

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Andy Hattala

**Date Submitted:** 04/21/2021 01:04 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0064

**Comments for Public Posting:** According to the World Economic Forum, 40 billion plastic utensils are discarded annually. While a minor step, the utensil opt-in policy will reduce the amount of unneeded and useless utensils delivered and therefore, discarded. Residents and employees already have reusable utensils at their disposal in their respective homes and places of work. Therefore, the burden placed upon consumers/citizens is negligible if non-existent. The measure prevents the automatic and unnecessary generation of waste. This policy will mandate as well as potentially engender more sustainable and conscious consumption practices. In order to reduce waste, particularly plastic waste, and engender a zero waste society, large and small scale changes are necessary. This is one small policy and behavioral change that can and must be taken to address the waste crisis. That being said, public education regarding the waste crisis and sustainable practices as well as more significant actions are needed beyond this measure. [As the Co-chair of the Climate Reality Project Los Angeles Chapter and writing on its behalf], The Climate Reality Project Los Angeles Chapter fully supports this action and further zero waste initiatives.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Brady Bradshaw

**Date Submitted:** 04/21/2021 09:55 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0064

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear President Nury Martinez and Honorable Councilmembers, On behalf of more than 29.000 members and supporters in the Los Angeles area, Oceana is pleased to support the Foodware Accessories Upon Request Ordinance to reduce the harmful environmental, health and economic impacts of unnecessary single-use plastics. As the largest international advocacy organization dedicated solely to ocean conservation, Oceana works to advance science-based policies at the national, state and local level that will restore the ocean's abundance and biodiversity. Thirty-three billion pounds of plastic enter the world's marine environments every year, devastating our shared ocean and coastal ecosystems. Most plastic does not go away, but instead breaks up into smaller pieces that can starve or choke marine animals. Plastic waste appears to have reached every corner of the Earth, having been detected in melting Arctic sea ice and at the deepest point of the ocean floor. , Plastic also poses significant risks to human health and our quality of life. A recent study estimated that an average person could be ingesting approximately 5 grams of plastic every week — the equivalent of one credit card. Microplastics have been discovered in various food products, from drinking water and salt to honey and beer. , , Communities shoulder the enormous financial burden of plastic waste's cleanup and disposal costs. Local jurisdictions in California spend \$420 million annually in efforts to clean up and prevent plastic and other waste from entering oceans and waterways. The Foodware Accessories Upon Request Ordinance would require restaurants and other food service providers to supply disposable foodware accessories only upon the request of the customer. Currently, single-use accessories — including utensils, straws and condiment packages — are given to customers who order meals for takeout or delivery. A majority of these single-use items cannot be recycled and instead add to the plastics crisis polluting our oceans, rivers and cities. Food service providers and online ordering platforms should provide no single-use accessories for orders unless a customer specifically asks for them. We thank Councilmembers Paul Koretz and Paul Krekorian for their leadership on this important action to reduce unnecessary single-use plastic. The time to take action on the plastics crisis is now. We urge the council to support the

Foodware Accessories Upon Request Ordinance. Sincerely, Brady  
Bradshaw Southern California Field Representative Sources cited  
attached

April 21, 2021

Los Angeles City Council  
200 N Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**RE: Foodware Accessories Upon Request Ordinance - Support**

Dear President Nury Martinez and Honorable Councilmembers,

On behalf of more than 29,000 members and supporters in the Los Angeles area, Oceana is pleased to support the Foodware Accessories Upon Request Ordinance to reduce the harmful environmental, health and economic impacts of unnecessary single-use plastics. As the largest international advocacy organization dedicated solely to ocean conservation, Oceana works to advance science-based policies at the national, state and local level that will restore the ocean's abundance and biodiversity.

Thirty-three billion pounds of plastic enter the world's marine environments every year, devastating our shared ocean and coastal ecosystems.<sup>i</sup> Most plastic does not go away, but instead breaks up into smaller pieces that can starve or choke marine animals. Plastic waste appears to have reached every corner of the Earth, having been detected in melting Arctic sea ice and at the deepest point of the ocean floor.<sup>ii,iii</sup>

Plastic also poses significant risks to human health and our quality of life. A recent study estimated that an average person could be ingesting approximately 5 grams of plastic every week — the equivalent of one credit card.<sup>iv</sup> Microplastics have been discovered in various food products, from drinking water and salt to honey and beer.<sup>v,vi,vii</sup> Communities shoulder the enormous financial burden of plastic waste's cleanup and disposal costs. Local jurisdictions in California spend \$420 million annually in efforts to clean up and prevent plastic and other waste from entering oceans and waterways.<sup>viii</sup>

The Foodware Accessories Upon Request Ordinance would require restaurants and other food service providers to supply disposable foodware accessories only upon the request of the customer. Currently, single-use accessories — including utensils, straws and condiment packages — are given to customers who order meals for takeout or delivery. A majority of these single-use items cannot be recycled and instead add to the plastics crisis polluting our oceans, rivers and cities. Food service providers and online ordering platforms should provide no single-use accessories for orders unless a customer specifically asks for them.

We thank Councilmembers Paul Koretz and Paul Krekorian for their leadership on this important action to reduce unnecessary single-use plastic.

The time to take action on the plastics crisis is now. We urge the council to support the Foodware Accessories Upon Request Ordinance.

Sincerely,

Brady Bradshaw  
Southern California Field Representative

---

<sup>i</sup> van Sebille, E., Wilcox, C., Lebreton, L., et al. (2015) A global inventory of small floating plastic debris. *Environmental Research Letters*.

