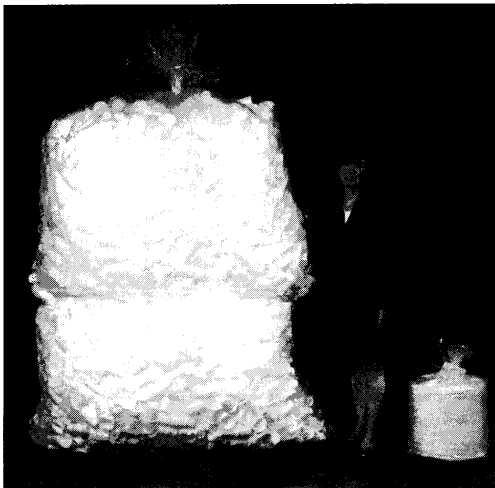


weighs an average of 400 lbs, a truckload of baled foam will only weigh about 16,000 lbs. If this does not satisfy your needs, a grinder and “densifier” can be used to generate a 40,000 lb load. Here is a description of three common densifiers:

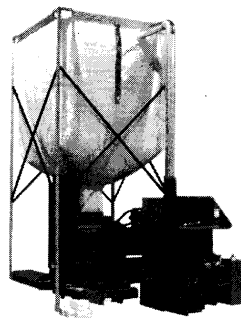
- **Hydraulic Densifier-** This machine uses hydraulic pressure to compact foam. A series of rams compress the foam until the memory is gone. With a continuous operation model, the foam is extruded into a dense log. This machine does not use heat to compact the material so it does not produce smoke or odors. It can also effectively process various densities of foam at the same time (without melting in the machine). Since community foam recycling programs receive a mixed stream of foam materials, this feature makes hydraulic densifiers ideal.
- **Thermal Densifier-** This machine uses heat to melt the foam into a taffy-like state. The “taffy” is extruded in the form of a rope. This material then needs to be placed in a container so it can be molded into a shape that is conducive to stacking on a pallet. These machines work very well; however, the smell of the “taffy” bothers some people. Additional labor is also required to mold the extruded “taffy.”
- **Screw Drive Densifier-** This machine uses an auger to push foam through a chamber. This process compacts the foam into the form of a log/block. Typically, the speed and pressure need to be adjusted based on the density of the foam being processed. If not adjusted properly, the log will be too light or it will melt in the machine and cause it to stop working. It can prove difficult to operate this type of machine if different types of foam are being processed.



32 lbs of loose foam compared to 32 lbs of densified foam

**Equipment Design-** Equipment for foam recycling has become much more sophisticated over the last ten years. These machines have also reduced the labor involved in foam recycling. With the right equipment, an MRF can have one person dump the foam on a conveyor, which will automatically feed the foam to a grinder, which will then feed a hopper. Once the hopper is full, the densifier will turn-on automatically and start generating logs of densified material. This material can then be stacked on a pallet. Thus the only labor required is to unload the collected foam, remove the contaminate, and then stack the densified logs on a pallet. This process does not need to occur until a satisfactory amount of foam has been collected.

Grinder, hopper and densifier system



**Space-** An efficient system can require as little as 85 sq. ft. of space. If space is limited, some grinders can be housed separately from the densifier. A blower can then be used to transport the ground foam through a tube to a hopper up to 100 feet away from the grinder.

**Permits-** Depending on the location, permits may be required to operate the densification equipment. Your local public works department should be able to provide guidance.

**Costs-** The costs for densifiers have also declined in recent years. Equipment that will process 500 lbs per hour is now available in the neighborhood of \$40,000. This makes entry into this market relatively inexpensive.

**Markets-** The markets for foam typically want to buy truckload quantities of thirty-five to forty thousand pounds of densified material. [Epspackaging.org](http://Epspackaging.org) has a downloadable .pdf of markets for foam all over the U.S. [www.earth911.com](http://www.earth911.com) has a search engine for markets (Search "#6 Plastic (Polystyrene)" and "Styrofoam.")

**Funding-** Check with governmental agencies to see if they have low-interest loans or grants to help pay for equipment. For instance, CalRecycle in California offers low interest loans to businesses located in Recycled Material Development Zones (RMDZ) that are engaged in various recycling activities. In addition, check with the buyers of foam. Some have programs where they will lease a densifier and accept the densified material as a form of payment. Once the debt has been retired, they will pay cash for the densified material.

**Large Sources-** Once an investment has been made in a foam recycling program, high volume generators of used-foam will need to be identified. Typical generators include furniture stores, electronic manufacturers/retailers, and architectural firms.

#### **Material Recovery Facility (MRF) Considerations-**

**Value-** The value of foam recycling at MRFs is convenience. Single stream recycling is easy for the public and increases their participation.

**Hauler-** Once a community decides to add foam to its list of recyclable materials, both the hauler and the MRF will need to agree to accept it. A common concern for the hauler is that the foam will fill up their truck or wind up blowing around the neighborhoods they serve. The reality is that the foam rides free. Most hauling trucks leave their routes when their trucks are full by weight, not volume. Since foam is 95% air and is not a

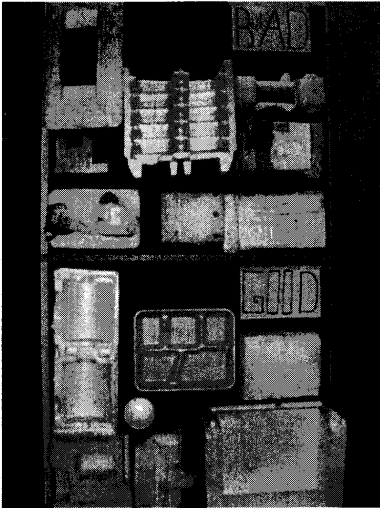


**A curbside program with 3 bins: Green Waste, Recyclables, and Trash**

significant portion of the waste stream by volume, it will not fill up the trucks by weight or volume. In terms of the concern for the foam blowing around, if the foam is not currently blowing around, it is not likely to do so in the future. The reason is simple. The material is already being collected by the hauler. Due to the chasing arrows on foam, many residents

already place the material in their recycle bins; for those that don't, they place it in the trash bin. Both bins are serviced by haulers.

**Sorting-** Once at the material recovery facility (MRF), the foam can be sorted from the conveyor system. It is best to sort the material prior to it entering the "sorting discs" section. Since there generally is not very much of it, additional sorting personnel are not necessary to collect this



**Educational Display for  
Employee Training**

material off the sort line (additional labor is required to run the densification equipment). Its popular bright white color makes it easily identifiable. With minimal training, a sorter can quickly recognize Foam #6. The sorter can then place the material in a chute or bin.

**MRF Benefits-** In addition to the monetary value of the material collected, foam recycling also presents additional benefits to MRFs. First, cities and their residents usually have the perception that foam is a much larger portion of the waste stream than it truly is, so by providing a solution, the MRF can enhance their relationships with the cities they service as well as their residents. Second, with waste diversion goals continuing to ramp up, the MRF that sorts the most materials is going to be more attractive to municipalities and haulers. Third, MRFs are already getting the material anyway. Virtually any MRF that accepts plastics 1-6 is going to receive

foam whether it is on their list of accepted materials or not. Rather than incurring the cost of transporting the material to a landfill and paying any related tipping fees, MRFs can choose to sort and sell the material.

#### **Additional MRF Considerations-**

- Foam recycling may prove difficult if it goes to a transfer station prior to arriving at an MRF. The loading and unloading can result in the foam breaking into smaller pieces and heavy contamination. With this in mind, it is best to analyze foam from a transfer station prior to committing to recycle it.
- Foam densifies best if it is dry. Outdoor collection bins should have lids, and loose foam that is stored outside should be covered.
- Curbside recycling participants need to be educated on the importance of only recycling relatively clean foam material. Otherwise, the value of other recyclables is jeopardized. This is true with all food service containers and not unique to foam.
- As with all commodities, the cleaner the material, the higher the value. While it is not critical, consideration should be given to requiring foam to be placed in a clear bag prior to being placed in the recycling bin.

## Drop-off program Considerations-

**Value-** While these programs are less convenient for the public and capture less material, the quality of the material collected is high so it will garner a higher price than foam sorted at an MRF. Another benefit is that the material is already sorted and ready to go in a grinder so there is less labor, which reduces costs.

