

AGENDA: August 25, 1998

 DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

GOVERNMENTAL CENTER

701 OCEAN STREET, SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA 950604070

 JOHN A. FANTHAM
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

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August 13, 1998

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, California 95060

SUBJECT: COUNTY PACKAGING ORDINANCE

Members of the Board:

Chapter 5.46 of the County Code establishes policy goals for businesses in the unincorporated areas of the county to 1) voluntarily eliminate the use of polystyrene foam packaging (PSF) and 2) voluntarily reduce by 50% the amount of non-biodegradable, non-recyclable and non-returnable packaging used. The Code establishes a July 1, 1998, date for compliance with these packaging goals and requires that a report be submitted to your Board within 60 days of July 1, 1998, concerning the degree to which the voluntary goals have been attained.

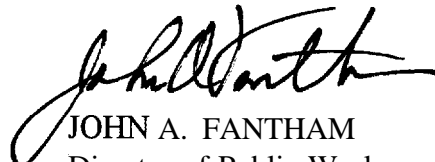
Chapter 5.46 also provides, based on this evaluation, for a subsequent Code amendment to shift from voluntary compliance to a prohibition on PSF use and a mandated 50% reduction of non-biodegradable, non-recyclable and non-returnable packaging (starting January 1, 1999), if the goals are not met. Public Works has arranged for Ecology Action, as part of their solid waste public awareness services contract with the County, to conduct a survey of businesses in the unincorporated areas of the county on the above packaging issues. The survey is using mail, telephone and on-site visits and the last round of follow-up contacts will be made during the second half of August. A formal report will be ready by late September and based on that schedule we propose to return to your Board on October 6, 1998, with recommendations regarding the ordinance requirements for packaging reduction.

It is therefore recommended that the Board of Supervisors take the following action:

1. Accept and file this report on voluntary compliance with the packaging reduction goals of Chapter 5.46 of the Santa Cruz County Code.

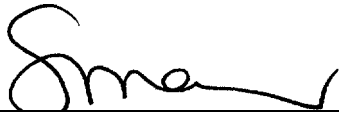
- 2. Direct Public Works to return on October 6, 1998, with a report on the packaging reduction survey results and recommendations for further action to achieve the goals of Chapter 5.46.

Yours truly,


 JOHN A. FANTHAM
 Director of Public Works

DdG:rw

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:



County Administrative Officer

- copy to:
- California Public Interest Group
 - Clerk of the Board
 - County Administrative Office
 - County Counsel
 - County Environmental Health Services
 - County Health Officer
 - Public Works, Solid Waste Division
 - Dominican Hospital
 - City of Santa Cruz
 - City of Watsonville
 - City of Capitola
 - City of Scotts Valley
 - Ecology Action of Santa Cruz
 - Elected Representatives to the Integrated Waste Management Local Task Force
 - Food and Nutrition Services
 - Local Schools Food Services
 - Santa Cruz Area Chamber of Commerce
 - Santa Cruz Area Restaurant Association
 - Unincorporated Areas Chambers of Commerce