



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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FESIA A. DAVENPORT
Chief Executive Officer

July 13, 2022

To: Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L Solis
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: Fesia A. Davenport
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
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First District

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Second District

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Third District

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Fifth District

SINGLE USE PLASTICS ORDINANCE COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE (ITEM NO. 7, AGENDA OF APRIL 5, 2022)

On April 5, 2022, the Board of Supervisors (Board) adopted a motion (Motion) directing the Chief Executive Officer in coordination with the Chief Sustainability Office (CSO), Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (DCBA), and Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) to report back on the feasibility of creating programs, such as mini-grants, to support small businesses in complying with the Single-Use Plastics Ordinance (Ordinance) requirements and with transitioning to compostable or recyclable foodservice ware. The Chief Executive Officer was also to include possible funding streams for a program and assess the feasibility of providing financial assistance and technical resources to small businesses that manufacture products that meet the requirements of the Ordinance.

Grant Program for Ordinance Compliance and Funding Streams

The CSO is currently leading a workgroup consisting of representatives from Chief Executive Office (CEO), DCBA, DEO, Public Works (PW), Department of Public Health (DPH), and Internal Services Department (ISD). The workgroup is coordinating and collaborating on all efforts related to the directives of the Motion in assisting businesses in becoming compliant with the Ordinance, which takes effect in May 2023. As part of this workgroup, the CEO has discussed the creation of a mini-grant program to assist small businesses with responding to the Ordinance.

From these discussions, the DEO expressed it has the knowledge and resources to create and administer a program that offers grants to small businesses (i.e., food facilities) responding to the Ordinance requirements. The DEO is currently investigating funding sources, including a conservation grant program from the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Each Supervisor
July 13, 2022
Page 2

Should the Department of Interior grant program not be appropriate, the DEO and CEO will work with the Board offices to discuss alternative sources of funds, including the potential repurposing of existing economic development funds.

The DEO is also working with industry representatives to determine the maximum amount of the mini grants that will be made available to small food facilities in the County unincorporated areas. These one-time, mini-grants will assist small food facilities to transition away from the use of single-use plastics, as it is anticipated that alternatives will become more available and less expensive in the future. Other jurisdictions provide similar grants for \$500 and \$750.

Resources to Manufacturers of Ordinance Compliant Products

PW is leading outreach efforts that will inform impacted food facilities in the unincorporated areas of the rules and guidelines of the Ordinance. Part of this campaign will focus on providing businesses an initial list of Ordinance compliant products. Manufacturer's foodware products have the opportunity to have their products reviewed and be placed on the list.

PW is drafting the list through discussions and feedback from product manufacturers, product distributors, and other relevant stakeholders. PW will provide technical guidance to food facilities to help them understand product requirements of the Ordinance and determine if their foodware inventory complies. There are many nuances to product supply chains and the manufacturing and distribution processes, so PW will continue to coordinate education and technical resource efforts with all relevant stakeholders, including distributors, as the implementation of the Ordinance reaches each stage of progression.

Next Steps

The CEO will continue to monitor plans for the proposed mini-grant program to ensure that funding is available to assist small businesses with Ordinance compliance, including at the recommendation of the DEO, and take steps to reallocate program funding as stated in this report.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me or Emy Tzimoulis, at (213) 974-4603 or ETzimoulis@ceo.lacounty.gov.

FAD:JMN:JFO
EDT:AD:kdm

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Consumer and Business Affairs
Economic Opportunity
Internal Services
Public Health
Public Works