## Guidelines-

- Request that members of the public place their foam in clear, sealed bags. This will prevent contaminated foam from ruining clean foam. The clear bags will also make it easy to monitor contamination within each bag.
- Request that packaging foam and food service containers be placed in separate bags.
- Specify that food service containers be clean and rinsed. While rinsing is not mandatory for all food service foam, it will improve the value.
- Clarify that the material needs to be contaminant free: No labels, packaging tape, straws, lids, etc. This will reduce your processing costs.
- If an unattended collection bin is part of your program:
  - The collection area should house two bins. One for post-consumer food service and another for transport packaging foam. This will help reduce contamination.
  - The collection area should have barriers that will prevent loose foam from becoming litter.
  - The bins should have lids to prevent the wind from blowing the foam out and to prevent the foam from getting wet.
  - Reference your local building codes prior to designing your collection center.
  - This location should be in a highly visible area to minimize illegal dumping.
  - Include signage that informs residents of your recycling guidelines.



**Drop-off Collection Center**



## Green Care: Environmental Facts about Dart Foam Products

**Most paper foodservice products are coated with wax, polyethylene plastic, or other non-biodegradable materials and are, therefore, essentially no more degradable than foam.**

Polystyrene foam, like most plastics, does not biodegrade.<sup>1</sup> The lack of biodegradation may be a positive feature of plastics, according to Dr. William L. Rathje, an archaeologist with the University of Arizona's Garbage Project and one of the nation's foremost authorities on solid waste and landfills. "The fact that plastic does not biodegrade, which is often cited as one of its great defects, may actually be one of its great virtues," Dr. Rathje has written.<sup>2</sup> In fact, biodegradation can lead to the release of harmful methane gas or leachate, which can contaminate groundwater.<sup>3</sup>

**The manufacture of polystyrene foam hot beverage cups requires less energy than the manufacture of comparable plastic-coated paperboard hot cups with sleeves, and the manufacturing of polystyrene foam cold beverage cups requires less energy than the manufacture of representative-weight wax-coated paperboard cold cups.**

An average-weight polystyrene hot beverage cup requires less than half as much energy to produce as an average-weight polyethylene (PE) plastic-coated paperboard hot cup with a corrugated cup sleeve.<sup>4</sup>

An average-weight polystyrene cold beverage cup requires just over one-third as much energy to produce as a representative-weight wax-coated paperboard cup.<sup>5</sup>

**Plastic-coated paperboard cups don't insulate as efficiently as foam cups.**

Plastic-coated paper cup users frequently use two cups together for hot beverages to protect their hands. This "double cupping" of an average-weight polyethylene (PE) plastic-coated paperboard cup results in over twice as much energy use and solid waste by volume, over five times as much solid waste by weight, and nearly twice as much greenhouse gas emissions as the use of a single average-weight polystyrene cup.<sup>6</sup>

**The manufacture of Dart polystyrene foam products does not deplete the ozone layer.**

Dart polystyrene foam products are not manufactured with chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) or any other ozone-depleting chemicals. Moreover, Dart Container Corporation never used CFCs in the manufacture of foam cups. Those foodservice manufacturers of polystyrene foam that employed CFCs in their manufacturing processes ceased using them by 1990.<sup>7</sup>

**Polystyrene foam can be recycled as part of an integrated solid waste management strategy.<sup>8</sup>**

Paper foodservice disposables, on the other hand, are rarely recycled. To assist in improving polystyrene recycling rates, Dart Container Corporation established several polystyrene foam recycling facilities in the US and one in Canada. For information on any polystyrene recycling programs that may be available in your area, please visit the Environment section of our website at <http://www.dart.biz> or call 1-800-288-CARE.

**Polystyrene foam is composed of carbon and hydrogen. When properly incinerated polystyrene foam leaves only carbon dioxide, water, and trace amounts of ash.<sup>9</sup>**

In modern waste-to-energy incinerators, the energy generated by the incineration of polystyrene foam cups and other solid waste can provide heat and light for neighboring communities.<sup>10</sup>

**Polystyrene foam foodservice products do not "clog" landfills.**

Polystyrene foam foodservice products constitute less than 1 percent, by both weight and volume, of our country's municipal solid waste.<sup>11</sup>

For additional  
environmental  
information,  
visit our  
website at  
[www.dart.biz](http://www.dart.biz)



# Notes

<sup>1</sup> The Polystyrene Packaging Council, *Polystyrene And Its Raw Material, Styrene: Manufacture and Use*, November 1993, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> William L. Rathje, "Rubbish!" *The Atlantic Monthly*, December 1989, p. 103.

<sup>3</sup> William Rathje and Cullen Murphy, "Five Major Myths About Garbage, and Why They're Wrong," *Smithsonian*, July 1992, p. 5.

<sup>4</sup> Franklin Associates, Ltd., *Final Peer-Reviewed Report: Life Cycle Inventory of Polystyrene Foam, Bleached Paperboard, and Corrugated Paperboard Foodservice Products* (Prepared for The Polystyrene Packaging Council, March 2006), Table 2-2, p. 2-7.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, Table 2-3, p. 2-8.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 2-7, 2-23, 2-43, 2-60.

<sup>7</sup> Judd H. Alexander, *In Defense of Garbage* (Westport, CT: Praeger Publishers, 1993) p. 55.

<sup>8</sup> The rate of recovery for recycling of polystyrene disposables and protective packaging more than doubled from 1989 to 1994. Since 1994, outlets for recycling polystyrene foam have declined for a number of reasons, including poor economics and an increasing awareness by many consumers that other methods of solid waste management exist. For example, foam loosefill packing material may be reused and polystyrene and other plastic products can be easily and safely incinerated. Franklin Associates, Ltd., *Waste Management and Reduction Trends in the Polystyrene Industry, 1974-1994*, June 1996, pp. 17-18; Updated August 1999.

<sup>9</sup> The Polystyrene Packaging Council, *Polystyrene and Its Raw Material, Styrene: Manufacture and Use*, November 1993, pp. 27-28.

<sup>10</sup> In past years, waste-to-energy has been viewed negatively by persons concerned about the environmental effects of incinerations. As technology has improved, however, modern incinerators have become a safe and effective method of handling many post-consumer materials. According to Franklin Associates, Ltd., a leading solid waste consulting firm, "At some point after 2000, the use of finite resources, e.g. fossil fuels, may lead to a more welcoming climate for expansion of waste-to-energy as an alternative solid waste management technique." Franklin Associates, Ltd., *Solid Waste Management at the Crossroads*, December 1997, p. 1-24.

<sup>11</sup> Moreover, according to a 1998 report by Franklin Associates, Ltd., polystyrene and other plastic products do not comprise the largest volume of material within the waste stream. Indeed, the report concludes that paper and yard trimmings together constitute about 51.6 percent of generation. Thus, while it may be preferable to divert all materials from landfills whenever possible, polystyrene foam does not present the paramount problem for municipal solid waste or, for that matter, landfill capacity. In fact, when polystyrene foam products are buried in landfills, they are as stable and harmless as rocks, concrete, and other inert materials. William Rathje and Cullen Murphy, "Five Major Myths About Garbage, and Why They're Wrong," *Smithsonian*, July 1992, p. 3. See also: Franklin Associates, Ltd., *Waste Management and Reduction Trends in the Polystyrene Industry, 1974-1994*, June 1996, p. 7; Updated August 1999; and Franklin Associates, Ltd., *Municipal Solid Waste in the United States 2003 Facts and Figures* (Prepared for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, April, 2005).

## **DART CONTAINER CORPORATION**

*The Industry Standard of Excellence*

Mason, Michigan 48854 U.S.A.

Ph: 800-248-5960 • Fax: 517-676-3883

Email: sales@dart.biz • www.dart.biz

You can now recycle



# FOAM

## Containers



RINSE

and



RECYCLE

your



FOAM

at

HOME

Foodservice foam can now be put in  
your home recycling bin in Pasadena



[recyclefoamathome.com](http://recyclefoamathome.com)

# REMEMBER!

The following **DO NOT** go in your **BLUE LID RECYCLING** container:

- Food waste
- Yard waste
- Pet waste
- Construction materials
- Ceramics, auto glass, light bulbs
- Laminated or waxed paper
- Tissue or paper towels
- Styrofoam packing peanuts
- Scrap metal
- Unlabeled plastics
- Greasy pizza boxes
- Household Hazardous Waste (electronic waste, paint, compact fluorescents, batteries, cleaning supplies, etc.)

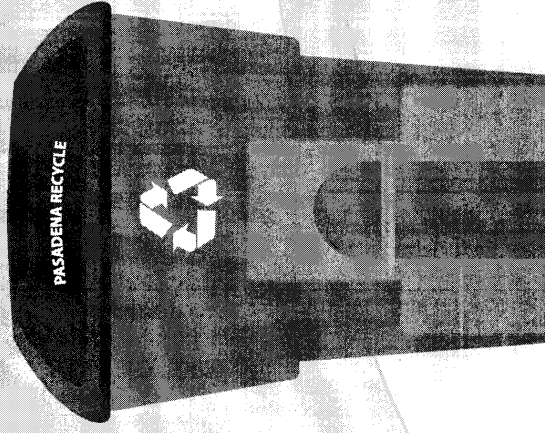
To request a recycling container, or to report a missed pick-up, please call 626-744-4087.

