

Communication from Public

Name: National Stewardship Action Council

Date Submitted: 12/06/2022 10:21 AM

Council File No: 21-0064

Comments for Public Posting: The National Stewardship Action Council (NSAC) is a 501(c)(4) non-profit organization comprised of governments, non-government organizations, businesses, and consumers with the vision for the United States to attain a circular and equitable economy, an economic system aimed at eliminating waste and ensuring the circular use of resources. The first tenant of how we achieve a circular and equitable economy is to reduce waste and pollution at the source. NSAC strongly support the passage of the following ordinances: 1) a ban on the distribution and sale of expanded polystyrene products, 2) an expansion of the single-use bag ban, and 3) zero waste city facility and event requirements. Plastic pollution is choking our waterways and oceans, and negatively impacting the health of humans and wildlife. The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989, created by AB 939 (Sher), established the waste management hierarchy with source reduction first, then recycling and composting. It is imperative that we reduce single use plastics from the market now and move to sustainable alternatives. NSAC's Executive Director, Heidi Sanborn, was one of 25 individuals that negotiated the language for SB 54 (Allen): The Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act, which is the country's most comprehensive Extended Producer Responsibility legislation that was signed into law on June 30, 2022. The law creates a de facto ban on expanded polystyrene food service ware, by requiring a minimum recycling rate of 25% by January 1, 2025. During the negotiations, NSAC insisted that local governments not be preempted from taking immediate action to create local solutions, which includes the ability to pass ordinances banning polystyrene and other materials. Heidi Sanborn was also elected Chair of, the Statewide Commission on Recycling Markets and Curbside Recycling, which was comprised of 17 experts in the materials management sector representing local governments, waste haulers and recyclers, and environmental non-governmental organizations that determined polystyrene is not truly recyclable. For these reasons, we strongly support the proposed ordinances and thank you for your time and commitment to protecting both public and environmental health.

Communication from Public

Name: Karina Corbera
Date Submitted: 12/06/2022 10:41 AM
Council File No: 21-0064
Comments for Public Posting: "I strongly support the passage of the following ordinances: 1) a ban on the distribution and sale of expanded polystyrene products, 2) an expansion of the single-use bag ban, and 3) zero waste city facility and event requirements. Thank you for your time and commitment to protecting both public and environmental health."

Communication from Public

Name: Josh Bernal

Date Submitted: 12/06/2022 09:27 AM

Council File No: 21-0064

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly support the passage of the following ordinances: 1) a ban on the distribution and sale of expanded polystyrene products, 2) an expansion of the single-use bag ban, and 3) zero waste city facility and event requirements. Thank you for your time and commitment to protecting both public and environmental health.

Communication from Public

Name: Oceana

Date Submitted: 12/06/2022 09:55 AM

Council File No: 21-0064

Comments for Public Posting: December 6, 2022 Los Angeles City Council 200 N Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90012 RE: December 6, 2022, LA City Council Meeting Agenda Item 29 - Council File 21-0064 Reduction of Single-Use Plastics SUPPORT Submitted electronically via: <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/publiccomment/?cfnumber=21-0064>
Dear Honorable Councilmembers: On behalf of our members and supporters in Los Angeles, Oceana is pleased to strongly support three proposed single-use plastics reduction ordinances being considered by the Los Angeles City Council. We support the adoption of 1) zero-waste city facility and event requirements 2) an expansion of single-use carryout bag regulations, and 3) a ban on the distribution and sale of expanded polystyrene products. As the largest international advocacy organization dedicated solely to ocean conservation, Oceana works to advance science-based policies to reduce single-use plastics and protect our oceans at the local, state, and national levels. Single-use plastic is made to last forever but designed to be used only once before polluting our oceans, beaches, and communities for years to come. Nearly 40% of the plastic produced annually is for single-use plastics and packaging, and unsurprisingly that is what we see polluting our beaches. Almost all the top 10 most common waste items found in worldwide coastal cleanups in 2021 were single-use plastic products. Each year, 33 billion pounds of plastic enter the marine environment. This is roughly equivalent to dumping two garbage trucks full of plastic into the oceans every minute. If nothing changes, the amount of plastic entering the ocean is projected to triple by 2040. Plastics are a threat to vital marine ecosystems, human health, and our climate, and place a financial burden on communities for cleanup and disposal. In a recent report, Oceana found evidence of nearly 1,800 marine animals from 40 species in the U.S. swallowing or becoming entangled in plastic from 2009 to 2020 — 88% of those animals were from species listed as endangered or threatened with extinction under the Endangered Species Act. On top of this, plastic has now been found in our water, food, air, and bodies, and scientists are still learning how this may be affecting human health. Local jurisdictions in California spend \$420 million annually in efforts to clean up and prevent plastic and other waste from entering our oceans and waterways. Reducing single-use plastic is an important step in

tackling the plastic crisis. We thank the Los Angeles City Council for this continued leadership, and we express our strong support for the ordinances to ban plastic foam products, expand the single-use carryout bag regulations, and require zero-waste city facilities and events. Sincerely, Christy Leavitt Campaign
Director



