



Sunnyvale

# Single-Use Plastics Strategy Study Issue

April 6, 2021



# Single-Use Plastics (SUP) Strategy Agenda

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- Challenges with SUPS/alternatives
- Local/regional efforts to reduce SUPs
- COVID impacts on SUPs
- Santa Clara County Model SUP ordinance
- Staff Recommendation for Sunnyvale
- Questions/comments

# The challenges with single-use plastics and their alternatives:

## Single-Use Plastics

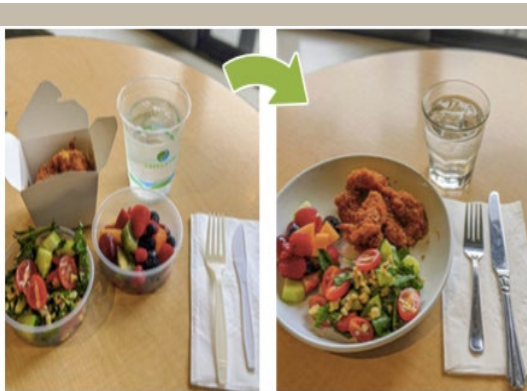
- ◆ Made from non-renewable resource
- ◆ Production is harmful to environment and contributes to GHG emissions
- ◆ Have a very short lifespan
- ◆ Cannot be easily recycled
- ◆ End up as litter

## Alternatives (bio plastic and fiber/paper)

- ◆ Production results in pollutants due to fertilizer/pesticide & chemical processing
- ◆ PFAS and plastic coating added to make them moisture resistant
- ◆ Not recyclable or compostable in Sunnyvale programs
- ◆ End up as litter

## Local and regional actions

- Berkeley, Santa Cruz, San Mateo County passed/implemented SUP ordinances
- Palo Alto is only SCC city to implement ordinance
- Santa Clara County TAC sub-committee developed model ordinance
- Regional/state move to require “opt-in” option for take-out/delivery accessory items
- Promising State packaging reduction bills failed to pass in 2020 but is resurfacing again in 2021



# Santa Clara County Model Ordinance

## Phase 1

- Foodware must be compostable
- “Opt In” for takeout accessory items
- Accessory items upon request only

## Phase 2

- \$0.25 charge on cups
- Reusables for on-site dining
- Dishwashing capacity

## Phase 3

- Reusable cups at events



# COVID IMPACTS

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- Take-out and delivery has increased 200-300 percent
- Increased disposables used for take-out/delivery and some outdoor dining
- Reusable cups not currently allowed
- Many jurisdictions not enforcing SUP bans





# What foodware items does Sunnyvale recycle?

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Aluminum is the only recyclable container we take in our program



# Which leaves reusables as the best option and can save a restaurant money!



# RTC Recommendation

- Alt. 2: Direct staff to develop an ordinance to be implemented and phased in over three years to reduce the impacts of single-use plastic foodware and condiment containers, and return for City Council approval of the Ordinance after appropriate CEQA review, with a targeted Ordinance adoption date of September 2021:
  - ◆ **Phase 1** – An opt-in requirement for foodware and condiment containers for online and take-out ordering from food service delivery vendors and restaurants, to take effect in September 2021
  - ◆ **Phase 2** – Require food service businesses to provide customers with single-use plastic foodware and condiment containers only upon request, to take effect in June 2023

Additionally, direct staff to return to Council in late 2023 with a proposal that evaluates further recommendations for the program.

# Outreach Strategy

- “Opt-in” outreach to start 3-4 months prior to ordinance implementation
- “Request only” outreach to start 1 year in advance during SB 1383 site visits





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# Questions