

I am a constituent living in Thomas-Dale. and I am writing to ask you to support the Saint Paul Sustainable To Go Packaging Ordinance being discussed at tomorrow's public hearing. This ordinance is a chance for St. Paul to join with Minneapolis and St. Louis Park in combating one part of climate change and waste issues. Please vote yes on this ordinance.

Thank you,

Amelia Shoptaugh  
8XX Thomas Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 55104

To City Council Members,

I am writing in favor of of the proposed Sustainable Packaging Ordinance 17-29. Saint Paul should be an example to all of Minnesota and a leader when it comes to environmental issues and making sure that sustainability is a top priority. Banning non-recyclable or non-compostable containers is a step in the right direction for St Paul, state and this country. I hope you will support this ordinance and approve it.

Thank you,

Robert Wales  
17XX Race St  
Saint Paul, MN 55116

Dear Council Member,

I am in support of the proposed ban.

Thank you.

Michael Tracy

Carol Ettesvold 4XX Dunlap

Govt should keep their nose out of people's business and it won't make any difference in the environment.

Mark Van  
20XX Stewart

Vote against to go ordinance, cant even compost residentially at curb/home yet. Will raise prices

Dear Council Members,

Attached please find a letter and signature for your review and consideration regarding my request for your consideration of finding alternative solution to the City Council's hearing for foam ban. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Regards,

Yong Yia Vang  
CEO

Hmong Village Shopping Center  
1001 Johnson Park Way  
St. Paul, MN 55106

St. Paul City Council Members  
310 City Hall  
15 Kellogg Blvd. West  
St. Paul, MN 55102

Dear Members of the Council,

As an owner and shareholder of the Hmong Village Shopping Center, a local shopping center catering services to the Hmong and other minority communities on the east side of St. Paul, located at 1001 Johnson Park Way, St. Paul, MN; I am concerned about the plan to conduct listening sessions throughout the City to consider banning various food service materials including Polystyrene foam. The banning idea will harm our local businesses such as restaurants and other food service businesses in general.

Hmong Village Shopping Center houses hundreds of retail vendors and many of them are specialty groceries and kitchens. Our vendors are small family owned business. They work very hard, most of the time long hours, and the profit margin is very small. A ban, in any form would have a negative economic effect on these kitchens and grocery stores, and other businesses and institutions in the City.

Many Hmong restaurant and grocery store owners in the St. Paul area who utilize Polystyrene foam prefer it to alternatives for its cost-effectiveness and its durability. If foam were banned in St. Paul, it would have to be replaced with more expensive alternatives that are just not as dependable. As a result, restaurant and small businesses owners would either have to pay up for more expensive products or increase prices for their customers.

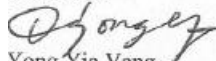
There is a much more feasible alternative to banning polystyrene foam. Focusing the efforts on recycling the material rather than banning it is much more productive. Polystyrene foam is already recycled in areas all across the country and recycled polystyrene is used in products like smoke detectors, surfboards, rulers, crown molding, and garden nursery trays. And, as a thermoplastic, polystyrene foam can be recycled many times over.

As a business leader, I feel it is imperative that you consider shifting the focus from a ban to the logical alternative to recycling.

Attached is a signature sheet of all businesses housed inside the Hmong Village Shopping Center.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Yong Yia Vang  
CEO

Honorable City

Council Members,

I am forwarding a the letter from the Minnesota Hmong Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Pasee Yang, Chairperson to all the City Council Members in regard to the upcoming Food Packaging Ordinance. Please do let know if you have questions.

Thanks for your prompt attention and public service.

Regards,

Neng Lee

Board Member

September 25, 2017



Saint Paul City Council  
310 City Hall  
15 Kellogg Blvd. West  
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Dear City Council Members,

We are not in support of the St. Paul Food Packaging Ordinance. Many of our members (restaurants, cafés and caterers) will be impacted by this ordinance.

We believe that banning certain products and mandating the use of other, more expensive material does not help businesses but adds more costs, administrative burdens and squanders tax dollars. Businesses should make the choices that best fit their needs because a variety of food packaging materials can be sensitive to choices in terms of prices and the ability of these materials to be recycled or composted.

In addition, a packaging ban will force the businesses to use more expensive food packaging materials. Therefore, this increase will be forced to pass to customers. We believe this proposal is a very regressive sale tax increase that will disproportionately burden Saint Paul's lowest-income resident.

Furthermore, we do not believe that such proposal is a good policy. We believe this change will make it harder for local cafes, restaurants and caterers to focus on creating additional jobs at livable wages. The city should seek ways to partner with us to help the businesses thrive so they can in turn, contribute more to the community.

Finally, we believe this ban doesn't solve problem or reduce waste because food service foam and plastic is such a small amount of the total waste stream, a ban would not reduce waste.

