



Date: July 26, 2018
To: Patrick H. West, City Manager *T.H.W.*
From: *EB* Craig A. Beck, Director of Public Works
For: Mayor and Members of the City Council
Subject: City Facilities Compliance with Expanded Polystyrene Ordinance

On May 4, 2018, the City Council adopted an Ordinance amending the Long Beach Municipal Code (LBMC) to include Chapter 8.63, prohibiting the use of single-use food and beverage containers made of expanded polystyrene (EPS) foam, rigid polystyrene #6, and non-recyclable and non-compostable material for prepared food distribution.

LBMC 8.63.070A requires that "No City facilities, City contractors, City-sponsored events or City-permitted events shall distribute or utilize disposable food service ware containing polystyrene on or after three months following the adoption of the Ordinance codified in this Chapter by the City Council." City facilities, contractors, and most events must be in compliance by September 3, 2018, as the Ordinance became effective on June 3, 2018.

The Public Works Department has put together several resources available to City staff to ensure compliance, including a guide of compliant products for City facilities. All resources can be found at: <http://www.longbeach.gov/lbrecycles/waste-reduction/foam-free-lb/eps-ordinance-fags/>. The Public Works Department suggests that City facilities avoid purchasing compostable plastics as they cannot be diverted for recycling.

The Ordinance's next phases impact all food service businesses in Long Beach. The Departments of Public Works and Health and Human Services sent a letter providing details about compliant products and upcoming deadlines to approximately 2,300 businesses impacted by the Ordinance. Additionally, Public Works is offering restaurants a "We're In Kit" which includes items to display in their business notifying customers they are an EPS-free business. Additional resources to assist businesses with compliance can be found at: <http://longbeach.gov/lbrecycles/waste-reduction/foam-free-lb/resources-for-businesses/>

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call Waste Diversion and Recycling Officer Erin Rowland at (562) 570-2851.

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Compliant Products Guide

Long Beach Municipal Code Chapter 8.63 requirements for single-use disposable materials.

PROHIBITED

The Following Items are prohibited under LBMC 8.63:

- Expanded polystyrene foam (Styrofoam™)
- Rigid polystyrene (plastic #6)
- Non-Recyclable and Non-Compostable materials such as composite plastics or non-compostable lined paper cups



ALLOWED (Recyclable)

Recommended alternatives:

Recyclable Plastic #1, #2, and #5, Aluminum or Tin, and Paper products.

*Check type of plastic by looking at the bottom of container



ALLOWED (Not Recyclable)

Allowed but NOT recommended:

Compostable Plastics #7, and Compostable paper or plant-based products.

* Compostable material must be made of only paper, certified compostable plastics that meet ASTM D6400 or ASTM D6868 for compostability or cellulose-based packaging capable of being decomposed through composting or anaerobic digestion.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Visit www.longbeach.gov/LBrecycles
Or email FoamFreeLB@longbeach.gov

