



**Dan Niziolek**

Department of Safety and Inspections  
City of Saint Paul  
375 Jackson Street  
Saint Paul, MN 55101

Dear Dan,

On Thursday, July 6th, the West Side Community Organization's Health & Environmental Justice Committee passed the following resolution supporting the City's Sustainable To-Go Packaging Ordinance. The resolution was endorsed by the board of WSCO and the District 3 Planning Council on Monday, July 10<sup>th</sup>.

**WHEREAS** "to-go" packaging is food packaging taken off-site from a restaurant or other retailer providing food for immediate consumption, compostable packaging is certified compostable in a local industrial composting facility, and recyclable packaging is recyclable in our City's local recycling program; and,

**WHEREAS** requiring "to-go" food packaging that is recyclable, compostable, or reusable supports a goal of zero waste in homes, workplaces and businesses; and

**WHEREAS** "to-go" packaging that is compostable, recyclable, or reusable protects our health and the health of our environment; and

**WHEREAS** exempting items that do not meet the compostable or recyclable requirement weakens the ordinance and dramatically reduces the positive environmental outcomes, and there are viable alternatives to potentially exempted items such as polystyrene, black plastic, and plastic and poly coated cups, which negatively affect both our environment and our local recycling programs; and

**WHEREAS** the proposed ordinance includes a commitment by the City to help businesses by financially supporting creative ways to comply with the ordinance, including support for investments (i.e. dishwashers, reusable plates); and

**WHEREAS** we plan to participate in educational efforts to increase the success of the packaging ordinance by sharing information with retailers and restaurants that helps them access compliant packaging while meeting their unique business needs; and

**THEREFORE**, be it resolved, that the West Side Community Organization supports the proposed Saint Paul Sustainable To-Go Packaging Ordinance.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Monica Bravo, Executive Director**  
West Side Community Organization  
District 3 Planning Council  
209 Page St. W, St. Paul, MN 55107  
(651) 293-1708