For questions regarding curbside recycling, or to find out how to recycle or dispose of any item, please call 626-744-4721.

For curbside collection of used motor oil, please call 626-744-7168 at least 24 hours prior to your scheduled pick-up day. The city will collect up to 2 gallons per week.

Guide to

# PASADENA CURBSIDE RECYCLING



Provided to you by: City of Pasadena  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



[www.cityofpasadena.net](http://www.cityofpasadena.net)

[recycle@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:recycle@cityofpasadena.net)

626.744.4721

**CITY OF PASADENA**  
Street Maintenance and Integrated  
Waste Management Division  
P.O. Box 7115  
Pasadena, CA 91109-7215





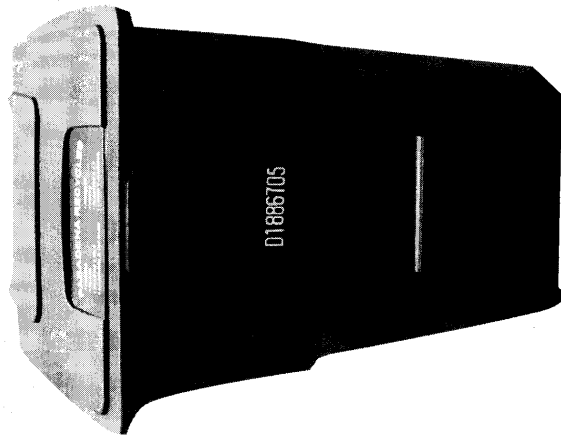
# YES!

The following goes in your

## BLUE LID

## RECYCLING

## CONTAINER

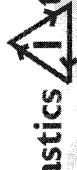




Please rinse all beverage and food containers. Container-recyclables contaminated with food will NOT be collected

## PAPER & CARDBOARD

- Junk mail, mixed paper, catalogs and magazines
- Phone books
- Cereal, shoe, beverage and gift boxes
- Paper bags
- Cardboard boxes (flattened)
- Newspaper
- Paper egg cartons

## PLASTIC

- All plastics  through 
- Styrofoam labeled  (styrofoam that is not numbered DOES NOT go in your recycling container)

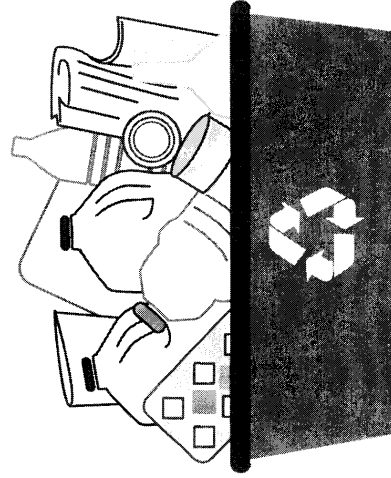
- Plastic grocery bags (bundle bags together)

## GLASS

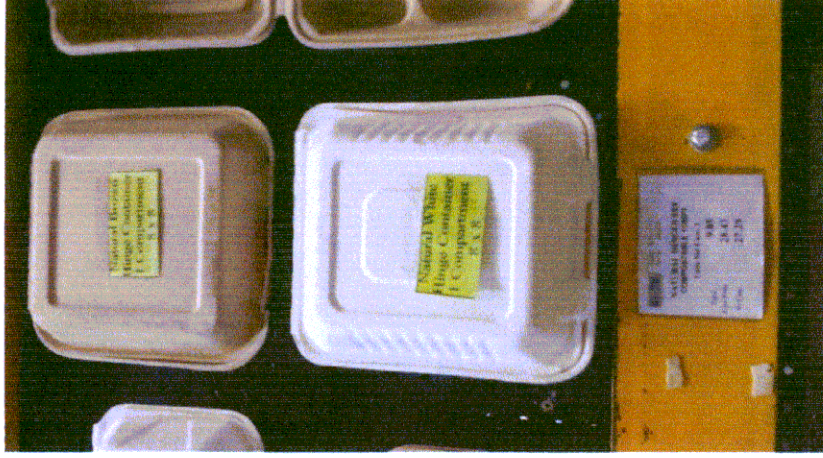
- All glass bottles and jars, all colors

## CANS/ALUMINUM

- Aluminum cans
- Tin (steel) cans
- Empty aerosol cans



# Restaurant Depot, Pasadena, CA. 10-2-14



Paper Pulp Hinged Tray \$28.43 for 150  
 (\$37.91 for 200)

\$37.91

-\$15.51

\$22.40 increase for a Pulp Tray (This is a 144% increase!)



Foam Hinged Tray \$15.51 for 200

# Restaurant Depot, Pasadena, CA. 10-2-14



12 oz Paper Hot Cup \$30.01 for 600  
 (\$50.02 for 1000)

\$50.02

-\$25.50

\$24.52 increase for a 12oz cup (This is a 96% increase!)



12 oz Foam Cup \$25.50 for 1000

# Restaurant Depot, Pasadena, CA. 10-2-14



9" Pulp Plate \$39.69 for 500



9" Foam Plate \$16.71 for 500

\$39.69

-\$16.71

\$22.98 increase for a Pulp Plate (This is a 137% increase!)

October 5, 2014

Pasadena Municipal Services Committee  
100 N. Garfield Ave.  
Pasadena, CA 91101



**RE: Support for Zero Waste Plan and Local Polystyrene Policy by Earth Day 2015**

Dear Mayor Bogaard and Members of the Pasadena Municipal Services Committee,

Day One's mission is to build healthy, vibrant communities by advancing public health, empowering youth and igniting change. Given the many links between sustainable communities and health, we are formally submitting this letter in support of the draft Zero Waste Plan, and a request to address the problem of single-use polystyrene by Earth Day 2015.

**Polystyrene, Public Health and Open Space**

Styrofoam (polystyrene) food packaging such as single-use cups is a wasteful, unhealthy source of non-biodegradable trash that Cities across the state of California have moved to regulate over the past two decades. Why? For a litany of reasons, including:

- One of Styrofoam's components, styrene, is a known hazardous substance that releases toxins into food when Styrofoam products are used in reheating (e.g., microwave).
- Polystyrene food packaging is lightweight, easily blown into public spaces, and very difficult to recycle. The City of Pasadena does NOT recycle any styrofoam that has been contaminated with food (i.e., carry-out food containers).
- Polystyrene kills wildlife and is a major source of plastic marine pollution.
- The US EPA states that styrene can have serious impacts on human health, wildlife and the aquatic environment because the product breaks down and can clog waterways.
- Recyclable and/or compostable alternatives are readily available at little additional cost.

**#StyroFreePasadena - Earth Day 2015**

Over 80 California cities and counties have already adopted local policies banning styrofoam and requiring the use of recyclable or compostable takeout containers, including the Cities of Santa Monica, Dana Point, Newport Beach, Ojai and Oakland; a full list of local ordinances in the state of California has been linked and copied below.

These policies are legally defensible and straightforward to implement thanks to two decades of experience in these communities. Yet after years of inaction, the City's draft Zero Waste Plan proposes a vague, indefinite 2014-17 timeline.

Day One supports the Styrofoam Free Pasadena coalition in asking the City to adopt a local polystyrene policy by Earth Day 2015. There are many ways the City can go about doing so. The

City's Environmental Advisory Commission has already formally agendized, discussed, and underlined its support for a local policy, as well as formed a sub-committee to examine specific options. As experts in this subject area, the EAC can assist staff by reviewing recommending an existing policy option for the City Council.

The City Council could then direct staff to host public workshops on the matter to solicit the input of all affected stakeholders (e.g., restaurants, vendors, community groups). Finally, a staff report and recommendation, drawing from the experience of other Cities and incorporating local public input, could be presented to City Council by April 1, 2015.

A City that prides itself on its "green" credentials, Pasadena should not delay moving on an evidence-based, proven policy that will promote health and the environment.



Christy Zamani  
Executive Director, Day One, Inc.  
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Pasadena, CA 91103  
(626) 229-9750 Fax (626) 792-8056  
Email: [christy@goDAYONE.org](mailto:christy@goDAYONE.org)  
[www.goDAYONE.org](http://www.goDAYONE.org)

## Polystyrene – CA Local Ordinances

*via Californians Against Waste, accessed 10/3/2014*

[http://www.cawrecycles.org/issues/plastic\\_campaign/polystyrene/local](http://www.cawrecycles.org/issues/plastic_campaign/polystyrene/local)

**Alameda (2008)**

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be compostable.

**Albany (2008)**

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be compostable or recyclable.

