

July 27, 2022

Dear Restaurant Owner or Food Purveyor:

Congratulations! We have noticed a significant number of you migrating away from plastic and polystyrene in favor of natural-fiber compostable takeout packaging and utensils. Thank you!

When we wrote to you in February, we wanted your input on shifting to all re-usable foodware for dining-in, and compostable packaging and utensils for takeout ware. Based on your responses, number of changes were made to the proposed foodware ordinance, including removal of any mandatory cup charges, perhaps the item most mentioned by restauranteurs. The updated version of the ordinance has now been passed by the Green Committee and forwarded by City Council to city staff for review.

Statewide, over 150 cities and counties that have adopted foodware ordinances. Enclosed we have provided a list of the nearby, Bay Area communities that have done so. On the reverse side of the list is a brief summary of key provisions in the proposed Calistoga ordinance.

Once again, we need your help! Hundreds of community members and many local restaurants have signed a letter of support for this important step toward making Calistoga a “green destination” for visitors and an environmentally conscious community for locals. We are hoping you will join them.

Please let us know if we can use your name ---either personal or your business--- in support of greening Calistoga and contributing to a better future for our children and our planet. Our email is greeningcalistoga@gmail.com. Your voice counts!

Finally, we want to be sure you are aware of AB 1276, the new California regulation requiring that single-use condiment packets, straws, and utensils be provided to customers only upon request. This will be a savings to you and will also contribute to the reduction of unnecessary trash and pollution.

Thank you!

Foodware & Waste Reduction Study Group