



DATE: April 12, 2021

AGENDA ITEM #3

TO: Environmental Commission
FROM: Emiko Ancheta, Staff Liaison
SUBJECT: Environmental Commission Work Plan

RECOMMENDATION:

Review and take action, as appropriate, on the 2020/21 Environmental Commission Work Plan

BACKGROUND

The Environmental Commission met in a Joint Meeting with the City Council on May 5, 2020 to review the Commission's 2019/20 Accomplishments and Draft 2020/21 Target areas and discussed issues and projects for the upcoming year. Based on this discussion, the targets were finalized, and the 2020/21 Work Plan was developed. The Targets and Work Plan are intended to focus the Commission's agenda items and will serve as a roadmap for projects and actions, as appropriate, during the 2020/21 year.

DISCUSSION

Environmental Commission Targets and resulting Work Plan for 2020/21 are:

1. Climate Action Plan
2. Water Conservation and Stormwater Management
3. Solid Waste Diversion
4. Community Outreach and Education

The Commission will review the targets, projects, and status updates at each of its monthly meetings and act appropriately.

ATTACHMENT:

- A. 2020/21 Targets and Work Plan
- B. National River Cleanup Day Volunteer Opportunity
- C. 2021-2022 Legislation Tracking
- D. SVCE Questions and Topics draft
- E. Reopen with Reuse Campaign

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

2020/21 Targets & Work Plan

April 12, 2021

Targets	Projects	Assignments	Target Date	City Priority related to	Status
Climate Action Plan	Building and Electric Vehicle Reach Codes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subcommittee -Don Weiden, Laura Teksler and Lei Yuan 	Council Approved Nov. 2020, CEC Approved Jan. 2021	CAP Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reach Code webinar held April 29, 2020 Reach Code webpage and FAQ updated July 2020 On October 27, 2020 Council waived further readings of the Reach Codes and directed staff to make modifications to the EV Infrastructure ordinance Reach Codes approved at the November 10, 2020 Council meeting On January 25, 2021, the CEC approved the Reach Code ordinances Reach Codes currently implemented and in effect
	Update of City's CAP (Climate Action and Adaptation Plan-CAAP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subcommittee- Don Weiden, Bruno Delagneau, Raashina Humayun to work with staff and consultant 	Monthly	CAP Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EC to work with staff and consultant to update the City's Climate Action Plan RFP for consultant released August 10, 2020 Contract agreement approved for CAAP consultant Kick-Off meeting with consultant, staff and EC subcommittee on January 14, 2021 Staff is working with the consultant on collecting data and documents Staff and subcommittee to update EC at regular commission meetings
Water Conservation & Stormwater Management	Green Infrastructure and Other Environmental Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist staff in implementation of the Green Infrastructure Plan and development of other Environmental Plans 	Monthly	Storm Water Regional Discharge Permit and other Environmental Related Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff made a presentation of the Green Stormwater Infrastructure Plan to the Environmental Commission on May 13, 2019 This was approved by City Council on July 9, 2019 Manny Hernandez presented IPM policy update to EC at the July 13, 2020 EC meeting City's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Policy update finalized August 14, 2020

