

Montalvo, Barbara

From: drlaw41@verizon.net
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2025 1:59 PM
To: BOR_AllReps
Subject: LR31-091

Dear Board members

Our family fully supports the provisions of LR31-091. We hope that you will pass it into law.

Best wishes

Richard, Judith and Karin Sosis
180 Turn of River Road – 12B

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Letter in Support of Ordinance LR31-091

27 Briar Woods Trail

Stamford, CT 06903

willemh.vanniekerk@gmail.com

203-219-0394

July 17, 2025

Stamford Board of Representatives

888 Washington Boulevard

Stamford, CT 06901

Dear Members of the Board of Representatives,

We are writing to express our strong support for Ordinance LR31-091. It is a thoughtful and much-needed measure that promotes waste reduction, increases composting, and encourages the use of reusable materials throughout our community. It will also enhance the image of our city as one that cares for the environment.

We think the ordinance is a practical step toward improving Stamford's environmental and economic health. Currently, our city pays to haul away recyclables—if memory serves, we used to get revenue previously by exporting them. By adopting smarter practices like composting, reusables, and reducing single-use plastics, we can shift from a wasteful system to one that creates value and moves us toward a cleaner, more sustainable future.

We are in full support of all the key provisions of LR31-091:

- Reusable Food Ware for Dine-In.
- Biodegradable containers for Take-Out
- Provide biodegradable Straws and Stirrers only upon request.
- Regarding the Accessories Protocol we are in full agreement that utensils, napkins, and condiments only be given upon request or via self-serve stations. Even if they are biodegradable.

-The Environmental and Economic ordinance gives the right financial rationale by reducing microplastics, limits landfill overflow, and helps save taxpayer money. It also supports a circular economy by encouraging compostable waste streams—the city can ultimately sell its compost and this will be determined by in the Compost Study.

-The Sustainability Fund is a great initiative of this Ordinance. We are in full support of all fines collected under this ordinance being reinvested into the Sustainability Fund.

These common-sense, forward-thinking policies are already in place in leading cities across the country. LR31-091 represents Stamford's opportunity to lead locally, aligning with both environmental goals and fiscal responsibility.

We respectfully urge you to support and pass this ordinance. The health of our environment, the efficiency of our waste systems, and the well-being of future generations depend on the actions we take today.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'W. and G. Van Niekerk'.

Willem and Gertruida Van Niekerk

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'J. E. ...'.

Montalvo, Barbara

From: Robert Stein <rsteinfam@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 18, 2025 2:04 PM
To: BOR_AllReps
Subject: LR31-091

I support the above-captioned item to ban single-use plastic products in restaurants.
Robin Stein

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Danielle L. Petretta, Ph.D.

July 23rd, 2025

RE: Support for Item No LR31.091: Ordinance on banning the sale, provision, and distribution of single use plastic products in food and beverage establishments.

Dear Representatives of the City of Stamford,

My name is Danielle Petretta and I am writing to strongly express my support for the proposal to ban Single Use Food Ware. As a decades-long professional and researcher on cities, urbanization and sustainable development, I am well aware of the significant threats to human health and biodiversity as a result of the accumulation of plastic - now so pervasive that tiny particles are found all across our environment and throughout our own bodies. Single-use plastic food products typically end up in landfills and waterways where they are initially broken down into small microplastic particles which can then take one thousand years or more to fully decompose. By requiring the use of reusable and compostable products in food establishments, this ordinance will significantly reduce the use and demand for single-use plastic. This ordinance will not only bring the City of Stamford into alignment with state and global goals and decrease the demand for and production of single-use plastic products, it will also move Stamford closer to becoming a zero-waste City, one that values and supports resource recovery, sustainable materials management, and a circular economy. Numerous states and cities in the US and abroad have already successfully enacted such legislation and have transitioned away from single-use plastic with reasonable alternatives readily available including those made from wood, bamboo, and stainless steel.

By prioritizing not making waste in the first place, this ordinance along with the City's ban on polystyrene and plastic straws and stirrers, will directly and positively impact human health, prolong the life-cycle of raw materials, and protect the City's biodiversity, waterways, and land; ultimately increasing and valuing the quality of life for all residents and inhabitants today and for generations to come. I urge you to approve this ordinance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danielle L. Petretta". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Danielle L. Petretta, Ph.D.

Montalvo, Barbara

From: Ameya Phansalkar <aphansal123@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 27, 2025 4:51 PM
To: BOR_AllReps
Subject: Please support LR31-091

Dear Representatives,

I am writing to express my strong support for LR31-091, the proposed ordinance to ban the sale, provision, and distribution of single-use plastic products in food and beverage establishments in Stamford.

This is a crucial step towards improving our city's environmental and economic health. By reducing single-use plastics, encouraging composting, and promoting reusables, we can significantly reduce waste, prevent landfill overflow, and move towards a more sustainable Stamford. I urge you to vote in favor of this important legislation.

