

CLEAN & GREEN TOWN HALL

Presented by City Councilors Pat Davis, Ike Benton, Diane Gibson, and Cynthia Borrego

Learn about the City's current recycling program and about the newly proposed Clean & Green Retail Ordinance

KIMO THEATER

423 Central Ave NW
Albuquerque, NM 87102



**SUN
MAR
31
3PM**



Albuquerque's Clean & Green Retail Ordinance

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SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAGS & STRAWS

In The United States

- According to the Environmental Protection Agency, over 380 billion plastic bags, sacks and wraps are consumed in the U.S. each year.
- Americans use [100 billion plastic bags a year](#), which require 12 million barrels of oil to manufacture.
- Plastic bags are used for an average of [12 minutes](#).
- About 355 per person/year (6.8/wk.)

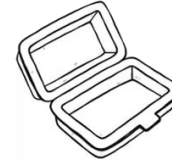
We also use a LOT of plastic straws

- 1.6 straws per-person per-day.
- Based on national averages, this equates to each person in the U.S. using about 38,000 straws between the ages of 5 and 65.

U.S. CONSUMPTION = ENOUGH STRAWS
TO WRAP AROUND THE
EARTH'S CIRCUMFERENCE
2.5 TIMES A DAY!



POLYSTYRENE CONTAINERS



*also known as EPS
Foam or
Styrofoam*

Touted as lightweight but also takes up lots of room

Takes 100's, maybe 1000's of years to "breakdown"

Easily scattered by wind or water, resulting in pollution and consumption by animals

<https://blog.epa.gov/tag/plastic-bags/>

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WHERE DO ALL THESE PLASTIC BAGS COME FROM?



ExxonMobile was responsible for introducing the plastic shopping bag to the U.S., and the bag debuted in American grocery store checkout lines by the late 1970s.

First introduced by Kroger in '79, Kroger (parent of Smith's) is now ending their use nationwide by 2025.

Who is pushing these bags? “Big Plastic,” of course

In the United States, the plastics industry has launched a concerted campaign to derail and defeat anti-bag measures nationwide. The effort includes well-placed political donations, intensive lobbying at both the state and national levels, and a pervasive PR campaign designed to shift the focus away from plastic bags to the supposed threat of canvas and paper bags — including misleading claims that reusable bags “could” contain bacteria and unsafe levels of lead....

*With 125 employees and more than \$120 million in annual revenues, the ACC and its members are using their deep pockets and extensive political connections to overturn bans on plastic bags, cast doubt on legitimate scientific studies and even file lawsuits against anti-bag activists. - **Rolling Stone, July 2011***

American Chemical Council is a donor/member of ALEC (so is/was the National Restaurant Assoc.)

One of the few pieces of model legislation adopted by the American City County Exchange (ACCE), the ALEC offshoot targeting local elected officials, is a resolution titled "[Regulating Containers to Protect Business and Consumer Choice](#)."

A group calling itself the "**American Progressive Bag Alliance**" (ABPA), a trade group that has been funded by plastics manufacturers like [Novolex](#), the [Superbag Corporation](#), and [Advanced Polybag](#),

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CASE STUDY: AUSTIN, TX

Enacted 2:00 am March 2, 2013 - in effect in March 2014
2017: Overturned by TX Court, compliance is now voluntary

- Banned 1-mil thick single-use bags
- No “per bag fee” for alternatives at the register
- Reduced plastic bag use by 75%
- Plastic bags now make up 0.03% of trash stream

Responses

Retailers began offering thicker 4 mil-thick bags as “reusable”.
Made of virgin plastic
Must be used 100+ times to offset carbon footprint
Added 23 tons of new plastic to waste stream

After the court decision, 5 largest grocery stores still comply

<https://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=232679>

FIGURE 1. Before and After Photos from the Allied Waste Services Landfill in Austin, Texas.

Photos on the left were taken on the 25th of February, 2013.

Photos on the right were taken on the 24th of March, 2015.

While the photographers were different, the locations were replicated as accurately as possible.