Solid Waste Diversion	Solid Waste Disposal Contract	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subcommittee- Don Weiden, Laura Tekler and Bruno Delagneau 	Agreement executed April 2020	Solid Waste Disposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Amended and Restated Collection Service Agreement between the City of Los Altos and MTWS was executed on April 23, 2020 Staff to work with consultant to coordinate communication and public education MTWS presented to the EC March 8, 2021 EC to discuss methods for improving and increasing waste diversion rates
	Investigate initiatives on limiting single use plastics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subcommittee- Don Weiden, Laura Tekler and Bruno Delagneau 	Monthly	Recycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online and In-Person Survey of food & beverage establishments conducted Aug. 3 – Oct. 20, 2020 LAVA held Sustainability Webinar on Sept. 9, 2020 Draft ordinance presented at EC meetings of Sept. 14, 2020 and Oct. 12, 2020 Staff presented Food Service Ware ordinances (option 1 and 2) to Council on Nov. 10, 2020 Council decided to put ordinance adoption on hold due to COVID-19
Community Outreach & Education	Develop program in collaboration with the Los Altos History Museum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Education Fund held by LACF Subcommittee- David Klein, Laura Tekler and Lei Yuan 	June 2021	Public outreach and education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EC coordinates with History Museum for Apricot Stem Fair; EnviroThon Challenge held at the annual Apricot STEM Fair All City events cancelled/postponed due to COVID-19 Ed fund balance \$1,636.85 as of Jan. 13, 2021 A Subcommittee was established February 2021
	Update environmental measures on the City web site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Klein 	Ongoing	Public outreach and education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City's Public Information's Officer, Sonia Lee and staff will continue to update the City's website (including the Environmental webpage) as needed Reach Code, Planning, and Building webpages updated with implementation information Dashboard updated as of January 2021 Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) webpage created March 2021
—	Continue gas-powered leaf blower (GPLB) ban outreach and education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laura Tekler 	Ongoing	Public outreach and education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Linda Ziff gave an update on her team's efforts to educate about the GPLB at the March 9, 2020 EC meeting

	Continue anti-idling outreach and education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don Weiden 	Ongoing	Public outreach and education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On June 10, 2019, the Los Altos HS Survey Results were presented • The EC has been supporting the efforts of Greentown Los Altos
	Continue to support SVCEA community outreach and education		Ongoing	Public outreach and education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reach Code webinar was held April 29, 2020
	Assist staff with various outreach and education efforts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Action Plan • Water Conservation • Storm Water Management • Solid Waste Diversion • Urban Forest / Trees • Downtown Vision 		Public outreach and education	

NATIONAL RIVER CLEANUP

YOU ARE THE SOLUTION TO WATER POLLUTION!



EVERY SATURDAY
 IN MAY 2021
 (MAY 1, 8, 15, 22, 29)
 9 A.M. - 12 P.M.

You're invited to help clean up our creeks and waterways in your neighborhood or local natural areas.

PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING!
 YOU CAN REGISTER AT:

WWW.CLEANACREEK.ORG
 VOLUNTEER@VALLEYWATER.ORG
 #NRCD2021



2021-2022 Legislation Tracking Sheet					Revised: 4/6/2021	
Bill Information						
Bill	Author	Name	Description	Status	Status Date	
SB-240	Eggman	Food donation tax credit	This bill extends the sunset for the existing "Farm to Food Bank" tax credit for fresh produce and other raw agricultural products and processed foods to Jan. 1, 2027. The bill would extend the requirement of the reports until January 1, 2026.	Passed by Committee on Government & Finance (Ayes 5. Noes 0). Re-referred to Appropriations Committee. Set for hearing at Appropriations Committee on April 19 at 9am	4/5/2021	
AB-1200	Ting	Plant-based food packaging: cookware: hazardous chemicals	This bill would prohibit, beginning January 1, 2023, any person from distributing, selling, or offering for sale in the state any food packaging that contains intentionally added perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances or PFAS, as defined. The bill would require a manufacturer to use the least toxic alternative when replacing PFAS chemicals. The bill would define "food packaging," in part, to mean a nondurable package, packaging component, or food service ware that is comprised, in substantial part, of paper, paperboard, or other materials originally derived from plant fibers.	Read second time and amended. Re-referred to committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials. Set for hearing on April 7 at 9am	4/5/2021	
AB-1276	Carillo	Single-use food accessories and serviceware	This bill would prohibit a food facility or a third-party food delivery platform, as specified, from providing any single-use food accessories, as defined, to consumers unless requested by the consumer and, commencing on January 1, 2023, would prohibit a full-service restaurant that has adequate dishwashing capacity to sanitize reusable service ware from providing single-use service ware to consumers except under specified conditions. The bill would require enforcement of these prohibitions by officers of an agency that the bill would require each city, county, or city and county governing body to select on or before June 1, 2022. The bill would specify that the first and 2nd violations of the prohibitions result in a notice of violation, and any subsequent violation is an infraction punishable by a fine of \$100 for each day in violation, but not to exceed an annual total of \$1000.	Passed as amended by Committee on Natural Resources (Ayes 8. Noes 0). Re-referred to Appropriations Committee. Read second time and amended.	4/5/2021	
AB-1201	Ting	Solid waste: plastic products: labeling: compostability and biodegradability	This bill would prohibit a person from selling a plastic product that is labeled with the term "compostable," "home compostable," or "soil biodegradable" unless the product meets specified standards and satisfies specified criteria. The bill would authorize the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery to adopt regulations for plastic product labeling to ensure that plastic products labeled "compostable" or "home compostable" are clearly distinguishable from noncompostable products upon quick inspection by consumers and solid waste processing facilities.	Passed as amended by Committee on Natural Resources (Ayes 10. Noes 0). Re-referred to Appropriations Committee	4/5/2021	
AB-1086	Aguiar-Curry	Organic waste implementation strategy	This bill would require the Natural Resources Agency, in coordination with specified state agencies, and in consultation with stakeholders and relevant permitting agencies, to prepare and submit to the Legislature, by January 1, 2023, a report that provides an implementation strategy to achieve the state's organic waste, and related climate change and air quality, mandates, goals, and targets. The bill would authorize the Natural Resources Agency to, by July 1, 2022, contract with outside entities, including the California Council on Science and Technology and the University of California, to prepare the report. The bill would require the implementation strategy to include, among other things, recommendations on policy and funding support for the beneficial reuse of organic waste.	Passed as amended by Committee on Natural Resources (Ayes 10. Noes 0). Re-referred to Appropriations Committee	4/5/2021	
AJR-4	Cristina Garcia	Mixed plastic waste exports	This resolution urges the United States federal government to ratify the Basel Convention, which is an international treaty that regulates the movement of hazardous waste across international borders, including mixed plastic waste.	Passed by committee on Natural Resources (Ayes 9. Noes 0.). Floor result: Adopted and to Senate (Ayes 60. Noes 0.)	4/5/2021	

