be incorporated into the forthcoming draft Municipal Code Amendments

Item # 2

the development of a public outreach and stakeholder engagement strategy

A large pile of plastic waste, including bottles, containers, and food packaging, under a sunset sky. The waste is piled high, and the sky is filled with clouds, with the sun low on the horizon.

Part 2:

Background

Many cities in the San Francisco Bay Area and California have passed laws to reduce non-reusable food packaging. Businesses are now using affordable, durable, and reusable foodware instead.

Initiatives



Assembly Bill No. 1276

CHAPTER 505



Initiatives



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Planning, Building & Environmental Services

1195 Third Street, Suite 210
Napa, CA 94559
www.countyofnapa.org

Brian Bordona
Director

February 12, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Planning, Building and Environmental Services
Environmental Health Division 707-253-4471

**Draft Reusable Food Ware and Waste Reduction
Ordinance Released for Public Comment**

Initiatives



Jurisdiction (municipal code linked)	Ordinance Modifications	Effective
Cloverdale	Model Ordinance excluding PFAS amendment	Yes
Cotati	Model Ordinance Adopted	Yes
Healdsburg	Model Ordinance Adopted	Yes
Petaluma	Currently only prohibiting the sale/use of polystyrene foam	Yes
Rohnert Park	Model Ordinance Adopted	Yes
Santa Rosa	Model Ordinance plus additional requirements:	Yes
Sebastopol	Model Ordinance plus additional requirements:	Yes
Sonoma	Model Ordinance Adopted	Yes
Windsor	Model Ordinance Adopted	Yes
County of Sonoma	Model Ordinance Adopted	Yes

Initiatives



Foodware and Waste Reduction Compliance Guide

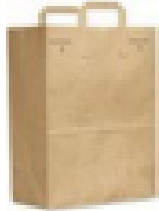
ORDINANCE NO. 759

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CALISTOGA
AMENDING CALISTOGA MUNICIPAL CODE ADDING A NEW CHAPTER 8.17
REGULATING REUSABLE FOODWARE AND WASTE REDUCTION WITHIN THE
CITY OF CALISTOGA, AND REVISING CHAPTERS 8.16 GARBAGE AND REFUSE
AND 19.12 SINGLE-USE CARRYOUT BAG REDUCTION

Only Upon Request by Customers:

Lids, cutlery, to-go condiment packages, and paper straws



Allowed Bags – Pre-Check-Out and Checkout	
<u>Pre-Check-Out Bag:</u> • Small paper bags • Compostable produce bags - must be BPI certified. 	<u>Check-Out Bag (\$.025)</u> • Brown paper bags made of a minimum of 40% post-consumer recycled material. 

Existing Conditions



Upper Valley Agency
WASTE MANAGEMENT



UPPER VALLEY
DISPOSAL • RECYCLING • COMPOST

Ch. 8.04 Solid Waste Collection | St. Helena Municipal Code

Page 1 of 25

Chapter 8.04 **SOLID WASTE COLLECTION**

Ch. 8.36 Single-Use Carryout Bag Reduction | St. Helena Municipal Code

Page 1 of 4

Chapter 8.36 **SINGLE-USE CARRYOUT BAG REDUCTION**

A photograph showing a large number of green recycling bins arranged in rows. In the foreground, a single blue bin is prominently placed, slightly offset from the others. The bins are made of plastic and have a hinged lid. The background is filled with more green bins, creating a sense of depth.

Part 3: Discussion

Updated Definitions

FOODWARE

any products used for serving, consuming, or packaging Prepared Food

RECYCLABLE

material that can be sorted, cleaned, and reconstituted by city contracted collection program(s) for the purpose of using the altered form in the manufacturing of a new product
* does not include Polylactic Acid (plastic labeled "compostable")

COMPOSTABLE

(1) all materials in a product, item, or packaging will break down, or otherwise become part of usable compost
(2) item is certified by either BPI Certified, or other third-party product certification recognized by the City

Requirements for Local Businesses

REUSABLE



COMPOSTABLE



POLYSTYRENE BAN



Single-Use Bags



Ask

The staff is currently seeking guidance from the Commission with regard to the endorsement of the proposed regulations. Additionally, they are looking for input on any additional or different regulations that should be integrated into the final draft, which will subsequently be presented to the City Council as a recommendation for approval by the Commission.



[External] Food and Waste Reduction

Loraine Stuart <loraine.a.stuart@gmail.com>

Sun 8/4/2024 4:55 PM

To: Rebecca White <rwhite@cityofsthelena.org>

Cc: pauldohring@cityofsthelena.org <pauldohring@cityofsthelena.org>

Dear Rebecca, Mayor Dohring and Committee,

I am writing to wholeheartedly support this plan to eliminate and reduce food and packaging waste on and off-site of our businesses.

Staff report and the development of the plan does a good job of enumerating all the reasons and the options so I will not attempt to edit or add to that.

I will say that I expect there will be complaints about added costs, effort, time but the cost to our environment is urgent.

The eventual approval by City Council is necessary and I hope will be supported by most of the community.

Thank you,

Loraine Stuart
707-815-1226



August 4, 2024

To: St. Helena Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee

From: Napa Climate NOW!

Re: August 7, 2024 Agenda Item 6.3—Reusable Foodware and Waste Reduction

We are writing to express the support of our membership for the City of St. Helena's adoption of a Reusable Foodware Ordinance, as recommended by the Napa County Climate Action Committee (CAC).

By reducing plastic (and other) waste, this action will also reduce GHG emissions produced during the production, transportation and disposal of this waste.

As you are aware, the City of Calistoga adopted a similar ordinance that went into effect in March of this year. Calistoga has prepared a list of vendors of compostable products which is referenced in your staff report.

