

# ACTION ALERT

## ***Your Help is Needed to Prevent a Proposal to Ban Take-Out Food & Beverage Containers in the South Bay Region***

On June 27<sup>th</sup>, the Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission (RWRC) of Santa Clara County will examine a proposal to ban take-out food & beverage containers. This ill-conceived measure could impose economic hardships on local businesses, consumers and manufacturers.

Your help is needed NOW. Please consider writing a letter to the RWRC voicing your concern that bans on foodservice products are not an ideal solution to reducing litter in Santa Clara County.

Consider that this proposal will:

- create financial burdens on local restaurants, caterers, coffeehouses, delis, and other food providers.
- cause a reduction of worker hours and potential employee cutbacks at local businesses that are operating on thin margins.
- impose a “de facto” tax resulting in higher costs for consumers.
- reduce millions in state tax revenues due to a decline in manufacturing of foodservice products.

Local businesses are willing to do their part to reduce litter – to work collaboratively with city/county governments and anti-litter advocates to implement programs designed to educate the public on recycling solutions and reduce litter in our streams, streets and community parks.

Bans may change the composition of litter but they do not reduce the amount of litter since litterbugs do not discriminate between materials. Behavioral change – not a ban on take-out food & beverage containers – is a key component to any successful litter reduction program.

Please join the South Bay Citizens For Recycling Solutions and visit: [www.donttakeourtakeout.com](http://www.donttakeourtakeout.com). **Write your letter today to the Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission, 1553 Berger Drive, San Jose, CA 95112.**

***Support Recycling, Small Businesses, Consumers and Manufacturing Jobs!  
A Ban on Take-Out Food and Beverage Containers is Bad Public Policy!***