

Date: March 29, 2024

To: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager



From: Eric Lopez, Director of Public Works



For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: **Polystyrene Food Packaging Ordinance and Enforcement**

In 2018, the City Council adopted Long Beach Municipal Code (LBMC) Chapter 8.63, the Polystyrene Food Packaging Ordinance, which prohibits 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.

Since the ordinance was adopted, the Public Works Department has educated impacted businesses and provided resources and site visits to assist with compliance. The Department will continue sending annual educational materials to all impacted businesses, including information about the ordinance and resources to comply. Starting in June 2024, the following steps will be taken in response to complaints of non-compliance:

- The complaint will be investigated.
- If violations are confirmed, a 30-day correction notification will be issued.
- After 30 days, a second site visit will be conducted. If the business is found to still be in violation of the ordinance, an administrative citation will be issued per LBMC Chapter 8.63:
 - \$105 fine for the initial violation;
 - \$210 fine for a second violation; and,
 - \$525 for any subsequent violation.

Should you have any questions, please contact Erin Rowland, Superintendent of Operations of Waste Diversion & Recycling, at (562) 570-2851.

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