**Aliso Viejo (2005)**

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban. Ordinance #2004-060

**Belmont (2012)**

Expanded polystyrene ban (San Mateo County ordinance), adopted by reference and

effective October 2012.

**Berkeley** (adopted 1988)

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that 50% of takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable. Title 11.58 and 11.60 of Municipal Code.

**Burlingame** (passed May 2011)

The City of Burlingame passed an ordinance referencing San Mateo County's ordinance on May 16, 2011. It will go into effect in 2012.

**Calabasas** (2008)

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**Capitola** (2012)

Prohibit the sale of expanded polystyrene products (expansion of 2009 requirement that all disposable takeout food packaging be compostable)

**Carmel** (1989)

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that 50% of takeout food packaging be recyclable, compostable or reusable.

**Carpenteria** (effective September 1, 2009)

Ban on non-recyclable plastic food takeout containers, including expanded polystyrene. Chapter 8.5 of Municipal Code.

**Cupertino** (2014)

Food vendors prohibited from using eps food takeout containers. Effective July 1, 2014.

**Dana Point** (adopted February 21, 2012)

Ban on expanded polystyrene food containers. Effective six months after adoption date.

**Del Ray Oaks** (effective July 1, 2010)

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable. Municipal Code 8.30.

**El Cerrito** (operative January 1, 2014)

Expanded polystyrene foodware ban, requirement that food packaging be recyclable, compostable, or reusable.

**Emeryville** (2008)

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**Fairfax** (1993)

Expanded polystyrene ban for all restaurants and food retail vendors. Title 8.16 of Municipal Code.

**Foster City** (effective April 1, 2012)

Polystyrene ban for restaurants and food vendors, adopted October 17, 2011.

**Fremont** (effective January 1, 2011)

Expanded polystyrene ban for food vendors, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable. Section 8.40.860 of Municipal Code.

**Gonzales** (effective January 1, 2015)

Expanded polystyrene ban for food vendors, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**Greenfield** (effective February 12, 2015)

Expanded polystyrene ban for food vendors, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**Half Moon Bay** (effective August 1, 2011)

Half Moon Bay passed an ordinance, referencing San Mateo County's polystyrene food container ban, on May 17, 2011.

**Hayward** (effective July 2011)

Expanded polystyrene ban for restaurant vendors, requirement that takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**Hercules** (2008)

Expanded polystyrene ban. Sec.5-3109, Title 5, Chapter 3 of Municipal Code.

**Hermosa Beach** (2012)

Polystyrene container ban. Effective March 2013.

**Huntington Beach** (2005)

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban.

**Laguna Beach** (2008)

Polystyrene ban, requirement that all plastic takeout food packaging be recyclable. Bans the retail sale of foam or other nonrecyclable plastic disposable foodware. Title 7.05 of Municipal Code.

**Laguna Hills** (2008)

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban.

**Laguna Woods** (2004)

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban.

**Livermore** (2010)

Food vendors are required to use recyclable or compostable takeout food packaging.

**Los Altos** (2014)

Starting July 4, 2014, the distribution and sale of eps foam food containers and ice chests is prohibited.

**Los Altos Hills** (February 1, 2012)

Ban on eps and non-recyclable plastic food containers.

**Los Angeles City** (2008)

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban. Chapter IV, Article 13 of Municipal Code.

**Los Angeles County** (2008)

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban.

**Malibu** (2005)

Expanded polystyrene ban. Title 9.24 of Municipal Code.

**Manhattan Beach** (2013)

In 2013 Manhattan beach adopted a polystyrene food packaging ban, updating its 1988 ban on CFC processed polystyrene.

**Marin County** (effective January 1, 2010)

Expanded polystyrene food container ban.

**Marina** (2011)

Expanded polystyrene food container ban. Requires the use of recyclable or compostable takeout food packaging unless alternatives are unavailable.

**Mendocino County** (effective March 1, 2015)



Expanded polystyrene food container ban adopted July 22, 2014.

**Menlo Park (2012)**

Adopted San Mateo County ordinance by reference in August of 2012. Effective 11/1/12.

**Millbrae (2008)**

Polystyrene ban, requirement that all plastic takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**Mill Valley (2009)**

Food vendors and city facilities are prohibited from using expanded polystyrene foam food containers.

**Monterey City (2009)**

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**Monterey County (effective November 2010)**

Expanded polystyrene ban. Title 10, Chapter 10.42 of Municipal Code.

**Morgan Hill (effective April 22, 2014)**

An expanded polystyrene ban in restaurants and other food facilities was adopted on October 2, 2013.

**Mountain View (effective July 1, 2014)**

A ban on expanded polystyrene products, either distributed in food facilities or sold in retailers, was adopted on March 25, 2014.

**Newport Beach (2008)**

Expanded polystyrene ban. Title 6, Section 5 of Municipal Code.

**Novato (2013)**

Expanded polystyrene ban.

**Oakland (2007)**

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be compostable. Businesses that generate a large portion of litter must pay a litter fee. Title 8.07 of Municipal Code.

**Ojai (2014)**

Expanded polystyrene ban for all stores and vendors was passed on January 28, 2014

**Orange County (2005/6)**

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.

**Pacific Grove (2008)**

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable. Title 11, Chapter 11.99 of Municipal Code.

**Pacifica (effective January 1, 2010)**

Expanded polystyrene ban.

**Palo Alto (effective April 22, 2010)**

Expanded polystyrene ban. Chapter 5.30 of Municipal Code.

**Pittsburg (1993)**

CFC processed polystyrene ban. Title 8.06.210 of Municipal Code.

**Portola Valley (effective October 25, 2012)**

Polystyrene ban (San Mateo County ordinance).

**Redwood City** (effective January 1, 2013)

Polystyrene ban (San Mateo County ordinance).

**Richmond** (effective January 1, 2014)

Polystyrene ban (2010) for takeout food packaging in restaurants was expanded to prohibit retail sale of polystyrene products on July 16, 2013.

**Salinas** (passed August 16, 2011)

Expanded polystyrene ban on takeout containers.

**San Bruno** (effective April 1, 2010)

Polystyrene ban, requirement that all plastic takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**San Carlos** (effective July 1, 2012)

Adopted the San Mateo County ordinance by reference. Chapter 8.27 of Municipal Code.

**San Clemente** (effective July 1, 2011)

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban in 2004. Council passed a city wide ban in 2011.

**San Francisco** (2007)

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**San Jose** (effective 2014 for chains, 2015 for all other food establishments)

An EPS ban in all food establishments was adopted in 2013. Prior to that, the city had a government facility expanded polystyrene ban for special events.

**San Juan Capistrano** (2004)

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban.

**San Leandro** (effective November 1, 2012)

Expanded polystyrene food container ban, adopted October 2011.

**San Mateo City** (adopted May 6, 2013)

Polystyrene food packaging ban based on the San Mateo County model was adopted in May 2013.

**San Mateo County** (2008 and 2011)

Government facility polystyrene ban passed in 2008. An expanded ban for the rest of unincorporated San Mateo County was passed in 2011, effective July 1, 2011.

**San Rafael** (effective October 31, 2013)

City Council adopted foamed polystyrene container bag in October 2012.

**Santa Clara County** (Effective February 1, 2013)

The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors adopted an eps takeout container ban for unincorporated county on June 5, 2012.

**Santa Cruz City** (2012)

Ban on sale of all foam polystyrene products. Prior to 2012, the City banned the distribution of expanded polystyrene food containers, with a requirement that the food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**Santa Cruz County** (2008 and 2012)

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable. Title 5, Section 46 of Municipal Code. The ban was expanded to prohibit the

sale of all expanded polystyrene products in stores on April 17, 2012.

**Santa Monica (2007)**

Polystyrene ban with requirement that all plastic takeout food packaging be recyclable. Visit their website for more information.

**Sausalito (effective September 1, 2008)**

Food vendors and city facilities and events are prohibited from using expanded polystyrene foam food containers.

**Scotts Valley (2009)**

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**Seaside (effective August 4, 2010)**

Polystyrene ban with requirement that all plastic takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**Sonoma City (1989)**

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban. Chapter 7.30 of the Municipal Code.

**Sonoma County (adopted 1989)**

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban. Title 19, Section 19-6.1 of Municipal Code.

**South San Francisco (2008)**

Polystyrene ban. Chapter 8.60 of Municipal Code.

**Sunnyvale (adopted November 19, 2013)**

Expanded polystyrene ban in restaurants (effective Earth Day 2014) and for products sold in retail stores (effective Earth Day 2015).

**Ventura County (2004)**

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban.

**Walnut Creek (2014)**

Polystyrene food packaging ban. Effective December 18, 2014.