Photo Credit for Above: K. Gettier, Balcones Resources

Photo Credit for Above: A. Waters, Austin Resource Recovery

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CASE STUDY: AUSTIN, TX

	<u>AUSTIN</u>	<u>FT WORTH</u>
Population	786,386	727,577
Bags Per Person Per Day	335	335
Number of Single Use Plastic Bags Used in City	263,801,371	246,648,603
Bags Reduced (75%)	197,079,454	0

<u>ABQ</u>
558,545
335
187,112,575
140,334,431

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OUR BILL



BANS PLASTIC BAGS

13-17-2 (A) “shall not provide a single-use plastic bag”



STRAWS: “PAPER FIRST”

13-17-2 (D) “shall not provide a single-use plastic straw”

- Retailers may provide biodegradable or paper straws as default
- To address ADA concerns, retailers must make plastic straws available upon request to accommodate medical and disability needs.



BANS POLYSTYRENE CONTAINERS

13-17-2 (A) “shall not provide a single-use polystyrene (Styrofoam) container”



OUR BILL

+ Effective January 1, 2020

+ Creates “Clean & Green Business Designation” for businesses who comply and go beyond

- Join CABQ commercial recycling

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WHAT
DOES
IT COST?



Single Use Plastic
\$12.49/ case
Qty: 1,000
Cost-per-Unit:
\$0.01249



Biodegradable Film Bag
\$16.49/case
Qty: 500
Cost-per-Unit:
\$0.03298



Paper Bag
\$32.58/case
Qty: 500
Cost-per-Unit:
\$0.065

webrestaurantstore.com

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WHAT
DOES
IT COST?

7 3/4" Jumbo Clear Wrapped Straw

\$28.66/ case

Qty: 12,000

Cost-per-Unit:

\$0.0024



**7 3/4" White Jumbo Wrapped
Compostable Paper Straw**

\$50.53/case

Qty: 3200

Cost-per-Unit: \$0.0158



HAY! Straws

Cost-per-Unit: \$0.06



***currently in use in
ABQ @Tractor Brewing**

No Straw

\$0/case

Qty: 0

Cost-per-Unit: Free!



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**WHAT
DOES
IT COST?**

**9" x 9" x 3" White Foam Square Take
Out Container**



**\$16.25/ case
Qty:200**

**Cost-per-Unit:
\$0.08**

**9" x 9" x 3" Biodegradable,
Compostable Sugarcane / Bagasse**



**\$35.85/case
Qty: 200**

Cost-per-Unit: \$0.18

**9" Round Foil Take-Out Pan with Board
Lid**



**\$26.05/case
Qty: 200**

Cost-per-Unit: \$0.13



Economical! The total unit cost increase when purchasing four alternative material items as opposed to polystyrene from one supplier was only **\$.04**.

Cost-effective! One of the most widely used containers, a 9” one-compartment clamshell, was **available at a cheaper cost** produced from plant fiber than one composed of polystyrene foam.

Budget-friendly! Switching from polystyrene to the cheapest alternative material product resulted in an average increase of **\$2.04 per 100 units** purchased, across seven different food-service ware products.

**City of Tacoma Park, MD
Implemented Polystyrene ban in 2015, Plastics
ban in 2016**

<https://documents-takomapark.s3.amazonaws.com/public-works/polystyrene-ban/PW-20150624-product-and-cost-list.pdf>

