

February 8, 2022

Re. CALISTOGA FOODWARE & WASTE REDUCTION PROJECT

Dear Calistoga Restaurateur / Food Purveyor,

We all share a deep concern for the state of the environment and for leaving a habitable planet for future generations.

Disposable foodware, and specifically take-out materials, contribute significantly to the massive volume of polluting packaging that ends up in landfill, in waterways and oceans, and on city streets, killing wildlife and generating methane and other toxins. Calistoga is working toward common sense steps to reduce or even eliminate these toxic products, as over 80 other cities are already doing.

Enclosed you will find a summary of key points being considered. The Calistoga Green Committee is seeking input from local businesses in shaping and refining the local ordinance that will be brought to our City Council for consideration.

Central to the proposal will be the requirement that all disposable foodware in Calistoga be *BPI certified as compostable.

Also under consideration is whether to require, or to allow a pre-set fee structure for compostable take-out items, to be paid by customers and to be retained by the merchant, or whether to assume that merchants will simply build any additional costs into their prices.

The move toward compostable-only disposable foodware, and toward waste reduction in general, is happening. We hope you will share your thoughts and be a part of the decision process as Calistoga does its part.

We want to hear from you. Please review the summary page on page 2, and email your responses and comments to: GreeningCalistoga@gmail.com

Thank you!

**The Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI) is the national leader in certifying the real-world biodegradability and composability of foodservice ware. For 20 years BPI has certified products whose materials can biodegrade completely, in a commercial compost facility, without leaving harmful residues behind.*

- CALISTOGA FOODWARE & WASTE REDUCTION PROJECT -

I. SUMMARY

- A. Reusable foodware required for all Dine-in service.
- B. Take-out foodware by Request Only.
- C. Customers may provide their own reusable foodware for left-overs and beverage and food take-out service, at discretion of merchant. (California Retail Food Code Section 114121.(a))
- D. All takeout disposable foodware (plates, bowls, straws, cups, trays, napkins, utensils, etc.) must be natural fiber and rated BPI compostable.
- E. No plastic or polystyrene foodware.
- F. Plastic beverage bottles prohibited for events on City property and in City vending machines.

II. THREE MODELS FOR DISPOSABLE FOODWARE CHARGES TO CONSIDER

- A. Mandatory Disposable Foodware Charges
 - i. \$0.25 charge for each disposable foodware item requested, including compostable items such as napkins, cups, straws, utensils, boxes and condiments.
 - ii. Maximum foodware charge: Up to \$1.00 per order
 - iii. Merchant to retain income generated from foodware charges.
- B. Optional Disposable Foodware Charges
 - i. Merchant to set policy on whether to:
 - a) Charge for foodware (see fee structure in **II. A.** above) -or-
 - b) Build disposable foodware cost in pricing
- C. No Separate Disposable Foodware Charges permitted. Merchant to build costs into sale price.

~ We Want to Hear From You ~

Question 1: PLEASE SELECT OR RANK YOUR PREFERENCE(S)

- A. **MANDATORY** Itemized Charges for Disposable Foodware (See II. A. above)
- B. **OPTIONAL** Itemized Charges for Disposable Foodware (See II. B. above)
- C. **NO SEPARATE** Charges for Disposable Foodware. (See II. C. above)

Question 2: WHAT SUPPLIER(S) HAVE YOU FOUND FOR BPI CERTIFIED DISPOSABLE FOODWARE?

Please send your answers & comments by March 1 to: GreeningCalistoga@gmail.com

Thank You !