**Watsonville (2009/2014)**

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable. Title 6, Chapter 6 of Municipal Code. First adopted in 2009. Amended in 2014 to include a ban on retail sales of eps products.

**West Hollywood (adopted 1990)**

Polystyrene ban for restaurants and food vendors.

**Yountville (1989)**

Expanded polystyrene food container ban.



October 6, 2014

Margaret McAustin, Chair  
Municipal Service Committee  
Pasadena City Hall  
100 N. Garfield Avenue  
Pasadena, CA 91109

RE: Zero Waste Policy/Food Service Packaging Bans- Opposition

Dear Chairwoman McAustin,

I am writing to day with regard to the City of Pasadena's Zero Waste Plan and the notion of pursuing individual food service product bans. The California Restaurant Association (CRA) commends the City's early leadership in waste reduction and in developing a robust recycling program.

The proposal in the Zero Waste Policy to ban foam food packaging is something we must object to. As we have seen in other local jurisdictions, discriminatory single product bans often create an outcome that is counter to the initial intent behind the proposal. We feel that banning a product that is successfully being recycled here in Pasadena is not a solution. It will likely be replaced in the waste stream with another product that may not be recyclable.

Beyond the recyclability of foam food packaging containers, they remain one of the most efficient for keeping foods fresh and hot or cold. That is why it is standard practice for ice cream, frozen yogurt and smoothie shops, amongst others, to use foam packaging.

For an industry characterized by razor thin profit margins of 5-6% on the dollar in a good economy, cost always has to be a consideration in addition to the functional value of a product. Schools, hospitals, nursing homes, non-profit food programs, delis, and family-owned restaurants are among the many institutions that rely upon polystyrene foam for its excellent insulation at an economical price. Alternative packaging materials are as high as 2-3 times more expensive, according to the nation's leading distributors.

The local restaurant community continues to grapple with the new cost pressures form the recent 25% increase in the state's minimum wage, new paid sick-leave requirements, increasing unemployment insurance taxes, and compliance with the Affordable Care Act.

PREPARE TO BE INSPIRED.

621 Capitol Mall, Suite 2000 Sacramento, CA 95814 T: 800.765.4842 F: 916.447.6182 [www.cra.org](http://www.cra.org)

While some restaurants choose not to use foam products and others are under local ordinance bans on the product- many restaurants still choose to use the product because of its functional value being the best match for the type of food offered and it costs significantly less. Cost differences are felt differently by different sizes, types, and locations of restaurants and therefore have differing impact on the industry. The cumulative effect of additional cost pressures only serves to harm the restaurant community.

Foam is being recycled today and we support that effort and want to continue to help expand that effort. To that end, we must object to the proposed ban on foam food packaging. And, again, we applaud your early leadership and your existing successful, robust recycling program.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Sutton", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Matt Sutton  
Vice President, Government Affairs & Public Policy

cc: Mayor Bogaard  
Councilmember Tornek



October 6, 2014

Council Member Margaret McAustin, Chair  
Mayor Bill Bogaard  
Council Member Terry Tornek  
Municipal Services Committee  
City of Pasadena  
100 N Garfield Ave  
Pasadena, CA 91109

Dear Municipal Services Committee Members:

The Plastics Foodservice Packaging Group (PFPG) supports the goals embodied in the Draft Zero Waste Strategic Plan, to promote reuse, recycling and conservation programs. However PFPG is opposed to the inclusion of an expanded polystyrene foodservice (EPS) ban as part of the Zero Waste Strategic Plan, as such a ban will not enable the City to reach these goals.

Banning polystyrene containers assumes that alternative products are environmentally preferable. This assumption is incorrect. Several independent studies have demonstrated that such a proposal could have significant negative environmental impacts because *alternatives such as coated bleached paperboard and "compostables" generate significantly more greenhouse gas emissions, use more energy and generate more solid waste.*<sup>1, 2, 3</sup>

The draft report emphasizes the consideration of the entire life cycle of products. This is important. All products take raw materials and use energy to manufacture and have associated emissions (air, water, solid waste) and energy impacts. Many life cycle studies have been conducted for EPS foodservice products and their substitutes and alternatives. For example, the City of Seattle, Washington's own independent analysis<sup>4</sup> of a polystyrene foam (EPS) ban concluded the following impacts would occur:

- Non-renewable energy would increase 214%
- Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions would increase 234%
- Ozone would increase 134%
- Waste generated would increase by 240%.

The draft report also encourages increased diversion from landfills. In fact, the City's own curbside program accepts polystyrene foam #6 in the blue lid recycling container but does not accept waxed paperboard or compostable packaging. Replacing EPS with such alternatives will not increase diversion from landfills until significant infrastructure is developed to address such alternatives.

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1 Final Peer-Reviewed Report: Life Cycle Inventory of Polystyrene Foam, Bleached Paperboard and Corrugated Paper Foodservice Products, Franklin Associates, Ltd., prepared for Polystyrene Packaging Council, March 2006, <http://www.plasticsfoodservicepackaging.org>

2 Paper or Styrofoam, A Review of the Environmental Effects of Disposable Cups, University of California at San Diego (UCSD), Dec 2006

3 Life Cycle Inventory of Foam and Coated Paperboard Plates, Peer-Reviewed Final Report, prepared for Pactiv Corporation, Franklin Associates, Ltd., May 2008

4 Alternative to Disposable Shopping Bags and Food Service Items Volume I, prepared for Seattle Public Utilities, January 2008, Herrera Environmental Consultants



Also, a polystyrene ban would negatively impact many small businesses since alternatives are more expensive than polystyrene foam foodservice. This financial impact would be more severe on small restaurants and vendors.<sup>5</sup>

We encourage the City Council and staff to instead work with industry, restaurants, recyclers and other stakeholders to educate business and residents about the recyclability of EPS and other products and encourage increases diversion of these already recyclable materials.

Thank you for taking the time to consider our views. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Sherri McCarthy  
Manager, Western Region  
American Chemistry Council

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<sup>5</sup> Polystyrene & Replacement Costs, MB Public Affairs, prepared for Polystyrene Packaging Council, March 2, 2006

**Flores, Valerie**

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**Subject:** FW: support for styrofoam ban

**From:** <kalmus@caltech.edu>

**Date:** October 6, 2014 at 3:51:04 PM PDT

**To:** <mmcaustin@cityofpasadena.net>, <bbogaard@cityofpasadena.net>, <ttornek@cityofpasadena.net>, <mbeck@cityofpasadena.net>

**Subject:** support for styrofoam ban

Dear members of the MSC and City Manager,

I wanted to take a brief moment to write in support of a Pasadena styrofoam ban, on the eve of your meeting to discuss the Zero Waste Strategic Plan.

As over 80 other municipalities in California have already adopted a styrofoam ban for single-use food and beverage containers, it seems the way is paved and easy to follow. Pasadena should adopt a similar ban, for the health of its citizens and environment, especially considering the City's green aspirations.

I imagine this would be one of the easier steps the City could take at this time, and it also carries a high symbolic value.

Thank you,  
Peter Kalmus



Flores, Valerie

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**Subject:** FW: Polystyrene ban by earth Day 2015!

**From:** Lin Griffith <[oak2acorns@yahoo.com](mailto:oak2acorns@yahoo.com)>  
**Date:** October 7, 2014 at 1:50:38 PM PDT  
**To:** "[mmcaustin@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:mmcaustin@cityofpasadena.net)" <[mmcaustin@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:mmcaustin@cityofpasadena.net)>  
**Subject:** Polystyrene ban by earth Day 2015!  
**Reply-To:** Lin Griffith <[oak2acorns@yahoo.com](mailto:oak2acorns@yahoo.com)>

Councilwoman McAustin,

I would like to urge the Pasadena Municipal Services Committee to move ahead rapidly in adopting a polystyrene ban. Pasadena needs to join the 88 California cities that have already adopted such a ban. The positive benefits should be realized as soon as possible. Please pass a polystyrene ban by Earth Day 2015.

Thank. you.

Lin Griffith

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." ~ Margaret Mead

**Buchanan, Rita**

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**Subject:** FW: ZERO WASTE PLAN

**From:** Therese Brummel [<mailto:thereseqbrum@yahoo.com>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 14, 2014 6:58 AM

**To:** Madison, Steve; Masuda, Gene; Tornek, Terry; Kennedy, John; McAustin, Margaret; Robinson, Jacque; Bogaard, Bill; Gordo, Victor

**Cc:** Sullivan, Noreen; [jmcintyre@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:jmcintyre@cityofpasadena.net); Morales, Margo; De La Cuba, Vannia; Suzuki, Takako; Williams, Tina; Thyret, Pam; Cruz, Christian (Field Rep); Stone, Rhonda; Nagahiro, Lorain; West, Jana

**Subject:** ZERO WASTE PLAN

Dear Mayor Bogaard, Council Members and City Staff,

As a 35 year Pasadena resident and registered nurse concerned about the health of our community and environment, I am writing you today to urge the City to adopt the draft Zero Waste Plan, and a local polystyrene policy.

