

From: [Robert Essman](#)
To: [BOR AllReps](#)
Subject: plastic ban
Date: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 11:27:36 AM
Attachments: [3 minute plastic ban.pages](#)

This is the written version of what I spoke of on 7-29-2025

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Hello my name is Robert Essman I have resided in Stamford for the past 38 years. I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the sustainability ordinance LR31091.

Most people are aware of the problems with recycling plastics, the dangers of non bio-degradable toxic chemical components with their risks to our health and the mountains of trash plastic is producing.

By passing this ordinance you are leading in a positive direction that is timely and responsible. Plastic was a great invention but we need healthy alternatives now. Those of us who are paying attention know that there is no more away as in throw it away.

Passing this ordinance will give the people of Stamford a good feeling that we are taking positive steps toward a solution to a huge problem. When we banned plastic bags it seemed like a bold move but now we say of course we did. Stamford businesses aren't going to lose customers to Norwalk businesses because they can get a plastic spoon and people aren't choosing a school by the utensils in the lunchroom. The only hardship will be the transition, which you have covered intelligently and comprehensively in your ordinance.

Good responsible business's represent all of us. They are run and supported by all of us. Most people don't want to get into the weeds of regulation and rule making but the good and sober people all want to follow responsible fair rules that protect our future. Your jobs must be to lead us in a healthy sustainable way. We didn't audition for the job of managing the entire planet but here we are. This management on a global scale is— all new— and takes courage and creativity. It requires the ability to unlearn some of what we thought was so right.

I especially like the recommendation of compostable alternative replacement products. Please check the supply chain sources of compostable products; as some companies like Proctor and Gamble and Warehouser have not committed to sustainable practices and are grinding up— many acres a minute— of virgin forests to make their pulp products. We can nip any new unsustainable problems in the bud by not recommending

unsustainably produced products and using our large budget as a tool in the marketplace. I would love to have more input in the composting strategy.

There have always been those that are only clever and– not wise– who take advantage of what people don't know about the necessary changes needed for our sustainable healthy future. They find fertile ground in the areas of change to continue their business as usual destructive profiting and power grabbing. The fragile areas of plausible deniability and the fear of the unknown is where they do their best work. They polish lies until they shine, and use their power to threaten those who are trying to work on the extremely difficult job of creating the change toward sustainability.

These backward looking few– are– I hope– the last remanence of our destructive gold rushing hubristic past.

I am happy to see you are following good science and leading Stamford lawmaking toward a healthier sustainable future.

I also understand that you are considering banning the toxic gas leaf blowers in favor of electric battery. I would love to see this happen sooner than later in your usual intelligent and comprehensive way.

Thank you for hearing me.

From: [Jackie Wetenhall](#)
To: [BOR_OfficeStaff](#)
Cc: [Jeff Osta](#)
Subject: Final Public Hearing tonight on proposed single use plastic ban
Date: Tuesday, July 29, 2025 4:37:28 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
Importance: High

Hello, please find a drafted email attached on behalf of Juice Kings:

Dear Members of the Legislative & Rules Committee,

As the owner of Juice Kings, a proud small business serving Stamford for the past five years, I am writing to express my **strong opposition** to the proposed amendments to Chapter 209 of the Code of Ordinances regarding the regulation of single-use plastics and black plastic in food establishments. While we fully support sustainability and reducing waste, this ordinance fails to balance those goals with the realities that small businesses face—particularly post-pandemic, in an inflationary economy, with thin margins and rising costs.

The proposed restrictions will:

- Significantly increase costs on containers, utensils, and other food ware.
- Add logistical complexity without clear infrastructure in place for composting or affordable PFAS-free alternatives.
- Penalize businesses that are already doing their best to serve the community with healthy, responsible food options.

Larger chains have the volume and resources to absorb these changes. **We do not.** This ordinance, despite its good intentions, feels disconnected from the everyday struggles of small business owners and will create unintended economic consequences—including higher prices for consumers, reduced product options, and pressure to cut staff or service.

We urge the committee to:

- Delay implementation until clear support systems (affordable composting, tax relief, supplier partnerships) are in place.
- Consider waivers or exemptions for small businesses under a certain revenue or employee threshold.
- Recognize that true sustainability also includes economic sustainability—and that small, locally owned businesses are a vital part of Stamford's ecosystem.