SB-289	Newman	Recycling: batteries & battery-embedded products	This bill would make the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Act of 2006 and the Cell Phone Recycling Act of 2004 inoperative as of June 30, 2025, and would repeal those acts as of January 1, 2026. The bill would enact the Battery and Battery-Embedded Product Recycling and Fire Risk Reduction Act of 2021, which would require producers, as defined, either individually or through the creation of one or more stewardship organizations, to establish a stewardship program for batteries and battery-embedded products. The bill would require a stewardship organization or producer, on or before June 30, 2024, to submit to the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery a stewardship plan for the collection, transportation, and recycling, and the safe and proper management, of batteries or battery-embedded products in the state.	Re-referred to Com. on Environmental Quality and Judiciary. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Environmental Quality committee. Set for hearing at Environmental Quality committee on April 12 at 9am.	4/5/2021
SB-38	Wieckowski	Beverage Container Recycling Act of 2021	Would require distributors of beverage containers in the state to form a beverage container stewardship organization. The organization would be required to develop and submit to CalRecycle a plan, annual report, and budget for the recovery and recycling of empty beverage containers in the state similar to that described in the Used Mattress Recovery and Recycling Act. The bill would require the organization to establish a stewardship fee, to be paid by distributor members of the organization, to assist in covering the costs of implementing the beverage container stewardship program. The bill would require the organization to reimburse CalRecycle for CalRecycle's costs of enforcing the program.	Passed as amended by Committee on Environmental Quality (Ayes 5. Noes 2) on 3/15. Placed on Appropriations committee suspense file (Ayes 7. Noes 0)	4/5/2021
AB-1371	Friedman	Recycling: packaging and carryout bags	This bill would prohibit an online retailer that sells or offers for sale and delivers purchased products in or into the state from using single-use plastic packaging that consists of shipping envelopes, cushioning, or void fill to package or transport the products, on and after January 1, 2023, for large online retailers and on and after January 1, 2025, for small online retailers. The bill would prohibit a manufacturer, retailer, producer, or other distributor that sells or offers for sale and delivers purchased products in or into the state from using expanded polystyrene packaging to package or transport the products. The bill would require an online retailer that has at least one physical location in the state with in-person sales to provide at all physical locations in the state with in-person sales a take back container for plastic film and expanded polystyrene packaging that provides an opportunity for a customer to return to the location clean plastic film and expanded polystyrene packaging. The bill would require an online retailer that provides lockers for the secure pickup of purchased products at a store to provide a collection bin at the store near the lockers for the purpose of collecting and recycling plastic film and expanded polystyrene packaging. The bill would require an online retailer that delivers purchased products to customers in this state to have an at-delivery recycling program that provides for the pickup at the time of delivery of plastic film and expanded polystyrene packaging for products previously purchased from the online retailer, at no cost to the customer. This bill would establish the At-Store Recycling Program. The bill would require an operator of a store to establish an at-store recycling program that provides customers the opportunity to return clean plastic carryout bags and clean durable plastic bags to the store. The bill would require a plastic carryout bag or a durable plastic bag provided by a store to have specified information printed or displayed on the bag, and would require the placement of a collection bin in each store that is visible and easily accessible to the consumer. The bill would require a store to maintain records describing the collection, transport, and recycling of plastic bags pursuant to these provisions for 3 years and to make the records available to the department and the local jurisdiction, upon request.	Read second time and amended. Re-referred to committee on Natural Resources. Set for hearing at Asm Natural Resources committee on April 14 at 9am	3/30/2021
AB-1311	Wood	Recycling: beverage containers: certified recycling centers	This bill would require, on or before July 1, 2022, CalRecycle to develop and implement a process pursuant to which a certified recycling center can annually apply to the department for authorization to operate on an alternative schedule. The bill would require the department to include in its process, among other components, criteria the department shall use to authorize a certified recycling center to operate on an alternative schedule. The bill would provide that, until July 1, 2022, a certified recycling center or location that is not a reverse vending machine is additionally "open for business" if the certified recycling center or location receives written authorization from the department to operate pursuant to an appointment system during the hours of operation and the certified recycling center or location meets specified requirements. The bill would require the department to authorize a certified recycling center or location to operate pursuant to an appointment system only if the department determines that high customer demand, weather, or public health and safety concerns warrant the implementation of an appointment system at the certified recycling center or location, and the certified recycling center or location posts certain information.	Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on Natural Resources. Set for hearing on April 14 at 9am	3/30/2021

