

Mr. Dan Niziolek
Department of Safety and Inspections
375 Jackson Street, Suite 220
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Mr. Niziolek:

On July 12, 2017 the Executive Committee of District 1 Council met to discuss its' position on the Sustainable To-Go Packaging Ordinance. It is the committee's stand to support the ordinance and to pass the following resolution:

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 reusable, recyclable, or compostable supports a goal of zero waste in homes, workplaces and businesses; and

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

WHEREAS exempting items that do not meet the recyclable or compostable 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 District 1 Community Council supports the proposed Saint Paul Sustainable To-Go Packaging Ordinance, recommending that it be consistent with other regional communities that pursued similar programs.

If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.