Product	Size	Style	Brand	Vendor	Product Number	Price	Number	Unit Price	Material	Compostable
Dell Container	8 oz	Square, To-Go	Bridge-Gate	BioMass Packaging	330-77008	\$43.22	500	\$0.09	Plant Fiber	Yes
Dell Container	12 oz	Square, To-Go	Bridge-Gate	BioMass Packaging	330-77012	\$56.07	500	\$0.11	Plant Fiber	Yes
Dell Container Lid	8-16 oz	Square, To-Go	Bridge-Gate	BioMass Packaging	330-77816	\$45.63	500	\$0.09	Plant Fiber	Yes
Dell Container	16 oz	Rectangle, Clear, Deep, with Lid	Eco-Products	Eco-Products	EP-RC16	\$76.14	300	\$0.25	PLA	Yes
Dell Container	32 oz	Rectangle, Clear, Deep, with Lid	Eco-Products	Eco-Products	EP-RC32	\$76.80	200	\$0.38	PLA	Yes
Dell Container	24 oz	Rectangle, Clear, Hinged Lid	GenPak	Webstaurant Store	374AD24	\$34.49	200	\$0.17	Recycled PET	No
Dell Container	32 oz	Square, Clear, Hinged Lid	GenPak	Webstaurant Store	374AD32	\$36.99	200	\$0.18	Recycled PET	No
Dell Container	8", 64 oz	Square, Clear, Hinged Lid	GenPak	Webstaurant Store	374AD64	\$63.99	200	\$0.32	Recycled PET	No
Sandwich Wedge	6.5"	Triangle, Clear, Hinged Lid	Eco-Products	Eco-Products	EP-SWH3	\$125.58	500	\$0.25	PLA	Yes
Sandwich Wedge	7.25"	Triangle, Clear, with Lid	Pfaco	Webstaurant Store	44474568666	\$39.49	200	\$0.20	Recycled PET	No
Take Out Container		Rectangle, with Lid	Bridge-Gate	BioMass Packaging	330-78003	\$56.03	200	\$0.28	Plant Fiber	Yes
Take Out Container	6", 16 oz	Square, To-Go	Be Green Packaging	Be Green Packaging	BG-FT-16	\$87.14	500	\$0.17	Plant Fiber	Yes

Costco			
Product	Price	Units	Unit Price
Solo Polystyrene Fork	\$ 12.39	500	\$0.02
Eco Kloud Compostable Fork	\$ 46.99	1000	\$0.05
Unit Difference			\$0.02
Cost change over 100 units			\$2.22
Dart Foam 8 oz Hot Drink Cup	\$ 21.99	1000	\$0.02
International Paper 8 oz, Paper, PE lined Hot Drink Cup	\$ 27.49	600	\$0.05
Unit Difference			\$0.02
Cost change over 100 cups			\$2.38
Dixie 10" Paper Plate	\$ 79.99	500	\$0.16
Eco Kloud 10" Bagasse Compostable Plate	\$ 59.99	500	\$0.12
Unit Difference			-\$0.04
Cost change over 100 plates			-\$4.00
Dixie Paper Bowl	\$ 42.99	500	\$0.09
Eco Kloud Bagasse Compostable Bowl	\$ 59.99	500	\$0.12
Unit Difference			\$0.03
Cost change over 100 bowls			\$3.40
Average Unit Price Change			\$0.01
Average Price Change over 100 Units			\$1.00



What happened in other cities?

Tacoma Park, MD

Yep. It will cost more to keep your chile in tact for take out.

Current Cost:
0.08 cents



Sam's Club ABQ
200 pk, \$25 (0.125-cents/unit)



Would you pay 12-cents more for biodegradable enchilada takeout?

What about my enchiladas?!

Product	Size	Style	Brand	Vendor	Product Number	Price	Number	Unit Price	Material	Compostable
Clamshell	9"	1 Compartment	Trellis Earth	Buy Green	TREPO0009-0005	\$68.00	200	\$0.34	PLA	No
Clamshell	9"	3 Compartment	Eco-Products	Food Service Warehouse	EP-HC93PK	\$85.19	200	\$0.43	Bagasse	Yes
Clamshell	9"	3 Compartment	Be Green Packaging	Be Green Packaging	BG-9CS3	\$83.69	200	\$0.42	Plant Fiber	Yes
Clamshell	9"	3 Compartment	Green Wave	Webstaurant Store	395ETB0093	\$54.99	200	\$0.27	PLA	Yes
Clamshell	9"	3 Compartment	World Centric	World Centric	TO-SC-U9T	\$89.49	300	\$0.30	Plant Fiber	Yes

Cost Premium for Plastic Foam Foodservice & Drink Containers Alternatives (\$ per unit)