AB-332	Quirk	Hazardous waste: treated wood waste: management standards	This bill will reinstate the Alternative Management Standards for Treated Wood Waste and continue that program until a date yet to be determined. These provisions were repealed as of January 1, 2021. This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.	Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials. Set for hearing on April 7 at 9am	3/26/2021
AB-478	Ting	Solid waste: thermoform plastic containers: postconsumer recycled plastic	This bill, on and after January 1, 2024, would require the total thermoform plastic containers, as defined, sold by a producer, as defined, in the state to contain, on average, specified amounts of postconsumer recycled plastic, as defined, per year pursuant to a tiered plan that would require the total thermoform plastic containers to contain, on average, no less than 30% postconsumer recycled plastic per year on and after January 1, 2030. The bill would impose annual administrative penalties in an unspecified amount, calculated as prescribed, on a producer for violating these requirements. The bill would require collected administrative penalties to be deposited into the Recycling Enhancement Penalty Account, which the bill would create. The bill would make moneys in the penalty account available only upon appropriation by the Legislature. The bill would require, on or before March 1 of each year, a producer to report to the department, under penalty of perjury, the amount in pounds and by resin type of virgin plastic and postconsumer recycled plastic used to manufacture the thermoform plastic containers sold or offered for sale in the state in the previous calendar year.	Referred to Committees on Natural Resources and Judiciary. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on Natural Resources. Set for hearing at Natural Resources committee on April 14 at 9am	3/25/2021
AB-881	Gonzalez, Friedman, Cristina Garcia	Mixed plastic waste exports	AB 881 will close an existing loophole in California law that allows mixed plastic exports to be counted as recycling regardless of their ultimate destination, which is often overseas landfills, incinerators or waterways. This bill will ensure that only materials that are truly being recycled get counted towards state and local recycling goals. These provisions would not apply to exports to Canada or Mexico pursuant to a trade agreement.	Passed by Committee on Natural Resources (Ayes 11. Noes 0). Re-referred to Appropriations Committee	3/25/2021
SB-244	Archuleta	Lithium-ion batteries: illegal disposal: fire prevention	This bill would prohibit a person from knowingly disposing of a lithium-ion battery in a container or receptacle that is intended for the collection of solid waste or recyclable materials, unless the container or receptacle is designated for the collection of batteries for recycling. The bill would require CalRecycle, on or before July 1, 2024, and in consultation with the Department of Toxic Substances Control, to develop a guidance document relating to the proper handling and disposal of lithium-ion batteries and products that contain lithium-ion batteries. The bill would require the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, before January 1, 2023, in consultation with relevant state agencies and stakeholders, to develop a model protocol and training that identifies best practices for the detection, safe handling, and suppression of fires that originate from discarded lithium-ion batteries or products that contain lithium-ion batteries on or in solid waste or recycling collection vehicles, transfer or processing stations, or disposal facilities.	Passed by Environmental Quality committee and re-referred to committee on Natural Resources and Water with recommendation: to consent calendar (Ayes 7. Noes 0). Set for hearing at Natural Resources and Water committee on April 27 at 9am.	3/25/2021
AB-504	McCarty	Solid waste: commercial and organic waste: recycling bins	This bill would, for a theme park, amusement park, water park, resort or entertainment complex, zoo, attraction, or similar facility, restrict the requirement to provide customers with a recycling bin or container to permanent, nonmobile food service facilities with dedicated seating areas that are not full-service restaurants. The bill would authorize those facilities, instead of providing an organic recycling bin or container, to implement a process for recycling organic waste that yields results comparable to or greater in volume and quality to results attained by providing an organic waste recycling bin or container. The bill would also make other revisions to these provisions, including revising the definition of "full-service restaurant," deleting obsolete provisions, and making conforming changes.	Passed by Committee on Natural Resources (Ayes 11. Noes 0). Re-referred to Appropriations Committee with recommendation: to consent calendar.	3/25/2021
AB-318	Levine	Hazardous waste: classification: exclusions: green waste	This bill would exclude from classification as a hazardous waste green waste, that has not been contaminated by a chemical that the department determines is hazardous or toxic during the production, harvest, or processing stage. The bill would require that green waste to be disposed of in a permitted class I, II, or III disposal unit or in a compostable materials handling operation. Because disposal of green waste in violation of this requirement would be a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.	Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials. Set for hearing on April 21 at 9am	3/25/2021