Sincerely,
Ameya Phansalkar

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Montalvo, Barbara

From: Diana Kolaj <d.ianak.olajd.k@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 27, 2025 2:21 PM
To: BOR_AllReps
Subject: Support for Ordinance LR31091

Hello there,

I am an environmental studies student and have been a Stamford resident for over 10 years. During this time, I have been involved in various initiatives aimed at improving our quality of life and health: People Friendly Stamford, Scalzi Riverwalk Nature Preserve, East Side Partnership and Fairgate Farm.

I strongly support a ban on single use plastic in all establishments ranging from schools to restaurants.

As a city with dozens of highly valued restaurants, cafes, and other establishments, the waste we generate is a burden on our environment, public health, waste facilities, and economy.

This ordinance reminds me of my miniscule attempt at banning styrofoam trays as a 13 year old at Rippowam middle school.

Seeing this ordinance gain traction now feels like an affirmation to middle school me who counted the bins of styrofoam trays pile up every day from hundreds of kids and millions of trays in a single school year.

That colossal wastefulness is the reality of our production and has likely been unchanged since I was 13...

Support for this ordinance is support for better water quality, public health, and ecological integrity. Not to mention, respect for the Long Island Sound. This is a significant step at improving quality of life for all of us.

Thank you,
Diana Kolaj
38 Hundley court, Stamford 06902
203-832-4765

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Montalvo, Barbara

From: ganuzzo@optonline.net
Sent: Sunday, July 27, 2025 10:43 AM
To: BOR_AllReps
Subject: LR31-091

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a concerned citizen who is extremely concerned about and aware of our environment. Look around and you see plastic everywhere. The shock and tragedy was when I realized how little we actually recycle. Its a crime. In this day and age there should be a way to reuse. If that means changing the products we use, so be it. Businesses will get used to it and so will consumers. What world are we leaving our children?

Please support Bill LR31-091.

Thank you

Geraldine Nuzzo

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Montalvo, Barbara

From: Fiona Kolaj <fiona98124@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 27, 2025 4:57 PM
To: BOR_AllReps
Subject: Support for Ordinance LR31091

As a Stamford resident I am strongly in favor of this ordinance's passing. We have dozens of establishments here that are contributing to degradation of public health, ecological health, and water quality. This would have tremendous impact in improving Stamford's sustainability as directly related to our quality of life.

Thank you,
Fiona Kolaj
38 Hundley Court, Stamford CT 06902

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Montalvo, Barbara

From: Stephen Garst <SGarst@promo-consultants.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 20, 2025 1:53 PM
To: BOR_AllReps
Subject: Support for Ordinance LR31-091 – Waste Reduction, Composting, and Reusables

Dear Members of the Board of Representatives,

I am writing to express my strong support for Ordinance LR31-091, a vital and forward-thinking proposal that promotes waste reduction, increases composting, and encourages the use of reusable materials in Stamford.

This ordinance represents a practical and timely step toward improving both the environmental and economic health of our city. At present, Stamford pays to haul away our recyclables—an expense that contrasts sharply with the past, when recycling generated revenue. Even more concerning, only 8.9% of what we place in recycling bins is actually recycled.

By promoting composting, reducing single-use plastics, and encouraging reusable alternatives, LR31-091 offers a smart and sustainable way to address our waste challenges. It will not only help reduce costs but also decrease environmental harm, turning waste into value and setting Stamford on a path toward a cleaner, more resilient future.

I respectfully urge you to vote in favor of this ordinance. It reflects the kind of leadership our city needs to meet the environmental challenges of today while building a healthier tomorrow.

Thank you for your attention and service to our community.

Steve Garst
1477 Hope Street
Stamford, CT 06907

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Dear Stamford Board of Representatives,

My name is Ashen Harper. I am 18 years old and have lived in Stamford my whole life. I founded a local chapter of a global climate organization called Fridays for Future (FFF) in Stamford. FFF is a group of young people, who are worried we will not have a livable future, but are still willing to fight for one. I am testifying on behalf of FFF Stamford in support of LR31-091, which will help us create a more sustainable future in Stamford.

This ordinance would limit the use of single-use plastics by doing things like requiring dine-in facilities to use non-plastic materials, banning plastics for most take out containers, and only providing plastic straws upon request, among other things. Stamford has already successfully banned plastic bags, and within months of the ban, Soundwaters reported an [80% decrease](#) in plastics on the beaches. Banning other unnecessary single use plastic would make Stamford a better and cleaner place to live, improving our lives and our economy. Banning takeout containers as is done in this ordinance has seen success across the country. In Santa Cruz and Pacific Grove, polystyrene food containers were banned for a period of time, and polystyrene on local beaches [decreased by 71%](#). Our beaches are a beautiful space for both community and wildlife, and removing plastic waste would benefit everyone.