	Plastic Foam	Fiber	Fiber w/ sleeve	Plastic (PS, PET, PP)	PLA	PLA w/ sleeve	Cost Difference for Least Costly Alternative	% Increase
Clamshell -6" 1 compartment	0.04	0.12		0.08	0.26		0.04	102.5
Clamshell -8" 1 compartment	0.08	0.24		0.19	0.41		0.11	140.0
Clamshell -8" 3 compartment	0.08	0.22		0.19	0.37		0.11	137.5
Clamshell -9" 1 compartment	0.09	0.19		0.12	0.29		0.03	30.2
Clamshell -9" 3 compartment	0.09	0.21		0.27			0.12	133.3
<i>Average, Clamshells</i>	<i>0.08</i>	<i>0.20</i>		<i>0.17</i>	<i>0.33</i>		<i>0.08</i>	<i>108.7</i>



Putting it all
together

WHAT DOES IT COST?

To convert from plastic bags to a biodegradable option it would cost about **\$.02** per bag

To convert from plastic straws to a biodegradable option it would cost about **\$.01** per drink

To convert from foam cups to a recyclable option it would cost about **\$.01** per drink

To convert from foam containers to a recyclable option for enchilada take out it would cost about **\$.12-.20** per item

To prevent pollution, save our wildlife, and protect the planet it will cost us all a little bit

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CASE STUDY:

ABQ BIO PARK

Eco Friendly Disposables VS Plastic Disposables Comparison									
Eco Friendly Product Description	Case Cost	Units / Case	Unit Cost	Regular Plastic Product Description	Case Cost	Units / Case	Unit Cost	Cost/Each Difference	
PLATE, BAGASSE 8.25" IVORY BARE SQUARE BIODEGRADABLE PAPER	\$37.74	500	\$0.08	PLATE, PLASTIC 9" BLACK 1 CMPT ROUND	\$40.26	400	\$0.10	\$	(0.03)
PLATE, BAGASSE 10" IVORY BARE SQUARE BIODEGRADABLE PAPER	\$54.85	500	\$0.11	PLATE, FOAM 10.25" 1 CMPT BLACK LAMINATED ROUND	\$56.19	540	\$0.10	\$	0.01
FORK, MEDIUMWEIGHT BEIGE PLANT-STARCH-MATERIAL BULK PLASTIC	\$31.48	1000	\$0.03	FORK, HEAVYWEIGHT BLACK POLYSTYRENE BULK PLASTIC	\$26.99	1000	\$0.03	\$	0.00
SPOON, TEA HEAVYWEIGHT BEIGE PLANT-STARCH-MATERIAL BULK PLASTIC	\$32.43	1000	\$0.03	SPOON, SOUP HEAVYWEIGHT BLACK POLYSTYRENE BULK PLASTIC	\$24.33	1000	\$0.02	\$	0.01
KIT, CUTLERY K-F-S NAP MEDIUMWEIGHT BEIGE PLANT-STARCH-MATERIAL PLASTIC	\$35.71	250	\$0.14	KIT, CUTLERY K-F-S NAP MEDIUMWEIGHT WHITE POLYPROPYLENE PLASTIC	\$14.63	250	\$0.06	\$	0.08
CUP, PLA PLASTIC 12 OZ COLD CLEAR GREEN STRIPE STOCK PRINT	\$76.11	1000	\$0.08	CUP, POLYSTYRENE 12 OZ COLD TRANSLUCENT PLASTIC	\$25.97	855	\$0.03	\$	0.05
CUP, PAPER BOARD 12 OZ SINGLE PLA PLASTIC COATED HOT WORLD ART STOCK PRINT	\$70.57	1000	\$0.07	CUP, POLYSTYRENE 12 OZ Hot TRANSLUCENT PLASTIC	\$23.91	1000	\$0.02	\$	0.05