AB-1454	Bloom	The California Beverage Container and Litter Reduction Act	This bill aims to modernize and increase funding for the State's Beverage Container Recycling infrastructure, including targeted Processing Payment increases for centers, expanded Handling Fee eligibility, Quality Incentives for Curbside, and financing to help open new centers in unserved areas.	Read second time and amended. Re-referred to committee on Natural Resources. Set for hearing at Asm Natural Resources committee on April 14 at 9am	3/25/2021
SB-605	Eggman	Medical Device Right-to-Repair Act	SB 605, also known as the Medical Device Right to Repair Act, would require powered medical equipment manufacturers to provide parts and manuals for repair to authorized repair providers.	Referred to Committees on Health and Judiciary. Set for hearing at Senate Health committee on April 14 at 9am	3/25/2021
AB-734	Eduardo Garcia	Organic waste: reduction goals: edible food	Existing law requires CalRecycle, in consultation with the state board, to adopt regulations to reduce organic waste in landfills, and requires the regulations to include requirements intended to meet the goal that not less than 20% of edible food that is currently disposed of is recovered for human consumption by 2025. This bill would revise that goal by authorizing recovery for animal or livestock consumption, in addition to recovery for human consumption, in order to recover, by 2025, not less than 20% of edible food that is disposed of as of January 1, 2022.	Read second time and amended. Re-referred to committee on Natural Resources.	3/25/2021
AB-842	Cristina Garcia	California Circular Economy and Plastic Pollution Reduction Act	This bill would enact the California Circular Economy and Plastic Pollution Reduction Act, which would require producers, retailers, and wholesalers of single-use packaging, and single-use products made partially or entirely of plastic to form or join a stewardship organization. The organization would be required to develop, finance, and implement a convenient and cost-effective program to reach a 75% recycling rate for single-use plastic packaging and products by 2032 and annually, thereafter. Beginning January 1, 2035, this bill would require all single-use packaging and single-use products sold, offered for sale, distributed, or imported in or into the state to include 75 percent post-consumer recycled content. This bill would require CalRecycle, no later than July 1, 2022, to post a list of packaging categories, as defined, and product categories, as defined, for single-use packaging and single-use products that are easily recyclable or easily compostable, hard to recycle or hard to compost, or nonrecyclable or noncompostable, and specifies the types of plastics to be included on the initial list posted by the department. The bill would require the department to develop criteria to determine if single-use packaging and single-use products are easily recyclable or easily compostable, hard to recycle or hard to compost, or nonrecyclable or noncompostable. Additionally, the bill establishes methods of incentivizing design for recyclability and source reduction. Beginning in 2025, producers would begin paying per-unit fees for packaging, with the amount assessed based on the recyclability of that product. Hard-to-recycle packaging would be assessed a 1-cent fee for each item, and non-recyclable packaging would see a 2-cent fee.	Read second time and amended. Re-referred to committee on Natural Resources	3/23/2021

