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June 7, 2022

The Honorable Dave Cortese  
California State Senate, 15<sup>th</sup> District  
Capitol Office, 1021 O Street, Suite 6640  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: California Plastic Waste Reduction Regulations Initiative (2022) – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Cortese,

On behalf of the City of Cupertino, I am writing to express our strong support for the California Plastic Waste Reduction Regulations Initiative (2022), which will be included on the November 2022 Statewide ballot.

This ballot initiative would require the California Department of Resources, Recycling, and Recovery (CalRecycle), in consultation with other agencies, to adopt regulations that reduce the use of single-use plastic packaging and foodware. This includes requiring producers to ensure that single-use plastic packaging and foodware is recyclable, reusable, refillable, or compostable by 2030 and requires producers to reduce or eliminate single-use plastic packaging or foodware that CalRecycle deems unnecessary for product or food item delivery. Furthermore, the ballot initiative would require producers to reduce the amount of single-use plastic packaging and foodware sold in California by at least 25% by 2030 and requires producers to use recycled content and renewable materials in the production of single-use plastic packaging and foodware.

This ballot initiative would establish mechanisms for convenient consumer access to recycling, including take-back programs and deposits, establish and enforce labeling standards to support the sorting of discarded single-use plastic packaging and foodware, and prohibit food vendors from distributing expanded polystyrene food service containers.

This ballot initiative would also enact a fee, called the California Plastic Pollution Reduction Fee, on single-use plastic packaging and foodware. CalRecycle would determine the fee amount with a maximum amount of 1 cent per item of packaging or foodware. Beginning in 2030, the fee would be adjusted based on changes in the California Consumer Price Index.

Revenues from the fee would be distributed to CalRecycle, the California Natural Resources Agency, and local governments. Fifty percent would go to CalRecycle for implementing and enforcing the measure and providing funds for statewide recycling, reduction, and composting efforts. Thirty percent would go to the California Natural Resources Agency for state and local grants to address the environmental impacts of plastic pollution, such as habitat restoration. Twenty percent would go to local governments for recycling and composting programs and plastic pollution mitigation.

This ballot initiative would provide an opportunity to increase pressure on the plastics industry to rein in the harmful environmental impacts of their single-use products, and to rebuild and support California's recycling system. Reducing plastic production and boosting recycling helps protect wildlife and our communities from the harmful impacts of plastic trash. For these reasons, the City of Cupertino strongly supports the California Plastic Waste Reduction Regulations Initiative.

Sincerely,



Darcy Paul  
Mayor  
City of Cupertino