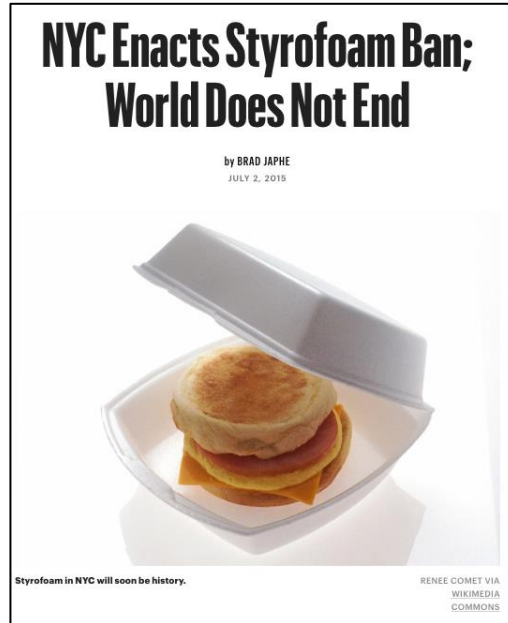
Family of Four	Item #1	EF	TD	Item #2	EF	TD	Item #3	EF	TD	EF	TD	Difference	
Dad	10" Plate	\$0.11	\$0.10	Cold Cup	\$0.08	\$ 0.05	Fork	\$0.03	\$0.03	\$0.22	\$0.18	\$0.04	
Mom	10" Plate	\$0.11	\$0.10	Hot Cup	\$0.08	\$ 0.05	Spoon	\$0.03	\$ 0.01	\$0.22	\$0.16	\$0.06	
Brother	8" Plate	\$0.08	\$0.10	Hot Cup	\$0.07	\$ 0.05	Cutlery Kit	\$0.14	\$0.06	\$0.29	\$0.21	\$0.08	
Sister	8" Plate	\$0.08	\$0.10	Cold Cup	\$0.07	\$ 0.05	Cutlery Kit	\$0.14	\$0.06	\$0.29	\$0.21	\$0.08	
										Totals	\$1.01	\$0.75	\$0.27

EF = Eco Friendly

TD = Traditional Disposable



How have restaurants adapted elsewhere?



“When people come in for takeout orders, they get a paper bag with a handle, or, if it’s a large order, a cardboard box. “It’s OK,” said Tracy Dong.

- New China Restaurant, Hastings, NY

Instead of Styrofoam containers for takeout, he switched to aluminum ones.

- Milton Theodoropoulos, owner of the Center Restaurant, Hudson, NY

Jung has been charging customers who only buy a few items 99 cents for the logo bags, but “when they shop \$20, \$30, I give them free,”

- Cathy Jung, Carryout owner, Hastings, NY



DEBUNKING MYTHS



Al Qaeda-affiliated terror group launches war on plastic bags

When they're not trying to cause death and destruction, one terror group is setting out to save the environment.

Jul 5, 2018 | Al-Qaeda | World | Africa



Reusable bags carry germs.

If you don't wash them, they do. Solution: Wash them.

Complaints about lack of "reuse" for lunch bags, pet waste

True.

Austin's study: cost to replace "free" plastic bags with purchased alternatives was **\$0.80 per person, per year (p26)**

Paper bags have a higher [enviro impact/carbon footprint]

Uses required to offset enviro impact:

- Paper Bags: 3-9 times
- Plastic Bags: 4-12 times
 - *Are you really reusing each plastic bag 12 times?*

Edwards, C., & Fry, J. M. (2011). Life Cycle Assessment of Supermarket Carrier Bags: A Review of the Bags Available in 2006 (UK, Environment Agency).

<https://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=232679>

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WHAT ABOUT... ?



Would you support phasing in straws and Styrofoam bans?

Phasing in straw and Styrofoam bans?

Right now, straw companies are having a hard time keeping up with bans - especially with big states like California recently coming online.

- *Aardvark Straws (US largest): 5000% increase last year, 12 week delay*



Should restaurants be exempted from these bans?

Exempting restaurants?

The Restaurant Association pushed for exemptions to minimum wage and sick leave in the past.

They have effectively pushed for exemptions in Santa Fe, Los Angeles, and others. Exemptions are being rejected in new bans, including in Boston, San Diego, & Charleston.

Their argument: it is too expensive.



WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE

Political Process

- Next hearing will be on **April 15th at 5:00 PM** in the basement of 1 Civic Plaza NW
- There is a pending fiscal impact analysis

What Can You Do To Help?

- Call your Councilor and tell her/him why you support O-18-48
- Support restaurants and businesses that are already taking action and ask others to get on board
- Don't forget your reusable bags when shopping and refuse plastic straws and other unnecessary single use plastics!