AB-683	Grayson	Recycling: procurement	<p>Existing law relating to public contracting establishes the State Agency Buy Recycled Campaign (SABRC), which requires state agencies to ensure specific percentages of reportable purchases from prescribed product categories to be recycled products. Existing law requires each state agency, if fitness and quality are equal, to purchase recycled products instead of nonrecycled products whenever recycled products are available at the same or a lesser total cost than nonrecycled products. Existing law establishes minimum content requirements for recycled products. Existing law requires a state agency to report annually to the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery its progress in meeting the recycled product purchasing requirements using a SABRC report format. Existing law requires the Department of General Services (DGS), if a requirement has not been met, in consultation with the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, to review purchasing policies and make recommendations for immediate revisions to ensure that the recycled product purchasing requirements are met.</p> <p>This bill would authorize the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, on or after January 1, 2022, to add additional products based on criteria selected by the Department of General Services.</p> <p>Existing law requires the Legislature, in the procurement and purchase of prescribed materials, goods, and supplies, or products containing recycled resources, as prescribed, to meet specified content requirements.</p> <p>This bill would authorize the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, on or after January 1, 2022, to add additional products based on criteria selected by the Department of General Services.</p>	Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Committee on Accountability & Administrative Review	3/22/2021
SB-343	Allen	Environmental advertizing: recycling symbol	Prohibits a person from offering for sale, selling, distributing, or importing into the state any product or packaging using a deceptive or misleading claim about its recyclability, including the display of a chasing arrows symbol or any other symbol or statement indicating recyclability, unless the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) has determined the product or packaging is recyclable.	Passed as amended by Senate Environmental Quality committee (Ayes 5. Noes 0). Set for hearing at Judiciary committee on April 6 at 1:30pm	3/22/2021

2021-2022 Legislation Tracking Sheet - Federal Bills					Revised: 3/25/2021	
Bill Information						
Bill	Author	Name	Description	Status	Status Date	
S. 984	Sen. Merkley, Jeff	Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act	Calls for EPR programs for packaging and a nationwide 10-cent beverage container deposit program. It aims to ban single-use plastic bags and expanded polystyrene foodservice containers, and discourage single-use plastic utensils and straws. Mandatory post-consumer recycled content minimums would also gradually increase from 25% by 2025 to 80% in 2040. The bill also calls for more efforts to promote reusable and refillable containers, and to reduce microplastic pollution through pilot programs and other research.	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance	3/25/2021	
S. 923	Sen. Portman, Rob	Recycling Enhancements to Collection and Yield through Consumer Learning and Education (RECYCLE) Act of 2021	The bipartisan bill focuses primarily on improving the effectiveness of residential recycling programs through public education and outreach. It would authorize up to \$15 million per year in grants over five years, through 2026, to states, tribes, nonprofits and public/private partnerships. The bill would task the U.S. EPA with developing a toolkit to boost recycling participation and reduce contamination. It would also require the EPA to more frequently review and revise its Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines, which designate products containing recycled materials and give recommendations for federal agencies purchasing these products.	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.	3/23/2021	
H.R. 1512	Rep. Pallone, Frank	Climate Leadership and Environmental Action for our Nation's (CLEAN) Future Act	Includes measures such as establishing post-consumer recycled content standards for beverage containers and some other products, as well as implement a national bottle deposit program, standardizing recycling labels and creating multiple grant programs (\$150 million for zero waste initiatives and \$250 million for landfill diversion. It would also allocate \$15 million for recycling and waste reduction education grants and \$100 million for composting or anaerobic digestion projects).	Introduced on 3/2 and referred to multiple committees, including House Committee on Energy and Commerce	3/3/2021	