In addition, the [Restaurants Care Resilience Fund](#) awards grants to restaurant owners for equipment upgrades including dishwashers. This source of funding could be available to restaurants needing to install a dishwasher as they shift to reusable foodware for dine-in.

We urge you to move forward as quickly as possible to adopt this climate saving action.

Respectfully,

The Napa Climate NOW! Steering Committee

Lynne Baker, Co-Chair

Marilyn Knight-Mendelson, Co-Chair

Chris Benz

Linda Brown

Jim Wilson

Napa Climate NOW! • napa.350bayarea.org

Advocating for urgent climate action based on the latest climate science

Public Comment-St Helena Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee, 8/7/24

My name is Bob Figoni. I am a member of Napa Climate NOW!. I am encouraged by the fact that St. Helena is addressing climate change at the local level in a number of ways. Today I would like to specifically address the recommended foodware ordinance from the Climate Action Committee.

The recommendation, as written, is comprehensive and is intended to make a serious dent in the use of disposable, or single-use, foodware. I support the following components of the CAC recommendation.

- **Reusable foodware only for dining in**
- **Foodware accessories by request only**
- **A ban on plastic and polystyrene foodware for takeout**
- **A \$0.25 customer discount for bringing their own foodware**
- **A \$0.25 customer charge for ordering disposable foodware**
- **Restrictions on the use of plastic water bottles at City events**

In light of the climate emergency we are faced with as a planet, it behooves St. Helena to include all these components so a foodware ordinance is strong and, most of all, effective. All the components above have been adopted by other jurisdictions with success.

Napa Climate NOW! has conducted our own public survey, contacting 149 people, in which we found that between 70% and 90% of respondents would support each of these components.

Other surveys in other communities addressing the disposable foodware problem have shown that customer charges for disposable foodware are very effective in reducing the use of disposable cups. Simply put, the charge reminds people to bring their own.

The goal of foodware ordinances everywhere is not just to replace plastic with compostable foodware. To really tackle the problems of litter, greenhouse gas production, pollution of our waterways and harm to marine and land animals, we must migrate as a community to reusable. This can be done! It IS being done in other communities. There are numerous case studies showing that businesses fully embracing reusable and reducing or eliminating disposable, can actually save at the bottom line by reducing continuous purchases of disposable foodware, and reducing their own garbage bill. Once businesses learn that this can be a winner for the environment AND their pocketbook, they too support a foodware ordinance.

I would like to provide some evidence that there are advantages to businesses migrating from a culture of disposable foodware to one of reusable foodware. I want to dispel the notion that this would be an imposition to businesses or make them less competitive with other businesses. The facts show that businesses can save on never-ending purchases of disposable foodware, and their landfilling, as well, and protect the environment at the same time.

St. Helena is not the first community wanting to do something about the disposable foodware problem. Some municipalities have had ordinances for several years. Some businesses haven't waited for an ordinance to tell them what to do. It just makes good business sense. Here are some documented case studies of businesses embracing reusables in their business practices. These statistics come from Rethink Disposable.

House of Dim Sum in San Francisco's Chinatown eliminated over 2 million disposable items in a year. After an initial \$429 investment in reusable foodware, they saved over \$33,500 and reduced waste by almost 8 tons during that time period.

Manila Eatery, a small business in Colma estimates that, after an initial investment of just \$500 in reusable foodware, they eliminated 54,500 pieces of single-use plastic items, diverted almost 1.3 tons of waste from the landfill, and saved \$4,700, all in one year.

Hang Ten Broiler in Alameda eliminated the use of over 318,000 pieces of disposable foodware, saw an annual savings of \$4,000, and reduced its waste by over 3.5 tons.

Finally, the University of San Francisco Market Café reduced disposables by over 2,600,000 pieces, saw a net savings of almost \$58,000, and eliminated almost 13.5 tons of waste going to landfill in a year.

Thank you for tackling the problems associated with disposable foodware. I have confidence that after doing your own homework, you will come to the same conclusion that I have, and pass a strong foodware ordinance.

Bob Figoni

Public Comment: Saint Helena's Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee -
August 7, 2024 Meeting

Hello ATSC,

My name is Madelyn Chandler, I am President of Sustainable St. Helena and former member of the ATSC.

I would like to give my support for the proposed Reusable Foodware and Waste Reduction Ordinance.

I appreciate the local businesses that have made the effort to switch to compostable. However, the compostable products still have issues. I myself have been confused; "Is this compostable or is this recyclable?" and "What bin does it belong in?" One local restaurant has both plastic and plastic-looking compostable food packaging.

This confusion leads to micro-plastics in our mulch that we put in our gardens and landscape and leads to our waterways. And this is the less obvious 'litter'. Compostable packaging is seen all over our roadways and in the creek bed. It can still harm the wildlife. And they still use significant resources that contribute to climate change.

I won't even go into why single use plastics and styrofoam are problematic...

The Reusable Foodware and Waste Reduction Ordinance is the first step to help and one that will be so impactful. If you've ever done a scan of the trash along our roadways you'll notice a majority is food packaging.

Just like when the plastic bag ban came out; it is the first step to try to eliminate single use plastics and bio-based 'plastics' by encouraging people to bring their own utensils. The discount and charges will be a good mix for both the restaurants and consumers to be reminded of why this is important and share accountability. Ultimately, the proposed ordinance should be financially beneficial for food establishments.

Furthermore, private events can generate a disturbing amount of trash and should not be above responsibility.

Please join the other progressive municipalities in our area to help our environment.

Thank you for your time and attention to this subject.

Madelyn Chandler