But plastic pollution is a problem that extends beyond our shoreline. Production and disposal of plastic accounts for [3%](#) of global GHG emissions. Less than [9%](#) of plastic is recycled in the US, with 27 million tonnes being landfilled. Plastic pollution is killing ecosystems and people alike, with microplastics being found in our bodies, and plastic soon to outnumber fish in the ocean. We cannot continue to use and waste this material so recklessly.

Banning certain plastics would increase sustainability. Materials should be used, reused, and recycled, not thrown out after a single use. Single-use items are unsustainable both to produce and to dispose of. If we want to stop wasting our money, and our planet, by throwing away junk that didn't need to be junk in the first place, we have to create a circular economy. This ordinance would address sustainability by placing fines collected as per this ordinance into a Sustainability Fund.

The ordinance would also a study on curbside compost. Composting is a victory in many ways. Firstly, when organic waste ends up in a landfill, it will decompose anaerobically, producing methane gas, a potent greenhouse gas. Second, composting organic material creates rich and healthy soil for plants to grow in. Composting is turning trash into treasure.

Overall, reducing waste will benefit Stamford economically and environmentally. As a young person I want to see this city look to the future. And the future is sustainable. It has to be, or else we won't have a future at all. Therefore I call upon the board of representatives to pass LR31-091.

Thank you,
Ashen Harper
Fridays for Future Stamford

Montalvo, Barbara

From: Linda Chapman <lschpmn@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 28, 2025 10:31 AM
To: BOR_AllReps
Subject: Support for LR31-091

Stamford Board of Representatives,

I am writing in support of LR31-091. Our city is woefully behind our neighbors in terms of addressing single use foodware. Not only does it add unnecessary waste into our environment but it also increases the costs our city must bear in terms of removal - whether recycled or sent directly to the landfill.

We particularly need to accelerate the roll out of Food Composting (including machines) within the city. Its truly unacceptable the amount of food that is sent to landfills along with the plastics. While there may be a short term outlay for creating a program, the long term benefits are clear with reduced methane emissions, lower waste removal costs and enriched soil. I've participated since the Food Composter was first installed at the recycling center. Its made a huge difference in the amount that goes into the garbage every week.

If you need to start someplace, start with the schools. I've been to the schools and their recycling is pathetic at best. No separation of recyclables, no attempt to food compost, and the list goes on.

Thank you,

Linda Chapman
44 Canfield Drive
Stamford, CT 06902

203.952.5503

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Montalvo, Barbara

From: Timothy Vartuli <timothyvartuli@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 28, 2025 9:34 AM
To: BOR_AllReps
Subject: Support for Ordinance LR31091

As a Stamford resident I am strongly in favor of this ordinance's passing. We have dozens of establishments here that are contributing to degradation of public health, ecological health, and water quality. This would have tremendous impact in improving Stamford's sustainability as directly related to our quality of life.

Thank you,
Timothy Vartuli
29 Bungalow Park, 06902

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Montalvo, Barbara

From: Fern G <fern.galperin@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 28, 2025 1:00 PM
To: BOR_AllReps; Berns, Philip; Boeger, Sean; Blank, David; Cottrell, Megan; Fedeli, Mary Lisa; Matheny, Jennifer; Pierre-Louis, Fred; Sherwood, Nina; Vandervoort, Jessica
Cc: Camporeale, Karen; de la Cruz, Virgil; Ley, Ashley
Subject: Your close attention is requested: LR31-091 Ordinance - Testimony, Public Hearing July 29, 2025

Written Testimony **IN FAVOR OF LR31-091** Ordinance Concerning Sustainability and Regulation of Single-Use Food Ware in Food Establishments

Dear Members of the Legislative and Rules Committee,

I hope you will **read and appreciate the carefully considered and extraordinarily thorough Proposed Ordinance LR31-091** Concerning Sustainability and Regulation of Single-Use Food Ware in Food Establishments. The ordinance promotes waste reduction, increases composting and encourages the use of reusables in our community.

This proposed ordinance, an amendment of Chapter 209, has **long reaching goals for a healthier and more sustainable Stamford** by addressing waste streams, the economic benefits of reusable, biodegradable and compostable containers (while allowing for exceptions, such as soup containers), and establishes a **Sustainability Fund** to set Stamford on an environmentally forward-thinking path.

Furthermore, it requires the city to conduct a **compost study**, which, I feel, is long overdue. If **NYC with its population of 8.2 million can enforce curbside composting**, Stamford certainly can research feasible solutions for our population.

Finally, **I urge you to support LR31-091**, so that we can take concrete steps toward **eliminating microplastics and PFAS from our environment**. We must protect our waters (wells, reservoirs, streams, rivers, the Long Island Sound) from microplastic and PFAS pollution. LR31-091 points us in the right direction.

Thank you for your close attention to this matter. It is fitting that **today is World Conservation Day, a global reminder that the health of our planet depends on us**.

Sincerely,

Fern Galperin, Communications
Pollinator Pathway Stamford
fern.galperin@gmail.com

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