

Support for foodware ordinance

Millie Pease <millie.jane.pease@gmail.com>

Wed 3/20/2024 9:57 AM

To: MeetingClerk <MeetingClerk@countyofnapa.org>

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I believe the citizens of Napa County are more than ready for the changes which will reduce waste. As a member of the Calistoga Green Committee, I remember how three years ago it was so easy to get signatures on a letter of support for Calistoga's foodware ordinance. In less than two months, we gathered over 550 signatures. People want to waste less and have you, our elected representatives, mandate that we all get on board.

Thank you for your commitment!

Millie Pease

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Public Comment-Climate Action Committee-Foodware-3/22/24

Bob Figoni <bobfigoni1@gmail.com>

Wed 3/20/2024 11:01 AM

To: MeetingClerk <MeetingClerk@countyofnapa.org>; Morrison, David <David.Morrison@countyofnapa.org>; Bordona, Brian <Brian.Bordona@countyofnapa.org>

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PUBLIC COMMENT—Climate Action Committee—Foodware Ordinance, Second Draft—3/22/24

My name is Bob Figoni. I am with Napa Climate NOW! Last month I spoke to you about all the ways I think the foodware ordinance should be made stronger. I spoke about requiring reusable foodware only for dining in, charges for disposable foodware and discounts for customer provided foodware, and banning plastic beverage bottles on government property and at public sponsored events. I was happy to see all these things included in the draft before you today.

It is my strong opinion that all aspects of the current draft be included in what the CAC recommends to jurisdictions in Napa Valley. Hopefully, you will present it as a *recommendation to include all components* in order to make local ordinances as effective as possible against the evils of disposable foodware, and *not presented solely as a buffet of ideas* for jurisdictions to choose or not choose.

Napa Climate NOW! suggests the following changes to the existing language to make the ordinance more airtight and consistent.

- 1) 5.80.30.A.4. Dishwashing Capacity. There is no requirement for new businesses or updated permits to comply with this provision. Waivers should be issued only for businesses that already have permits or business licenses. Any business requiring a new or updated permit should be required to have reusable on-site with dishwashing capacity included. Also, there is no time limit on the waiver. (Suggest 1 year, then review.)
- 2) 5.80.30.B.2. Off-Premises. Allows self-serve stations to provide reusable or compostable accessories. We suggest that self-serve stations be required to provide only reusable/refillable foodware accessories at self-serve stations, and reusable or single use compostable by-request only.
- 3) 5.80.30.B.5. Off-Premises. Provides for the use of “single-use plastic bags for liquid food items, such as soup, drinks, foods with liquid sauces, etc., where there is a clear need to prevent leakage, or when leakage from melting/defrosting frozen item(s) is likely.” We suggest removing this subsection, as foods like soups, drinks and sauces are in sealed containers and leakage is rare. Additionally, the term “clear need” is subject to broad interpretation, and amounts to a loophole, only weakening the ordinance.
- 4) 5.80.30.C.1. Add “and other foodware” to the sentence encouraging customers to bring their own cups. All foodware has environmental and financial impact.
- 5) 5.80.30.C.2. Customer-provided Reusable Cups and Other Foodware. Allows businesses *discretion* in providing discounts for customer-provided foodware. This section should be removed because it conflicts with the same discount being *required* in 5.80.50.B.

6) 5.80.40. Separate Waste Receptacles Required. This section can be removed entirely. It is already required under AB 827. Also, this need not be required for restaurants not doing take-out.

7) 5.80.50.A.5. Disposable Foodware Charges. Exempts mobile businesses from the requirement that customers be charged for disposable foodware. This creates an uneven playing field for businesses. Since mobile businesses must obtain a business license, they should be subject to the same requirements as other businesses.

8) 5.80.70. Sale and Distribution of Disposable Plastic Bottled Beverages on County Property. As written, this section applies to contracted or permitted events only. It should include events sponsored by the jurisdiction itself, and general purchasing practices of the jurisdiction. We suggest using the more comprehensive language below from the Napa Climate NOW! Reusable Foodware and Waste Reduction Ordinance.

--NAPA CLIMATE NOW! REUSABLE FOODWARE AND WASTE REDUCTION ORDINANCE--

SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF DISPOSABLE PLASTIC BOTTLED BEVERAGES ON CITY PROPERTY

- a. *No person may sell or distribute plastic Bottled Beverages at any activity for which the City has issued a permit allowing the activity to be held in or on City Property.*
- b. *In the event that containers greater than twenty-one ounces in size are utilized, disposable containers (e.g., disposable cups) may be used in the serving of beverages but must conform to the requirements pursuant to Section C. Foodware Waste Reduction.*
- c. *The City shall not enter into any new leases, contracts, or other forms of agreement, or issue any new permits, bid proposals, or solicitations; or renew, amend or reissue any existing leases, contracts, agreements or permits, which allow City Property to be used for the sale or distribution of plastic Bottled Beverages.*
- d. *City funds shall not be used to purchase plastic Bottled Beverages except as exempted or allowed under Article D. Plastic Bottle Reduction. The City's purchasing policies shall be amended for consistency with this Article.*
- e. *It shall be City policy not to have drinking water systems (i.e., vending machines) in city offices and facilities that use plastic Bottled Beverages of any size where sufficient alternatives exist and are feasible. City offices and facilities shall conform drinking water systems to this policy where reasonable.*
- f. *It shall be City policy to increase the availability of drinking water for public consumption in public areas by ensuring access to drinking fountains, potable water hook-ups, and with particular emphasis on providing water bottle filling stations. City departments will take all reasonable and appropriate steps to promote and facilitate achievement of the intent and requirements of this Article.*
- g. *It shall be a City goal to encourage the inclusion of water bottle filling stations for public use in privately owned developments.*

Comment on CAC Agenda Item 5C: Draft Foodware Ordinance

Lori Stelling <lori.stelling@me.com>

Thu 3/21/2024 4:03 PM

To: MeetingClerk <MeetingClerk@countyofnapa.org>

Cc: Morrison, David <David.Morrison@countyofnapa.org>

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Dear Climate Action Committee Members,

I am taking a moment to write this afternoon to thank you for the modifications made to the Draft Foodware Ordinance and to encourage you to support it.

I was deeply happy to see the inclusion of reusable-foodware-only for dining in, charges for disposables, discounts for bring-your-own utensils, and the end to the use of single use plastic bottles at government sponsored events.

When these policy changes are approved and implemented at the city, town, and county level, Napa Valley will be doing a better job of practicing what we preach about doing our part to meet the climate emergency by decreasing green house gas emissions through decreasing plastics pollution in our valley. Our youth are watching and, I believe, this type of real policy change has the potential to give them hope in the possibility that there are adults and community leaders who are on their side and will fight for their chance at a livable future.

Thank you for your time and efforts to address climate change by encouraging climate-wise policy changes on behalf of our youth, your community, and the planet.

Sincerely,

Lori Stelling

Napa Resident - 25 years