



Zero Waste Policy City of Cupertino Resolution No. 17-xxx

POLICY PURPOSE:

The City of Cupertino understands that the generation of waste produces litter, and the placement of materials in waste disposal facilities such as landfills, negatively impacts human health, wastes natural resources, and transfers liabilities to future generations. The purpose of this Zero Waste Policy is to:

- Protect the environment and conserve natural resources
- Prevent pollutants from entering the air, land, and water
- Create a more sustainable, efficient economy
- Preserve the environment for future generations

POLICY STATEMENT:

It is the policy of the City of Cupertino that the City will work to:

1. Reduce the amount of waste being generated and disposed of by Cupertino employees, businesses and residents.
2. Encourage employees, businesses, and residents, through education and the provision of infrastructure, to reuse and recycle materials judiciously and pursue source reduction by selecting products or processes that use fewer natural resources, are minimally packaged, and minimize or eliminate the use of toxic materials.
3. Divert recovered materials to their highest and best use.
4. Educate consumers to use their buying power to demonstrate a preference for less-toxic, durable, re-usable, recycled, or composted products and materials over unsustainable, toxic, disposable, single-use products.
5. Acknowledge that lifecycle analyses show that re-usable food ware is generally preferable to single-use containers when materials extraction, fabrication, transport, distribution and disposal are all considered.
6. Support extended producer responsibility (EPR) legislation that shifts financial and physical responsibility for material recovery, at the end of product life, from local government to the producers and sellers.
7. Support legislation and policy that drives producers to minimize environmental impacts through improved product design.

8. Support regional, state and federal efforts to implement laws, policies and regulations that promote zero waste objectives.
9. Require, through the City's waste hauling franchise agreement, steadfast and ongoing efforts by the City's franchisee to maintain a minimum residential and commercial waste diversion rate of 75% with a goal of reaching and maintaining 80% by 2025.
10. Ensure that facilities, infrastructure, and outreach are in place to enable all people in Cupertino to divert all discarded materials correctly and entirely. Properly manage all recovered materials and continue to support backyard composting.
11. Pilot and steadfastly work to expand programs that result in materials being diverted from the landfill to their highest and best use, and innovative, cost effective programs that reduce waste generation.
12. Work locally and regionally to assist in zero waste planning and implementation.
13. Lead by example, implementing zero waste goals for all City buildings by:
 - Adopting and enforcing an Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy
 - Making reusable food ware available and encouraging its use
 - Implementing zero waste objectives during event planning and encouraging food take-home and donation immediately after events
14. Adopt policies that favor environmental and economically sustainable practices.

(For Consideration by Cupertino City Council on 12/19/2017)