<sup>ii</sup> Peeken I, Primpke S, Beyer B, et al. (2018) Arctic sea ice is an important temporal sink and means of transport for microplastic. *Nature Communications* 9. doi: 10.1038/s41467018-03825-5

<sup>iii</sup> Chiba S, Saito H, Fletcher R, et al. (2018) Human footprint in the abyss: 30 year records of deep-sea plastic debris. *Marine Policy* 96: 204-212. doi: 10.1016/j.marpol.2018.03.022

<sup>iv</sup> Dalberg Advisors and The University of Newcastle, Australia (2019) No Plastic in Nature: Assessing Plastic Ingestion from Nature to People. World Wildlife Fund For Nature. 9p.

<sup>v</sup> Liebezeit G and Liebezeit E (2014) Synthetic particles as contaminants in German beers. *Food Additives & Contaminants: Part A* 31: 1574-1578. doi: 10.1080/19440049.2014.945099

<sup>vi</sup> Liebezeit G and Liebezeit E (2013) Non-pollen particulates in honey and sugar. *Food Additives & Contaminants: Part A* 30: 2136-2140. doi: 10.1080/19440049.2013.843025

<sup>vii</sup> Karami A, Golieskardi A, Choo CK, et al. (2017) The presence of microplastics in commercial salts from different countries. *Scientific Reports* 7. doi: 10.1038/srep46173

<sup>viii</sup> Kier Associates (2013) Waste in Our Water: The Annual Cost to California Communities of Reducing Litter That Pollutes Our Waterways. Natural Resources Defense Council. 56p.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Emily Parker on behalf of Delmy's Pupusas  
**Date Submitted:** 04/21/2021 09:56 AM  
**Council File No:** 21-0064  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Please see the attached support letter from local restaurant Delmy's Pupusas (submitted with permission from the signatory).

April 21, 2021

Los Angeles City Council  
200 N Spring St  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**RE: Vote YES on Foodware Accessories Upon Request Ordinance**

Dear Mayor Garcetti and City Councilmembers/Honorable Supervisors:

As a local restaurant, I am concerned about the increasing distribution and associated costs of largely wasted disposable foodware accessories. We support a *foodware accessories upon request ordinance* and urge you to vote in favor.

The COVID-19 pandemic has stressed our businesses to the brink; nearly [100 restaurants in the LA region have closed](#) permanently due to the pandemic, and many are struggling to keep their doors open. Due to mandates intermittently prohibiting dine-in operations, restaurants are relying primarily upon takeout and delivery to survive.

Providing disposable accessories is the default at this time, and it is costing restaurants like ours [\\$19 billion every year](#) across the United States. This is hugely wasteful, as most take-out and delivery meals go to homes and offices already stocked with reusable items. When restaurants provide accessories only upon request, it saves us money on upfront inventory costs and it also saves money that Los Angeles taxpayers, including ourselves, spend on waste-management and litter cleanup.

In 2018, more than 36 billion disposable utensils were distributed to restaurant patrons in the United States. This number has skyrocketed during the pandemic. Profit margins are painfully slim for our businesses right now, the restaurant industry being one of the most hard-hit and devastated by this pandemic. Changing consumer expectations and behavior through mandates will ease our financial burden, cut waste, and help increase adoption of reusable alternatives. As representatives of our community and industry, we ask you to vote to support our businesses and help us save money with this policy.

**I strongly support a *foodware accessories upon request ordinance* and urge you to pass this legislation to protect our businesses and environment. It's time to #SkipTheStuff!**

Sincerely,  
Ruth Sandoval  
Delmy's Pupusas

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Emily Parker on behalf of Little Pine  
**Date Submitted:** 04/21/2021 09:57 AM  
**Council File No:** 21-0064  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Please see the attached support letter from local restaurant Little Pine (submitted with permission from signatory).



April 21, 2021

Los Angeles City Council  
200 N Spring St  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**RE: Vote YES on Foodware Accessories Upon Request Ordinance**

Dear Mayor Garcetti and City Councilmembers/Honorable Supervisors:

As a local restaurant, I am concerned about the increasing distribution and associated costs of largely wasted disposable foodware accessories. We support a *foodware accessories upon request ordinance* and urge you to vote in favor.

The COVID-19 pandemic has stressed our businesses to the brink; nearly [100 restaurants in the LA region have closed](#) permanently due to the pandemic, and many are struggling to keep their doors open. Due to mandates intermittently prohibiting dine-in operations, restaurants are relying primarily upon takeout and delivery to survive.

Providing disposable accessories is the default at this time, and it is costing restaurants like ours [\\$19 billion every year](#) across the United States. This is hugely wasteful, as most take-out and delivery meals go to homes and offices already stocked with reusable items. When restaurants provide accessories only upon request, it saves us money on upfront inventory costs and it also saves money that Los Angeles taxpayers, including ourselves, spend on waste-management and litter cleanup.

In 2018, more than 36 billion disposable utensils were distributed to restaurant patrons in the United States. This number has skyrocketed during the pandemic. Profit margins are painfully slim for our businesses right now, the restaurant industry being one of the most hard-hit and devastated by this pandemic. Changing consumer expectations and behavior through mandates will ease our financial burden, cut waste, and help increase adoption of reusable alternatives. As representatives of our community and industry, we ask you to vote to support our businesses and help us save money with this policy.

**I strongly support a *foodware accessories upon request ordinance* and urge you to pass this legislation to protect our businesses and environment. It's time to #SkipTheStuff!**

Sincerely,  
Josh Richards  
Little Pine