Polystyrene food packaging such as single-use cups is an unhealthful source of non-biodegradable trash that over 80 Cities and Counties across our state have already moved to regulate over the past two decades in an effort to address polystyrene's many negative impacts, including:

- One of Styrofoam's components, styrene, is a known hazardous substance that releases toxins into food when Styrofoam products are used in reheating (e.g., microwave).
- Polystyrene food packaging is lightweight, easily blown into public and natural spaces, and very difficult to recycle.
- The City of Pasadena does NOT recycle any Styrofoam that has been contaminated with food (i.e., carry-out food containers).
- Polystyrene is a major source of plastic marine pollution and the trash gyres.
- The USEPA states that styrene can have serious impacts on human health, wildlife and the aquatic environment because the product breaks down and can clog waterways.
- Recyclable and/or compostable alternatives are readily available at little additional cost to the consumer.

The Cities of Santa Monica, Dana Point, Newport Beach, Ojai and Oakland, to name a few, have already adopted local polystyrene policies, to great success. The time is long overdue for Pasadena to follow suit. Please support the draft Zero Waste Strategic Plan and resolve to adopt an immediate local polystyrene policy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Therese Brummel



14 OCT 15 12:48PM  
CITY CLERK

October 15, 2014

Mayor Bill Bogaard, Pasadena City Council  
City of Pasadena  
100 North Garfield Avenue  
Pasadena, CA 91109  
VIA E-mail

Re: Zero Waste Plan

Dear Mayor Bogaard and Pasadena City Council Members,

The Pasadena Chamber of Commerce has some significant concerns about the proposed Zero Waste Plan that is before the committee for consideration on October 20<sup>th</sup>.

First, while the Chamber was invited to one meeting very early on in the process, we were not informed of subsequent meetings, nor were we made aware of meetings, hearings or any other opportunities for input. At that initial meeting we raised several concerns that have never been addressed or considered. We heard from some of our members that the Municipal Services Committee is hearing the item on October 7<sup>th</sup> and now is on your agenda for October 20<sup>th</sup>.

While much of the plan is an important step forward, there are some significant areas of concern that have not been addressed.

Here are our concerns:

1. The plan does not examine, or even mention, economic impacts to your constituents, neither business nor residential. Just as one example, how can you approve a plan that requires a significant investment from your restaurant community, both to comply with new food waste and composting requirements and increased cost for use of alternatives to polystyrene containers. (Polystyrene is recyclable in Pasadena, as you may be aware.) Again, from what we have been able to discern, there was no significant outreach to Pasadena's very important restaurant and food service community.

We polled 280 restaurant owners and managers on Thursday about polystyrene use. We had response from about 30% of those. Half use polystyrene and slightly more than 40% said they would be negatively impacted by a ban. 75% were unaware that Pasadena recycles polystyrene. All were unaware that Pasadena's plan contemplates banning polystyrene.

2. Parts of the plan are unworkable now or in the foreseeable future. Where, for example, in Old Pasadena, where are you going to locate additional trash bins that will be required for compostable restaurant waste? Where will compostable waste be taken as there are no facilities within easy driving distance? (That is what was reported at the meeting a year ago.)

What is the additional greenhouse gas impact of the long distances compostable trash will have to be hauled?

The plan anticipates creation of a composting facility in Pasadena. In which council district would you suggest it be built and operated? Even if the facility is clean and odor-free, no one is going to want the daily parade of trash trucks such a facility would attract.

3. Among your next steps is to organize meetings with local food service, franchise haulers and the Pasadena Public Health Department related to varying programs anticipated in the plan. Shouldn't that input be solicited before the City Council approves a plan? That the Pasadena Public Health Department was not asked to provide input on what could be a significant food safety concern is very surprising.

While we support the goals and objectives of the Zero Waste Plan, the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce has serious concerns about the manner in which outreach was conducted as the plan was developed. From our vantage point, the plan has not changed since the beginning, except for the addition of the polystyrene ban, which was inserted at the last minute. Any outreach was essentially an attempt to sell various aspects of the plan to those attending (which was exactly the purpose of the one meeting the Chamber was invited to attend).

The Pasadena Chamber would like some consideration given to the cost impacts the plan would have on your constituents, both businesses and residents before you move forward to implement any plan.

There is time to put a workable and reasonable plan together. We would propose that the City Council refer the item back to staff with a request to undertake meaningful outreach to citizens and potentially impacted business sectors. We would also hope that input would be reflected in a revised report. We are also very supportive of a pilot program for composting restaurant waste so that impacts, costs and other effects can be determined and mitigated before requiring every restaurant to participate.

The implementation schedule also seems odd. Why, for example, is there a rush to implement the composting component, even though there is no place to dump that material, yet expanding recycling in public areas is scheduled for 2017-2020?

Quite simply, approval of this plan seems very premature. Rather than commit Pasadena to a potentially costly and possibly unworkable plan, the Chamber would ask that this be returned for input from affected stakeholders, who also may be able to suggest alternatives and approaches that achieve the same goals. Thank you for your service to Pasadena and your constituents.

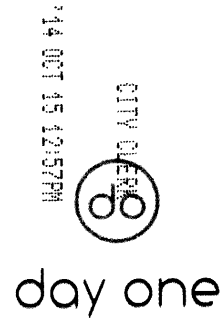


Paul Little  
President and CEO  
Pasadena Chamber of Commerce

Cc: Pasadena City Council, M. Beck, M. Jomsky, S. Foster

October 15, 2014

Pasadena City Council  
100 N. Garfield Ave.  
Pasadena, CA 91101



**RE: Support for Zero Waste Plan and Local Polystyrene Policy by Earth Day 2015**

Dear Mayor Bogaard and Members of the Pasadena City Council,

Day One's mission is to build healthy, vibrant communities by advancing public health, empowering youth and igniting change. Given the many links between sustainable communities and health, we are formally submitting this letter in support of the draft Zero Waste Plan and the City's adoption of a single-use polystyrene policy by Earth Day 2015.

**Polystyrene, Public Health and Open Space**

Styrofoam (polystyrene) food packaging such as single-use cups is a wasteful, unhealthy source of non-biodegradable trash that Cities across the state of California have moved to regulate over the past two decades. Why? For a litany of reasons, including:

- One of Styrofoam's components, styrene, is a known hazardous substance that releases toxins into food when Styrofoam products are used in reheating (e.g., microwave).
- Polystyrene food packaging is lightweight, easily blown into public spaces, and very difficult to recycle.
- The City of Pasadena does NOT recycle polystyrene that has been contaminated with food (i.e., carry-out food containers).
- Polystyrene kills wildlife and is a major source of plastic marine pollution.
- The US EPA states that styrene can have serious impacts on human health, wildlife and the aquatic environment because the product breaks down and can clog waterways.
- Recyclable and/or compostable alternatives are readily available at little additional cost to consumers and businesses.

**#StyroFree by Earth Day 2015**

Over 80 California cities and counties have already adopted local policies banning styrofoam and requiring the use of recyclable or compostable takeout containers, including the Cities of Santa Monica, Dana Point, Newport Beach, Ojai and Oakland; a full list of local ordinances in the state of California has been linked and copied below. Nationally, the list of cities also includes New York, Chicago, Washington, D.C., Seattle and Portland.

These policies are legally defensible and straightforward to implement thanks to two decades of experience in these communities. Yet after years of inaction, and 4 years after staff's assertion that such a policy would follow on the heels of the City's plastic bag ordinance, the City's draft Zero Waste Plan proposes a vague, indefinite 2014-17 timeline.

Day One supports the #StyroFreePasadena coalition in asking the City to adopt a local polystyrene policy by Earth Day 2015. The City's Environmental Advisory Commission has already formally agendized, discussed, and underlined its support for a local policy, as well as formed a sub-committee to examine specific options. As experts in this subject area, the EAC can assist staff by reviewing recommending an existing policy option for the City Council.

Over the span of a few months (e.g., January-March 2015), the City could convene public workshops on the matter to solicit the input of all affected stakeholders (e.g., restaurants, vendors, community groups). Following such meetings, a staff report and formal recommendation, drawing from the experience of other Cities and incorporating local public input, could be presented to City Council by April 2015.

A City that prides itself on its "green" credentials, Pasadena should not delay any further in moving on an evidence-based, time tested policy that will improve the health and well-being of our community and environment.



