

# Cutting-Edge Plastic Reduction Ordinances in California

Prepared by



## SAN FRANCISCO

Status: Passed July 2018

Implemented: July 1, 2019; some provisions go into effect Jan 1, 2020

- Details
  - Prohibits sale, use, and distribution of single-use food service ware that is:
    - Neither compostable nor recyclable
    - Made of polystyrene foam (whole or in part)
    - Made with fluorinated chemicals (PFAS) (Jan 1, 2020)
  - Prohibits straws, stirrers, splash sticks, cocktail sticks, toothpicks made with plastic (included compostable, bio- or plant- based plastic)
  - Extends to food vendors, city departments, city contractors and lessees (including at SFO), city facilities (hospitals and jails)
  - Requires that accessories (utensils, chopsticks, napkins, cups, lids, cup sleeves, trays, condiment packages, etc) be provided only on request or at self-service stations
  - Requires any group acting under a city contract or lease at a city facility to use food service ware with a minimum post-consumer recycled content (Jan 1, 2020)
  - Requires reusable beverage cups at events held on City property (Jan 1, 2020)
- Exemptions
  - Allowed for people with medical needs
  - Allowed if the food is packaged outside of the City and provided to customer in same package
  - Allowed for reusable cups at events, if able to demonstrate an undue hardship or limited access to reusable cups

## SANTA MONICA

Status: Passed August 2018

Implementation Date: January 1, 2019

- Details
  - Prohibits distribution of non-marine degradable disposable food ware
  - Specifically bans polystyrene lids
  - Marine degradable disposable straws and utensils can be provided, but only upon request
  - Extends to "any business, organization, entity, group, or individual providing prepared food or beverages for public consumption on or off its premises within the City of Santa Monica." Extends to all city facilities
- Exemptions
  - In the case of significant economic hardship and when no reasonable alternative exists
  - Plastic straws permitted for customers with medical conditions
- **NOTE: We would strongly discourage the use of the term "marine degradable" as a requirement in any ordinance. There is currently no ASTM standard to support the definition of this term.**

Submitted to: ECCE Committee  
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 Item No: 5  
 Deputy: L. Campos