We are committed to doing our part for the environment—but we cannot do so at the cost of staying in business.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Juice Kings

Sincerely,

Jeff Osta GIA GG, CGA



Email: Jeff@nagijewelers.com

Web: www.nagijewelers.com

Phone: (203) 964-0551

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Montalvo, Barbara

From: Connecticut Chair <chair@ct.surfrider.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 2025 4:34 PM
To: BOR_AllReps
Subject: Testimony for LR31-091
Attachments: LR31-091_Testimony_Rachel Precious.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Good afternoon,

My name is Rachel Precious and I'm the Chair of the CT chapter of the Surfrider Foundation. I hope I'm not too late to submit this! Attached is testimony that I would like to submit for the public hearing for LR31-091.

Thank you,
Rachel

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**Testimony in Support of LR31-091
Submitted by Rachel Precious**

**To: Members of the Board of Representatives
Date: July 28, 2025**

Dear Members of the Board of Representatives,

My name is Rachel Precious, and I'm writing to you today to urge you to pass LR31091. I'm the Chair of the Connecticut chapter of the Surfrider Foundation, a national non-profit dedicated to the protection and preservation of our ocean, waves, and beaches. I'm also a former oyster farmer and now own Precious Oysters, an oyster catering company that will soon be expanding into a restaurant. As a food service professional whose livelihood depends on the health of our marine environment, I firmly support this effort to safeguard our planet through the banning of single-use plastics in Stamford.

My career in the oyster industry began in Stamford, where I worked aboard an oyster boat and experienced the impact of plastic pollution first hand. In addition to the very real threat of microplastics to shellfish, my job was made more difficult by having to constantly remove litter from our oyster gear, where plastic bags, cups, straws, and more would get trapped in the wire mesh of our cages, jam up our pumps, and blanket our intertidal beds. Oysters are incredible ecosystem engineers, capable of withstanding harsh environmental conditions, but plastic pollution, particularly from disposable single-use plastics, is causing irreparable damage to both farmed and wild oyster populations.

As a small business owner and restaurant professional, I strongly disagree with fellow industry members who are opposed to banning single-use plastics. These materials don't make or break a business - they simply provide a cheaper option, giving company owners larger profit margins. Restaurants and food businesses are some of the oldest businesses in America, around long before plastic was created, and I believe that if a business says that it's unable to function without single-use plastics, then it needs to change how it operates. My business needs clean water and healthy oceans for oysters to grow; my commitment to running a sustainable, community-focused business that protects our planet shouldn't be undermined by those who prioritize the cheapest, dirtiest, and most short-sighted practices.

I urge the Board to vote in favor of LR31-091 and continue to prioritize the health of Connecticut's coastal ecosystems, for the sake of our businesses, our health, and our planet.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Rachel Precious
Chair Surfrider Foundation, Connecticut Chapter
Owner & Founder, Precious Oysters Raw Baw Catering

From: [Sharon Larsen](#)
To: [BOR AllReps](#)
Subject: single-use plastic ban
Date: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 7:40:52 PM

I support and encourage you to support LR31.091 AMENDING CHAPTER 209 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CONCERNING SUSTAINABILITY AND THE REGULATION OF SINGLE-USE FOODWARE IN FOOD ESTABLISHMENT.

Sharon Larsen
25 Adams Ave Stamford CT 06902

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From: [Patty Morris](#)
To: [BOR AllReps](#)
Subject: LR31.091 Support
Date: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 6:32:23 PM

To the Stamford Board of Representatives,

I am writing in strong support of LR31.091, the proposed amendment to Chapter 209 of the Code of Ordinances concerning sustainability and the regulation of single-use foodware in food establishments.

This commonsense measure is a critical step toward reducing environmental waste and curbing the long-term harm caused by single-use plastics. By requiring dine-in establishments to use reusable foodware and mandating biodegradable options for take-out, Stamford can lead by example in protecting our environment, reducing pollution, and promoting sustainable business practices.

As a resident who cares deeply about the health of our community and planet, I urge you to vote in favor of this amendment. It's a thoughtful, achievable policy that benefits our city both now and in the future.