Christy Zamani  
Executive Director, Day One, Inc.  
175 N. Euclid Avenue  
Pasadena, CA 91103  
(626) 229-9750 Fax (626) 792-8056  
Email: [christy@goDAYONE.org](mailto:christy@goDAYONE.org)  
[www.goDAYONE.org](http://www.goDAYONE.org)



Littered Polystyrene Cup, Arroyo Seco Channel



Littered Polystyrene Cup, Arroyo Seco Channel



Mallards swimming among polystyrene trash under Colorado St. Bridge (courtesy of Tim Martinez)



Polystyrene trash caught under Colorado St. Bridge (courtesy of Tim Martinez)



## **Polystyrene – CA Local Ordinances**

*via Californians Against Waste, accessed 10/3/2014*

[http://www.cawrecycles.org/issues/plastic\\_campaign/polystyrene/local](http://www.cawrecycles.org/issues/plastic_campaign/polystyrene/local)

### **Alameda (2008)**

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be compostable.

### **Albany (2008)**

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be compostable or recyclable.

### **Aliso Viejo (2005)**

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban. Ordinance #2004-060

### **Belmont (2012)**

Expanded polystyrene ban (San Mateo County ordinance), adopted by reference and effective October 2012.

### **Berkeley (adopted 1988)**

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that 50% of takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable. Title 11.58 and 11.60 of Municipal Code.

### **Burlingame (passed May 2011)**

The City of Burlingame passed an ordinance referencing San Mateo County's ordinance on May 16, 2011. It will go into effect in 2012.

### **Calabasas (2008)**

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

### **Capitola (2012)**

Prohibit the sale of expanded polystyrene products (expansion of 2009 requirement that all disposable takeout food packaging be compostable)

### **Carmel (1989)**

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that 50% of takeout food packaging be recyclable, compostable or reusable.

### **Carpenteria (effective September 1, 2009)**

Ban on non-recyclable plastic food takeout containers, including expanded polystyrene. Chapter 8.5 of Municipal Code.

### **Cupertino (2014)**

Food vendors prohibited from using eps food takeout containers. Effective July 1, 2014.

### **Dana Point (adopted February 21, 2012)**

Ban on expanded polystyrene food containers. Effective six months after adoption date.

### **Del Ray Oaks (effective July 1, 2010)**

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable. Municipal Code 8.30.

### **El Cerrito (operative January 1, 2014)**

Expanded polystyrene foodware ban, requirement that food packaging be recyclable, compostable, or reusable.

### **Emeryville (2008)**

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**Fairfax** (1993)

Expanded polystyrene ban for all restaurants and food retail vendors. Title 8.16 of Municipal Code.

**Foster City** (effective April 1, 2012)

Polystyrene ban for restaurants and food vendors, adopted October 17, 2011.

**Fremont** (effective January 1, 2011)

Expanded polystyrene ban for food vendors, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable. Section 8.40.860 of Municipal Code.

**Gonzales** (effective January 1, 2015)

Expanded polystyrene ban for food vendors, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**Greenfield** (effective February 12, 2015)

Expanded polystyrene ban for food vendors, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**Half Moon Bay** (effective August 1, 2011)

Half Moon Bay passed an ordinance, referencing San Mateo County's polystyrene food container ban, on May 17, 2011.

**Hayward** (effective July 2011)

Expanded polystyrene ban for restaurant vendors, requirement that takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**Hercules** (2008)

Expanded polystyrene ban. Sec.5-3109, Title 5, Chapter 3 of Municipal Code.

**Hermosa Beach** (2012)

Polystyrene container ban. Effective March 2013.

**Huntington Beach** (2005)

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban.

**Laguna Beach** (2008)

Polystyrene ban, requirement that all plastic takeout food packaging be recyclable. Bans the retail sale of foam or other nonrecyclable plastic disposable foodware. Title 7.05 of Municipal Code.

**Laguna Hills** (2008)

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban.

**Laguna Woods** (2004)

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban.

**Livermore** (2010)

Food vendors are required to use recyclable or compostable takeout food packaging.

**Los Altos** (2014)

Starting July 4, 2014, the distribution and sale of eps foam food containers and ice chests is prohibited.

**Los Altos Hills** (February 1, 2012)

Ban on eps and non-recyclable plastic food containers.

**Los Angeles City** (2008)

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban. Chapter IV, Article 13 of Municipal Code.

**Los Angeles County** (2008)

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban.

**Malibu** (2005)

Expanded polystyrene ban. Title 9.24 of Municipal Code.

**Manhattan Beach** (2013)

In 2013 Manhattan beach adopted a polystyrene food packaging ban, updating its 1988 ban on CFC processed polystyrene.

**Marin County** (effective January 1, 2010)

Expanded polystyrene food container ban.

**Marina** (2011)

Expanded polystyrene food container ban. Requires the use of recyclable or compostable takeout food packaging unless alternatives are unavailable.

**Mendocino County** (effective March 1, 2015)

Expanded polystyrene food container ban adopted July 22, 2014.

**Menlo Park** (2012)

Adopted San Mateo County ordinance by reference in August of 2012. Effective 11/1/12.

**Millbrae** (2008)

Polystyrene ban, requirement that all plastic takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**Mill Valley** (2009)

Food vendors and city facilities are prohibited from using expanded polystyrene foam food containers.

**Monterey City** (2009)

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**Monterey County** (effective November 2010)

Expanded polystyrene ban. Title 10, Chapter 10.42 of Municipal Code.

**Morgan Hill** (effective April 22, 2014)

An expanded polystyrene ban in restaurants and other food facilities was adopted on October 2, 2013.

**Mountain View** (effective July 1, 2014)

A ban on expanded polystyrene products, either distributed in food facilities or sold in retailers, was adopted on March 25, 2014.

**Newport Beach** (2008)

Expanded polystyrene ban. Title 6, Section 5 of Municipal Code.

**Novato** (2013)

Expanded polystyrene ban.

**Oakland** (2007)

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be compostable.

Businesses that generate a large portion of litter must pay a litter fee. Title 8.07 of Municipal Code.

**Ojai** (2014)

Expanded polystyrene ban for all stores and vendors was passed on January 28, 2014

**Orange County** (2005/6)

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.

**Pacific Grove** (2008)

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or

compostable. Title 11, Chapter 11.99 of Municipal Code.

**Pacifica** (effective January 1, 2010)

Expanded polystyrene ban.

**Palo Alto** (effective April 22, 2010)

Expanded polystyrene ban. Chapter 5.30 of Municipal Code.

**Pittsburg** (1993)

CFC processed polystyrene ban. Title 8.06.210 of Municipal Code.

**Portola Valley** (effective October 25, 2012)

Polystyrene ban (San Mateo County ordinance).

**Redwood City** (effective January 1, 2013)

Polystyrene ban (San Mateo County ordinance).

**Richmond** (effective January 1, 2014)

Polystyrene ban (2010) for takeout food packaging in restaurants was expanded to prohibit retail sale of polystyrene products on July 16, 2013.

**Salinas** (passed August 16, 2011)

Expanded polystyrene ban on takeout containers.

**San Bruno** (effective April 1, 2010)

Polystyrene ban, requirement that all plastic takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**San Carlos** (effective July 1, 2012)

Adopted the San Mateo County ordinance by reference. Chapter 8.27 of Municipal Code.

**San Clemente** (effective July 1, 2011)

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban in 2004. Council passed a city wide ban in 2011.

**San Francisco** (2007)

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**San Jose** (effective 2014 for chains, 2015 for all other food establishments)

An EPS ban in all food establishments was adopted in 2013. Prior to that, the city had a government facility expanded polystyrene ban for special events.

**San Juan Capistrano** (2004)

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban.

**San Leandro** (effective November 1, 2012)

Expanded polystyrene food container ban, adopted October 2011.

**San Mateo City** (adopted May 6, 2013)

Polystyrene food packaging ban based on the San Mateo County model was adopted in May 2013.

**San Mateo County** (2008 and 2011)

Government facility polystyrene ban passed in 2008. An expanded ban for the rest of unincorporated San Mateo County was passed in 2011, effective July 1, 2011.

**San Rafael** (effective October 31, 2013)

City Council adopted foamed polystyrene container bag in October 2012.

**Santa Clara County** (Effective February 1, 2013)

The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors adopted an eps takeout container ban for unincorporated county on June 5, 2012.

**Santa Cruz City** (2012)

Ban on sale of all foam polystyrene products. Prior to 2012, the City banned the distribution

of expanded polystyrene food containers, with a requirement that the food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**Santa Cruz County** (2008 and 2012)

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable. Title 5, Section 46 of Municipal Code. The ban was expanded to prohibit the sale of all expanded polystyrene products in stores on April 17, 2012.

**Santa Monica** (2007)

Polystyrene ban with requirement that all plastic takeout food packaging be recyclable. Visit their website for more information.

