

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org).

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(17) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 03/16/2021

Type of NC Board Action: For

#### Impact Information

Date: 03/17/2021

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 21-0064

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The Los Feliz Neighborhood Council commends council members Koretz and Krekorian for bringing this motion which aims to reduce the skyrocketing amounts of single-use plastic waste as the result of the increase in food delivery and takeout due to the pandemic. [ABRIDGED SEE ATTACHED PDF FOR FULL CIS] This Motion prevents restaurants from providing “disposable foodware accessories” without a customer request. This is an important step in reducing plastic waste in Los Angeles. Los Angeles is far behind many other municipalities, and countries, that have banned single-use plastics. In Seattle in 2018, the city banned plastic straws and utensils from Seattle restaurants. In March 2018, Malibu banned the sale, distribution, and use of single-use plastic straws, stirrers, and plastic cutlery. In 2016, France became the first country to announce a total ban on plastic cups, plates, and cutlery. Taiwan will phase out all plastic bags, straws, and utensils, all single-use plastic by 2030. Recycling is also not a solution. Less than 10% of all single-use plastics are recycled. In Los Angeles County, recycling facilities are sending “mixed plastics” directly to a landfill or incinerator. Los Angeles County Public Works estimates that in 2018, the County sent more than half a million tons of plastic to four different landfills, and nearly 20,000 tons of plastic to its waste-to-energy incinerator. [ABRIDGED SEE ATTACHED PDF FOR FULL CIS] While this Motion does not provide for that producer responsibility, it is a critical step in the right direction. Therefore, the Los Feliz Neighborhood Council enthusiastically supports this Motion. We also encourage the City Council to take additional steps to alleviate the costs of plastic waste, starting with holding manufacturers responsible. Sources:

<https://lacounty.gov/sustainability/l-a-county-to-take-big-bite-out-of-plastic-pollution/>

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/jun/21/us-plastic-recycling-landfills>



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-COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT-

Council File: [21-0064](#)

Title: Foodware Accessories Upon Request / Disposable Foodware Accessories / Small Business Commission / Food Service Providers / Zero-Use Trash

Position: Support

The Los Feliz Neighborhood Council commends council members Koretz and Krekorian for bringing this motion which aims to reduce the skyrocketing amounts of single-use plastic waste as the result of the increase in food delivery and takeout due to the pandemic.

Currently, the world is facing a global crisis in terms of the immensity of plastic waste and micro-plastics and climate change due to fossil fuels, which are combusted to make plastics. Los Angeles County alone produces 28 million tons of trash. Nationwide, nearly 1 in 5 pieces of trash is single-use plastic. California puts more than 60,000 tons of plastics in waste bins every year, and, according to the EPA, that tonnage has jumped more than 1,000% since 1990. According to a report commissioned by the L.A. County Board of Supervisors, food-service items have an outsized negative impact on plastic waste.

This Motion prevents restaurants from providing “disposable foodware accessories” without a customer request. This is an important step in reducing plastic waste in Los Angeles. Los Angeles is far behind many other municipalities, and countries, that have banned single-use plastics. In Seattle in 2018, the city banned plastic straws and utensils from Seattle restaurants. In March 2018, Malibu banned the sale, distribution, and use of single-use plastic straws, stirrers, and plastic cutlery. In 2016, France became the first country to announce a total ban on plastic cups, plates, and cutlery. Taiwan will phase out all plastic bags, straws, and utensils, all single-use plastic by 2030.

Recycling is also not a solution. Less than 10% of all single-use plastics are recycled. In Los Angeles County, recycling facilities are sending “mixed plastics” directly to a

landfill or incinerator. Los Angeles County Public Works estimates that in 2018, the County sent more than half a million tons of plastic to four different landfills, and nearly 20,000 tons of plastic to its waste-to-energy incinerator.

Ultimately, a more comprehensive step toward solving the plastics problem would place the onus on manufacturers to take responsibility for end disposal of their plastics products. For instance, it might create incentives for companies not to use hard-to-recycle packaging and require manufacturers to pay to have their products recycled. There are currently no limits on production of plastic that becomes waste in Los Angeles.

While this Motion does not provide for that producer responsibility, it is a critical step in the right direction. Therefore, the Los Feliz Neighborhood Council enthusiastically supports this Motion. We also encourage the City Council to take additional steps to alleviate the costs of plastic waste, starting with holding manufacturers responsible.

Sources:

<https://lacounty.gov/sustainability/l-a-county-to-take-big-bite-out-of-plastic-pollution/>

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/jun/21/us-plastic-recycling-landfills>

-APPROVED-  
March 16, 2021

Yay:17. Nay: 0