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December 6, 2022

Los Angeles City Council
200 N Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**RE: December 6, 2022, LA City Council Meeting Agenda Item 29 - Council File 21-0064
Reduction of Single-Use Plastics SUPPORT**

Submitted electronically via: <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/publiccomment/?cfnumber=21-0064>

Dear Honorable Councilmembers:

On behalf of our members and supporters in Los Angeles, Oceana is pleased to strongly support three proposed single-use plastics reduction ordinances being considered by the Los Angeles City Council. **We support the adoption of 1) zero-waste city facility and event requirements 2) an expansion of single-use carryout bag regulations, and 3) a ban on the distribution and sale of expanded polystyrene products.**

As the largest international advocacy organization dedicated solely to ocean conservation, Oceana works to advance science-based policies to reduce single-use plastics and protect our oceans at the local, state, and national levels. Single-use plastic is made to last forever but designed to be used only once before polluting our oceans, beaches, and communities for years to come. Nearly 40% of the plastic produced annually is for single-use plastics and packaging, and unsurprisingly that is what we see polluting our beaches.ⁱ Almost all the top 10 most common waste items found in worldwide coastal cleanups in 2021 were single-use plastic products.ⁱⁱ

Each year, 33 billion pounds of plastic enter the marine environment.ⁱⁱⁱ This is roughly equivalent to dumping two garbage trucks full of plastic into the oceans every minute. If nothing changes, the amount of plastic entering the ocean is projected to triple by 2040.^{iv}

Plastics are a threat to vital marine ecosystems, human health, and our climate, and place a financial burden on communities for cleanup and disposal. In a recent report, Oceana found evidence of nearly 1,800 marine animals from 40 species in the U.S. swallowing or becoming entangled in plastic from 2009 to 2020 — 88% of those animals were from species listed as endangered or threatened with extinction under the Endangered Species Act. On top of this, plastic has now been found in our water, food, air, and bodies, and

scientists are still learning how this may be affecting human health.^{v, vi, vii, viii} Local jurisdictions in California spend \$420 million annually in efforts to clean up and prevent plastic and other waste from entering our oceans and waterways.^{ix}

Reducing single-use plastic is an important step in tackling the plastic crisis. We thank the Los Angeles City Council for this continued leadership, and we express our strong support for the ordinances to ban plastic foam products, expand the single-use carryout bag regulations, and require zero-waste city facilities and events.

Sincerely,

Christy Leavitt
Campaign Director

ⁱ Geyer, R. Jambeck, J.R. & Law, K.L. (2017). Production, use, and fate of all plastics ever made. *Science Advances*, 3, 7.

ⁱⁱ Ocean Conservancy (2022) Connect + Collect. Ocean Conservancy. 14p.

ⁱⁱⁱ Forrest A, Giacobazzi L, Dunlop S, et al. (2019) Eliminating Plastic Pollution: How a Voluntary Contribution From Industry Will Drive the Circular Plastics Economy. *Frontiers in Marine Science* 6: 627.

^{iv} Lau, Winnie WY, et al (2020). "Evaluating scenarios toward zero plastic pollution." *Science* 369.6510: 1455-1461.

^v Kosuth, M., Mason, S. A., & Wattenberg, E. V. (2018). Anthropogenic contamination of tap water, beer, and sea salt. *PloS one*, 13(4). doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0194970

^{vi} Conti, G. O., Ferrante, M., Banni, M., Favara, C., Nicolosi, I., Cristaldi, A., ... & Zuccarello, P. (2020). Micro-and nano-plastics in edible fruit and vegetables. The first diet risks assessment for the general population. *Environmental Research*, 187. doi: 10.1016/j.envres.2020.109677

^{vii} Ragusa, A. (2021). Plasticenta: First evidence of microplastics in human placenta. *Environment International* : 8.

^{viii} Schwabl, P., Köppel, S., Königshofer, P., et al. (2019). Detection of Various Microplastics in Human Stool: A Prospective Case Series. *Annals of Internal Medicine*. doi: 10.7326/M19-0618

^{ix} Kier Associates (2013) Waste in Our Water: The Annual Cost to California Communities of Reducing Litter That Pollutes Our Waterways. Natural Resources Defense Council. 56p