**Sausalito** (effective September 1, 2008)

Food vendors and city facilities and events are prohibited from using expanded polystyrene foam food containers.

**Scotts Valley** (2009)

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**Seaside** (effective August 4, 2010)

Polystyrene ban with requirement that all plastic takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable.

**Sonoma City** (1989)

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban. Chapter 7.30 of the Municipal Code.

**Sonoma County** (adopted 1989)

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban. Title 19, Section 19-6.1 of Municipal Code.

**South San Francisco** (2008)

Polystyrene ban. Chapter 8.60 of Municipal Code.

**Sunnyvale** (adopted November 19, 2013)

Expanded polystyrene ban in restaurants (effective Earth Day 2014) and for products sold in retail stores (effective Earth Day 2015).

**Ventura County** (2004)

Government facility expanded polystyrene ban.

**Walnut Creek** (2014)

Polystyrene food packaging ban. Effective December 18, 2014.

**Watsonville** (2009/2014)

Expanded polystyrene ban, requirement that all takeout food packaging be recyclable or compostable. Title 6, Chapter 6 of Municipal Code. First adopted in 2009. Amended in 2014 to include a ban on retail sales of eps products.

**West Hollywood** (adopted 1990)

Polystyrene ban for restaurants and food vendors.

**Yountville** (1989)

Expanded polystyrene food container ban.

**Buchanan, Rita**

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**Subject:** FW: Pasadena Zero Waste Plan

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**From:** [Galekohl@aol.com](mailto:Galekohl@aol.com) [mailto:[Galekohl@aol.com](mailto:Galekohl@aol.com)]

**Sent:** Thursday, October 16, 2014 6:55 AM

**To:** City\_Council

**Subject:** Pasadena Zero Waste Plan

To whom it may concern,

Yesterday I received an email about the proposed plan for Zero Waste in Pasadena. Since this issue is so critical for my business, I was surprised that I had not been contacted and given the opportunity to share my concerns.

I would like the chance to ask some questions and also explain our situation to the Council about rising costs, staffing and the ability, for me, to remain in business with all the new restrictions that would be imposed, specifically that deal with restaurants. We all want to do the right thing for our City of Pasadena and for the environment as a whole, but, does that mean small independent businesses need to close their doors?

I ask that you please consider my note and set up a meeting for those directly impacted by this proposal. It would be a great service to all of us.

Thank you,  
gale

Gale Kohl  
Gale's Restaurant  
452 S. Fair Oaks Ave.  
Pasadena, CA 91105  
626-432-6705  
626-432-6760 (fax)

**Buchanan, Rita**

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**Subject:** FW: Zero Waste Plan

**From:** Tom Brady [mailto:brady818@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Thursday, October 16, 2014 9:05 AM

**To:** Madison, Steve; Masuda, Gene; Tornek, Terry; Kennedy, John; McAustin, Margaret; Robinson, Jacque; Bogaard, Bill; Gordo, Victor

**Subject:** Zero Waste Plan

Dear Honorable Councilmember - I am writing on behalf of EDEN, the environmental ministry of All Saints Episcopal Church in Pasadena, regarding your consideration of the draft Zero Waste Plan. Our group voted to strongly endorse the proposed ban on the use of polystyrene take-out containers. For many years our group has participated in the annual Los Angeles River Cleanup and the California Coastal Cleanup. The most frustrating part of those efforts is our futile efforts to pick up the millions of small pieces of polystyrene. Those small pieces inevitably flow out to the ocean and become part of the vast sea of plastic pollution that poisons and kills seabirds, fish and other sea-life. Polystyrene is the worst possible type of take-out food container because many such containers will be littered, then break into pieces that poison our environment. The alternatives to polystyrene have sufficient structural integrity that they do not pose similar problems. Please make every effort to enact the polystyrene ban and join the other 80+ California cities in this essential legislation. Tom Brady, Chair of EDEN, the environmental ministry of All Saints Episcopal Church

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
1500 S. STANISLAUS ST.  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95834  
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WWW.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV

# California State Senate

SENATOR  
CAROL LIU  
TWENTY-FIFTH SENATE DISTRICT



14 OCT 16 02:41 PM

CITY CLERK

CITY OF PASADENA  
CITY CLERK  
300 N. GARDEN ST.  
PASADENA, CA 91101  
TEL: (626) 797-2000  
WWW.PASADENA.CA.GOV

October 16, 2014

Pasadena City Council  
City Hall  
100 North Garfield Avenue  
Pasadena, CA 91101

***RE: Zero Waste Plan***

Dear Mayor Bogaard and Councilmembers,

I understand that the Pasadena City Council will consider adopting the draft Zero Waste Plan that was recently approved unanimously by the council's Municipal Services Committee. I am writing to express my support for the proposed initiatives, which are designed to increase recycling and composting and reduce excess consumption.

I developed my GREEN21 program to bring together all segments of my district in support of this sort of sustainable environmental practice. Zero Waste communities reduce greenhouse gas emissions and conserve natural resources while realizing environmental, economic, and social benefits. I stand ready and willing to support the City of Pasadena in its efforts to enact these policies to greatly enhance waste reduction.

I urge you to join cities across California and the nation in adopting this draft Zero Waste Plan.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Carol Liu in cursive script.

CAROL LIU  
Senator  
25<sup>th</sup> Senate District

**10/20/2014**  
**Item 18**



**Jomsky, Mark**

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**From:** cityclerk  
**Subject:** RE: Zero Waste Strategic Plan

**From:** Laura L Moser [<mailto:llmosermsw@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 16, 2014 1:08 PM  
**To:** Morales, Margo  
**Subject:** Zero Waste Strategic Plan

I am writing to ask my councilmember Margaret McAustin to support the Zero Waste Strategic Plan at Monday's meeting.

I'd love to see the city ban polystyrene.

I live on Villa Street near Craig. I see polystyrene takeout food containers left in the streets near curbs in my area. They are left atop brick columns alongside the parkway (sidewalk) outside my residence.

I pick up all plastic litter that I can, and dispose of it. The polystyrene can't be recycled, it floats in water and gets into the sewers and ocean.

Thank you.

Laura Moser  
2048 E Villa St #3  
Pasadena 91107

**10/20/2014**  
**Item 18**

## Jomsky, Mark

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**From:** Wilton Mui <mail@changemail.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 14, 2014 6:14 PM  
**To:** cityclerk  
**Subject:** 5 new petition signatures: Wilton Mui, Linda Kite...

5 new people recently signed Day One, Inc.'s petition "[Pasadena City Council: Support Sustainable, Healthy Takeout Food Packaging: Phase Out Styrofoam](#)" on Change.org.

There are now 150 signatures on this petition. Read reasons why people are signing, and respond to Day One, Inc. by clicking here:  
<http://www.change.org/p/pasadena-city-council-support-sustainable-healthy-takeout-food-packaging-phase-out-styrofoam/responses/new?response=24008c973a18>

Dear Pasadena City Council,

I Support Sustainable, Healthy Takeout Food Packaging in the City of Pasadena: Please Phase Out Single-Use Styrofoam! Styrofoam (polystyrene) food packaging such as single-use cups and plates is a wasteful, unhealthy, and easily-replaceable source of non-biodegradable trash. --One of Styrofoam's components, styrene, is a known hazardous substance that releases toxins into food when Styrofoam products are used in reheating. --Polystyrene food packaging is lightweight, easily blown into public spaces, and very difficult to recycle. --The City of Pasadena does NOT recycle any styrofoam that has been contaminated with food (i.e., carry-out food containers). --Polystyrene kills wildlife and is a major source of plastic marine pollution. --A study published in 2011 found that 71% of all the plastic flowing through the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers is foam. --The US EPA states that styrene can have serious impacts on human health, wildlife and the aquatic environment because the product breaks down, contaminating food and entering the food chain when ingested by marine life. --Affordable, safe alternatives exist. Over 60 California cities and counties have already adopted local policies phasing out styrofoam and requiring the use of recyclable or compostable takeout containers. Examples include the Cities of Santa Monica (2007), Dana Point, West Hollywood (1990), Newport Beach, Ojai and Oakland. BY SIGNING THIS PETITION, I AM URGING PASADENA TO JOIN THE GROWING NUMBER OF CITIES TO PHASE OUT THE USE OF STYROFOAM (POLYSTYRENE) TAKEOUT CONTAINERS AND REQUIRE THE USE OF HEALTHIER RECYCLABLE/COMPOSTABLE ALTERNATIVES.

Sincerely,

150. Wilton Mui Pasadena, California  
149. Linda Kite Los Angeles, California  
148. Dee Falasco Pasadena, California  
147. Magnus Haw Pasadena, California  
146. Robert Brummel Pasadena, California

