

## **Proposed resolution on the use of biodegradable food service products at City of Venice events**

The following policy shall be put into place for all regular and special events which take place on City of Venice property (parks, airport grounds, beaches, and streets) and applies to food service items such as plates, trays, beverage cups, eating utensils, straws, take-out containers, and similar items:

1. Only plant based biodegradable or compostable food service items may be used by food vendors. Biodegradable is defined as a product which will degrade 100% in a composting device or landfill within 5 years. Such products are made from paper, cardboard, starch, sugar cane, and include these materials coated with PLA (polylactic acid). In addition, all bags or containers used to collect these items must also be biodegradable to the same standard.
2. If a food vendor chooses to use non-biodegradable food service items, such as those made of petrochemical based plastic (including Styrofoam brand polystyrene foam, PETE, HDPE, LDPE, PP, and PS), metal, glass, or aluminum, the vendor must present a plan to collect 90% of these items for washing, sanitizing, and reuse. Only 10% may go to a landfill. Washing and sanitizing is defined as a commercial food service washing process with hot water and detergent. Approval of the plan by the City Manager is required to be filed 14 days or more in advance of the event.
3. If supply constraints (but not higher pricing) prevent a vendor from obtaining sufficient stock of biodegradable food service items for the event, then a 1-time waiver can be applied for through the City Manager.
4. This policy will go into effect within 180 days of approval by City Council.