SVCE Questions and Topics

Discuss the potential questions and topics for Silicon Valley Clean Energy (SVCE) prior to the May 2021 presentation.

- How and from where do we source our electricity?
- What is the current split between the various renewables?
- What is the mix going to be in 5 to 10 years from now?
- Will the production location change (more or less in California or other states for example)
- Where is the energy coming from at night or when wind production is low or down?
- Do we still use fossil fuel generated energy to compensate for that (and what types).
 - How much of total electricity used is fossil fuel generated?
- Do we have plans to increase storage, to limit fossil fuel used in down periods?
 - What and how much?
- Are there any significant renewable plans on the horizon? (i.e. off-shore wind farms, large solar production plants, new dams)
- What is the yearly increase in electricity needs (current and projected)?
 - How do we plan to keep up with the demand?
- Please provide any information available to SVCE on CA Title 24 and Building Code updates that CA is currently developing and what the updates may contain on Building Electrification.
- Please explain efforts and schedule for SVCE assistance to member agencies in developing Reach Codes that respond to the Title 24 and Building Code updates.
- Please explain any informational programs or incentives SVCE has or is developing for replacing gas water and space heating equipment with electric heat pumps upon building/residence remodeling or burnout.
- Please share a general update on SVCE's community benefit programs.
 - How much traction are the rebate programs are getting? (i.e. heat pumps)
 - Can you share metrics on the programs?

Reopen with Reuse Campaign

We are calling on our beloved restaurants, festivals, and national parks (++ all foodservice venues/events) to reopen with nontoxic reuse. We know that foodservice businesses like restaurants already require strict food safety standards to make sure reusables are sanitized and safe!

As concerned global consumers, we trust the data that shows reusable items are safe for use even during COVID, and we WANT to be served in reusables and NEED a systemic shift towards nontoxic reusables to achieve a sustainable future!

Single-use plastics have been falsely promoted as a way to avoid COVID transmission in restaurants.

More than 130 public health and medical experts from 20 countries around the world signed a statement (also see here) endorsing the safety of reusables during the pandemic, using principles of basic hygiene.

"The U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention continue to underscore that there is no credible evidence of food or food packaging associated with or as a likely source of viral transmission,"

- USDA Secretary Kevin Shea and Acting FDA Commissioner Dr. Janet Woodcock, February 2021

Our single-use plastics crisis has reached a critical tipping point. More than **380 million tons of plastic** are produced every year. The average person consumes a **credit card's worth of microplastic** every week! Without action to reduce consumption, the quantity of plastics production is set to **double in the next 20 years**. Now is the time to take action.

Spoiler: the real problem isn't just single-use plastic, **it's "single-use" itself**. **Disposable foodware contains toxic chemicals**. Hundreds of health-threatening chemicals are found in all types of disposable foodware (paper, plastic, fiber). **These chemicals can leach into food and beverages, and have been linked to cancer as well as reproductive and developmental harm**. **We stand behind establishments that choose non-toxic, reusable options**.

Reuse is the best choice for a triple bottom line - profit, planet, and people. Reusables are **85% more climate friendly** than disposables. Choosing reusables is getting easier as professional reuse and dishwashing services are popping up around the world. **Reusables can save restaurants between \$3,000 - \$21,000 every year**. Globally **replacing just 20% of single-use plastic packaging with reusable alternatives offers an opportunity worth at least \$10 billion** - critical savings that can be passed along to support food service workers.

Sign the petition: <https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/reopen-with-reuse/>