For bans on things like plastic bags, consumers either choose "reusable" bags or paper bags. The reusable bags are made of petrochemicals. Because of this, they must be used hundreds of times to truly have a better environmental impact than traditional plastic bags. We think a comprehensive recycling program is the way to reduce waste and reuse materials.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paset Paset", is written over a faint circular stamp.

Chairman MN Hmong Chamber  
paset@hmongchamber.com  
(952) 334 1143

Would like to see a different recycling program, create more jobs by having the recycling sorted differently.

William Aldam

37XX Croman way  
Inver grove heights

Mike Lamotte 4XX Holly – support to go packaging ordinance

Dear Madams and Sirs,

when I opened up my St. Paul paper this morning to see the full page ad from restauranters stating that their plastic to-go packaging is just fine for the environment, I was so sad for our culture, and mad over it.

When Cosetta's remodeled a few years ago, I thought, "Finally, they will build a dishwashing station and quit serving ALL THEIR FOOD, not just take-out, on plastic dishes with plastic flatware." But no, so I quit going there.

If you looked at the trash Cosetta's, Mancini's and Hmong Marketplace alone - not to mention our hospital cafeterias - generate in only one day, the scene would be dramatic, and, I believe, alarming. It doesn't break down or go away.

Please help our society escape drowning under a pile of plastic by standing up for real dishes and silverware and compostable take-out containers. Somebody has to do it.

The restaurants I go to serve on real dishes with real forks and knives and use compostable take-out containers.

It works for them, and I know they care for their customers, our community, the birds and fish and our world, so it works for me.

Thank you for listening and for serving on the Saint Paul City Council.

Pam Keul

St. Paul Customer

I'm writing to express my support for the proposed ordinance that would require all to-go food packaging distributed within the City's limits to be REUSABLE, RECYCLABLE, or COMPOSTABLE. My husband and I are very busy and rely on to-go foods to keep us fed during the week. We try to patronize businesses that use responsible packaging, but sometimes we're negatively surprised or we're meeting friends. If there's extra expense to be responsible, I am willing to pay for it and I think it's better if everyone is on the same level playing field.

Now...if we can just get rid of plastic bags... ;-)

Thank you!!

Barbara LaMotte

1. Chris Eschweiler  
Ward 5  
Opposed to Sustainable To Go Packaging Ordinance change. Doesn't feel they'll be beneficial, but will be expensive. A couple of billboards asking people to stop littering would be more effective.
2. John Aranyos  
4xx W. Lawson  
Ward 5  
Against Sustainable To Go Packaging Ordinance Change
3. Mark Van  
21xx Stewardt Ave  
Ward 3  
Against To Go Packaging Ordinance change
4. Phyllis Lantsch  
8xx California Ave. W  
Against Sustainable To Go Packaging Ordinance Change  
She's been receiving calls regarding the Sustainable To Go Packaging Ordinance Change. She agrees Styrofoam containers are no good for the environment. Is this an effort to switch to all recyclable carry-out packages? There are problems with current packaging as the plastic containers that Cub uses for roasted chickens, bottom is recyclable but the top is not. More information should be available on this.
5. Virginia Weber  
Against Sustainable To Go Packaging Ordinance change.
6. Gayle Bump  
Against Sustainable To Go Packaging Ordinance Change. We've got enough controlling laws.
7. Brian  
Supports ban on Sustainable To Go Packaging

**From:** Heidi Schallberg [<mailto:heidils@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 04, 2017 12:45 PM

**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward1; #CI-StPaul\_Ward2; #CI-StPaul\_Ward3; #CI-StPaul\_Ward4; #CI-StPaul\_Ward5; #CI-StPaul\_Ward6; #CI-StPaul\_Ward7

**Subject:** Support for Ordinance 17-29

Council Members:

I'm excited about the proposed ordinance that would require businesses to provide food packaging for carry out that is either reusable, recyclable, or compostable and ask that you will support this ordinance. I'm unable to attend the public hearing this evening.

I've been composting at home for over a year now thanks to the handy Mac Grove organics recycling drop-off site not far from where I live in Highland. Composting has made me much more aware of the packaging for what I buy, whether it's from the grocery store or a restaurant. My downtown St. Paul office recently added organics stations in all of our trash/recycling bins throughout the office. I frequently go out for lunch in downtown St. Paul, and I cringe when I get styrofoam containers from some of the skyway restaurants and have stopped going to those places as much because I can't recycle their containers. Other businesses in St. Paul have made the move to these types of containers, and at least one, Salut, found its garbage bill went down when they started composting. It's definitely doable!

St. Paul really needs this requirement to move us toward being a more sustainable city. Please approve this ordinance.

Thanks,

Heidi Schallberg

706 Miss Riv Blvd S #204

55116

Yang Yang (Ward 6 resident) called to say he is AGAINST changes in "To Go" packaging.

Jennifer (Ward 6 resident on McAfee Street) is FOR changes in TO GO packaging.

