

# SONOMA COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE DISTRICT

## *Resolution to Reduce Single-Use Plastic Waste*

RESOLUTION NUMBER \_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, the global production, transportation, and disposal of single-use plastics cause a significant annual carbon footprint of approximately 167,570 pounds of greenhouse gases; plastics break down into harmful micro-plastics rather than decomposing into common compounds; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of single-use materials will help the District succeed in achieving the goals of: 90% landfill diversion rate and 60% overall waste reduction by 2030; and switching to compostable single-use materials will create a significant cost savings for the District as compost hauling is free of charge; and

WHEREAS, the District provides filtered water filling stations and often distributes reusable water bottles; and guidelines and training on waste free events and activities have been provided to staff for District-sponsored events; and District food and beverage vendors have been testing the market viability of single-use aluminum cans and reusable metal bottles; and

WHEREAS, At least 73 colleges and universities have banned or are restricting the use of some or all single-use plastics, and the California State University and University of California systems have passed resolutions to ban single use plastics;

RESOLVED, that the Sonoma County Community College District establish purchasing practices that assure, to the maximum extent economically feasible, that the purchase of single-use plastics\* are eliminated for use in: District-sanctioned events, department events and functions, dining and café services, bookstores, and vending machines by August 1, 2023;

RESOLVED, that procurement, auxiliaries, and all relevant stakeholders will work with campus sustainability staff to assess and select the most sustainable alternatives. Purchase preference shall be given to:

- 1) reusable products, followed by
- 2) locally compostable products, followed by
- 3) recyclable products, followed by
- 4) plant-based plastics that are not yet accepted by the local compost hauler;

and that these stipulations will be added when negotiating future beverage contracts.

RESOLVED, that the District continue investing in the bottle filling infrastructure by installing bottle filling stations on all campuses and all buildings;

Votes supporting the foregoing resolution were passed by the following Santa Rosa Junior College Constituent Groups:

Sustainability Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Academic Senate \_\_\_\_\_

Student Government Assembly \_\_\_\_\_

Classified Senate \_\_\_\_\_

Board Of Trustees \_\_\_\_\_

All Faculty Association \_\_\_\_\_

Service Employees International Union \_\_\_\_\_

This Resolution is also supported by

Frank Chong, President of Santa Rosa Junior College \_\_\_\_\_

The foregoing resolution was introduced by Trustee \_\_\_\_\_, who moved its adoption, seconded by Trustee \_\_\_\_\_, and adopted on a roll call vote April \_\_\_\_, 2020, by the following vote:

Student Trustee – Daniel Pablo\*

Trustee Dorothy Battenfeld

Trustee Jordan Burns

Trustee Don Edgar

Trustee Maggie Fishman

Trustee Jeff Kunde

Trustee W. Terry Lindley

Trustee Mariana Martinez

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent/Abstaining:

\*Student Trustee – Advisory Vote

Secretary to the Board of Trustees

\*Eliminated items include single-use plastic:

- utensils
- straws
- drink bottles
- food containers
- lids
- stirrers
- bags
- tablecloths
- plastic-lined paper plates/bowls
- plastic-lined paper hot cups
- polystyrene (Styrofoam) containers
- coffee pods (eg Keurig pods)

Not eliminated items include:

- plastic-lined paper cold cups
- food wrappers (e.g. chip bags, candy bar wrappers)
- pallet wrap
- tetra packs (e.g. coconut water)
- plastic food containers (e.g. yogurt cups)
- medical/dental waste
- plastic waste bags