Sincerely,
Patricia Morris
112 Woodmere Rd.

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From: [Scott Hollas](#)
To: [BOR AllReps](#)
Subject: I support LR31.091
Date: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 5:18:56 PM

To the Stamford BoR

I fully support the proposed ordinance. Please recognize its impact and pass this important piece of legislation.

Our often-defenseless wildlife, aquatic life and environment have long suffered our society's senseless culture of waste and disposal ignorance. It's time we do our part to fix this.

Thank you for tackling this important issue
Scott Hollas, 06906

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Montalvo, Barbara

From: ganuzzo@optonline.net
Sent: Friday, August 1, 2025 8:49 PM
To: BOR_AllReps
Subject: LR31.091

I support LR31.091 AMENDING CHAPTER 209 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES,
CONCERNING SUSTAINABILITY AND THE REGULATION OF SINGLE-USE FOOD
WARE IN FOOD ESTABLISHMEN

Thank you
Geraldine Nuzzo

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Montalvo, Barbara

From: Melanie Hollas <mlarahollas@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 1, 2025 7:46 PM
To: BOR_AllReps
Subject: Support for LR31.091

I support LR31.091 AMENDING CHAPTER 209 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CONCERNING SUSTAINABILITY AND THE REGULATION OF SINGLE-USE FOOD WARE IN FOOD ESTABLISHMENT.

For more written letters of support, please review the [LR31.091 file folder](#).

I hope you will support this forward thinking piece of legislation.

Best,

Melanie Hollas
347.517.0044

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Montalvo, Barbara

From: Linda Chapman <lschpmn@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 1, 2025 6:31 PM
To: BOR_AllReps
Subject: I support LR31.091 AMENDING CHAPTER 209 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CONCERNING SUSTAINABILITY AND THE REGULATION OF SINGLE-USE FOOD WARE IN FOOD ESTABLISHMENT.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Everyone,

I strongly support LR31.091 in its efforts to reduce waste and encourage proper recycling. Lets make Stamford a green city and an example for the rest of the state.

Thank you,

Linda Chapman
44 Canfield Dr, Stamford, CT 06902
203.952.5503

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Montalvo, Barbara

From: Diana Kolaj <d.ianak.olajd.k@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 1, 2025 5:19 PM
To: BOR_AllReps
Subject: Support LR31.091

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello there, I am just reaching out to reiterate my support for LR31.091 amending chapter 209 of the code of ordinances concerning sustainability and the regulation of single use food ware in food establishments. Thank you.

To our mutual flourishing,
Diana
38 Hundley Ct, Stamford, CT 06902
203-832-4765

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Montalvo, Barbara

From: Jonathan Tunik <jlt1003@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 1, 2025 4:33 PM
To: BOR_AllReps
Subject: LR31.091

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I support LR31.091 AMENDING CHAPTER 209 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CONCERNING SUSTAINABILITY AND THE REGULATION OF SINGLE-USE FOOD WARE IN FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS.

Jonathan Tunik

Social and Educational Policy and Program Evaluator

JLT1003@gmail.com

226 Culloden Rd, Stamford, CT 06906

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Montalvo, Barbara

From: Fern G <fern.galperin@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 31, 2025 6:43 PM
To: BOR_AllReps
Subject: Please support LR31.091!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I support LR31.091 AMENDING CHAPTER 209 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CONCERNING SUSTAINABILITY AND THE REGULATION OF SINGLE-USE FOOD WARE IN FOOD ESTABLISHMENT.

For more written letters of support, please review the [LR31.091 file folder](#).

Thank you for your continued advocacy.

Fern Galperin
Stamford, CT

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Montalvo, Barbara

From: Fern G <fern.galperin@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 31, 2025 6:43 PM
To: BOR_AllReps
Subject: Please support LR31.091!

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Flag Status: Flagged

I support LR31.091 AMENDING CHAPTER 209 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CONCERNING SUSTAINABILITY AND THE REGULATION OF SINGLE-USE FOOD WARE IN FOOD ESTABLISHMENT.

For more written letters of support, please review the [LR31.091 file folder](#).

Thank you for your continued advocacy.

Fern Galperin
Stamford, CT

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