

Marine Degradable Food Service Ware – Ordinance Type F:

A. Food Service Ware

- A food or beverage provider shall dispense prepared food or beverages to customers only in marine degradable disposable food service ware.
- All City facilities, whether owned or leased by the City, City-managed concessions, City-sponsored events, and City-permitted events shall use only marine degradable disposable food service ware to dispense prepared food or beverages.

B. Plastic Straws/Stirrers/Utensils

- A food or beverage provider shall provide marine degradable disposable straws and utensils to customers only upon request. A food or beverage provider may ask customers whether disposable straws or disposable utensils are needed.
- All City facilities, whether owned or leased by the City, City-managed concessions, City-sponsored events, and City-permitted events shall use only marine degradable disposable food service ware to dispense prepared food or beverages.
- Food and beverage providers, as well as City facilities, City-managed concessions, City-sponsored events, and City-permitted events, may retain and dispense plastic straws as an accommodation to people with disabilities who request them to enjoy equal access to food and beverage services within the City.

B. Definitions

- “Disposable food service ware” means disposable products intended for single or limited uses, used for serving or transporting prepared food or beverages. Includes, but is not limited to, plates, cups, bowls, trays, hinged or lidded containers, straws, stirrers, lid plugs, lids and utensils. Does not include disposable packaging for unprepared foods.
- “Marine degradable” means products recognized as “marine degradable,” designed to biodegrade under the marine environmental conditions of aerobic marine waters or anaerobic marine sediments in less than one hundred twenty days. Products predominantly made with plastics, either petroleum or biologically based, shall not be considered marine degradable.
- “Prepared food” means any food or beverage prepared on the food provider’s premises, using any cooking or food preparation technique. Does not include any raw uncooked meat, fish or eggs unless provided for consumption without further food preparation.

C. Exemptions

- The Director may exempt a food or beverage provider from the requirements of this Chapter, in whole or in part, upon showing by the food or beverage provider that complying with the requirements of this Chapter would cause significant economic hardship to the food or beverage provider and no reasonable alternative exists that is consistent with the requirements of this Chapter and would mitigate such significant economic hardship.

D. Example

- **Santa Monica Ordinance No. 2216 plus Ordinance No. 2586**