

# SINGLE-USE ITEM CONSULTATION

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# WHAT ARE WE DOING?

The City is undertaking consultation on single-use items in order to understand how they are used in the community, as well as attitudes and barriers towards reduction

The consultation process will inform the creation of a Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy



# WHAT ARE SINGLE-USE ITEMS?

Common single-use items targeted for reduction strategies and bans:

- Plastic and paper retail bags
- Foam, plastic and paper cups
- Foam, plastic and paper take-out containers
- Plastic and paper straws
- Disposable utensils



# WHY IS THIS NEEDED?

## Environmental Considerations:

- Contribute to litter
- Some are not recyclable and contaminate other recyclables
- Often disposed of as garbage
- Require significant resources to produce, only get used once, and then have a long-lasting impact on our environment

## Cost Considerations:

- Many are disposed of in City street cans, which have costs to service
- When disposed of as garbage, take up valuable airspace in the landfill



# THE PURPOSE OF THIS WORKSHOP

We want to hear from you:

- Does your business rely on single-use items?
- What barriers do you face when it comes to reducing this reliance?
- How willing are you to implement changes aimed at reducing single-use items?



# SINGLE-USE ITEM ACTIONS

## FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS

Federal Government investigating bans on some plastics

- Regulation not expected until 2021 or later

Provincial Government is developing a “Plastics Action Plan”

- Amendments to the *Recycling Regulation* are expected this year
- No timeline for bans



# SINGLE-USE ITEM ACTIONS

## LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

### Key Factors:

- Provincial Government regulates environmental protection through the *Environmental Management Act*
- Local Government legislation to protect the environment needs Provincial approval

Over 30 municipalities throughout BC are investigating or implementing some form of single-use item regulation

City of Victoria was one of the first to implement a bylaw banning plastic checkout bags (July 2018)

- Bylaw banned plastic bags and set minimum fees for paper bags
- This bylaw was challenged by the Canadian Plastic Bag Association and struck down by the BC Court of Appeal
- Reverts to need for Provincial approval

# SINGLE-USE ITEM ACTIONS

## LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

City of Vancouver has adopted a Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy with phased implementation



### Foam cups and foam take-out containers

Jan 1, 2020: ban begins for business license holders



### Plastic straws

Apr 22, 2020: accessibility requirements and ban begin



### Disposable utensils

Apr 22, 2020: by-request requirement begins



### Disposable cups

Jan 1, 2021: \$0.25 fee begins



### Plastic and paper bags

Jan 1, 2021: ban on plastic and compostable plastic shopping bags begins, fees on paper and reusable shopping bags



### Take-out containers

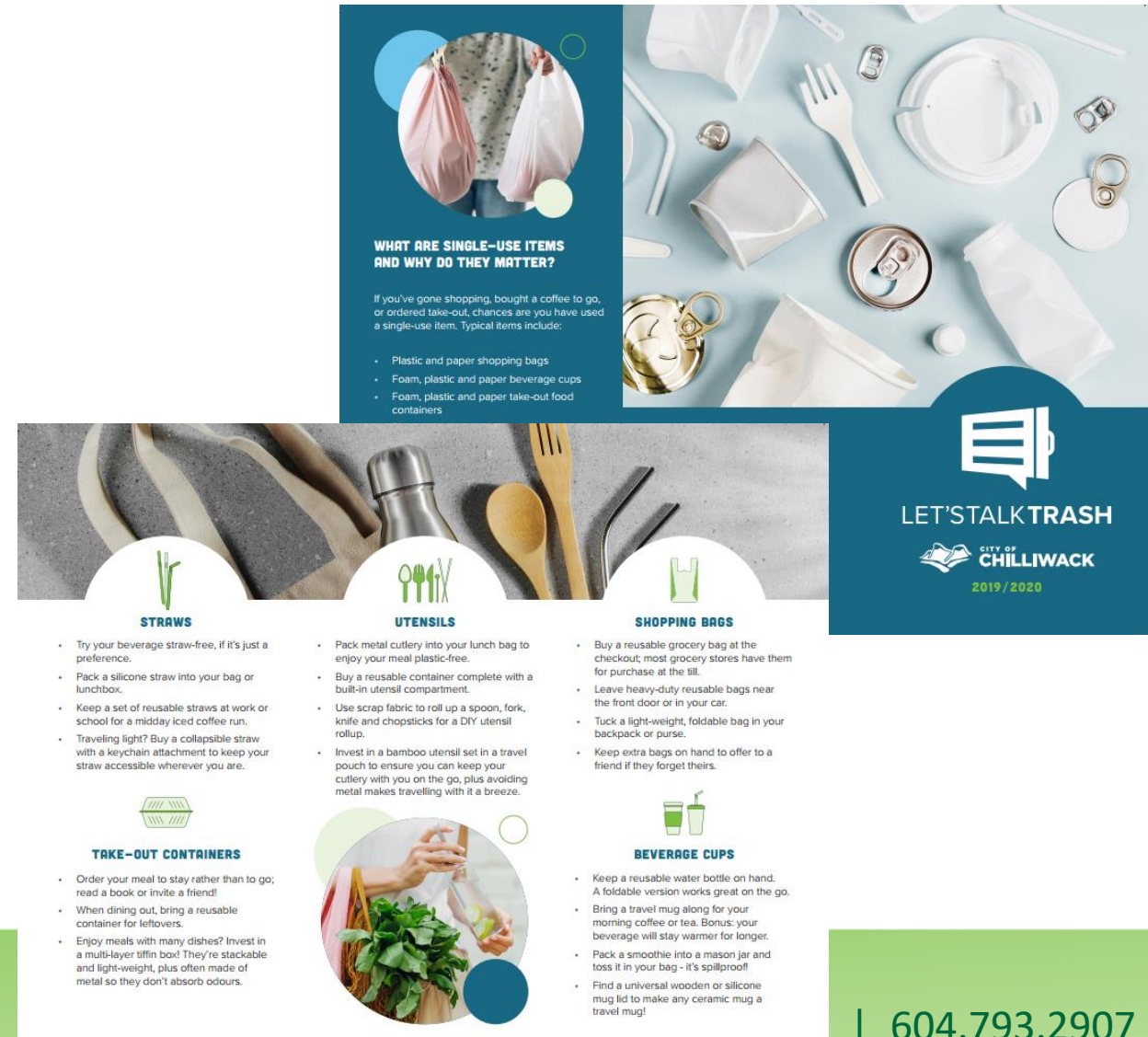
Staff are working with Vancouver Coastal Health to explore opportunities to launch a reusable container initiative in Vancouver.

# CHILLIWACK'S SINGLE-USE ITEM ACTIONS

Best practices are being reviewed as part of this consultation process, including actions taken by other local governments

Educational material has been developed encouraging residents to refuse single-use items and choose reusable alternatives

City will develop a Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy in 2020 based on the outcomes of consultation



**WHAT ARE SINGLE-USE ITEMS AND WHY DO THEY MATTER?**

If you've gone shopping, bought a coffee to go, or ordered take-out, chances are you have used a single-use item. Typical items include:

- Plastic and paper shopping bags
- Foam, plastic and paper beverage cups
- Foam, plastic and paper take-out food containers

**STRAWS**

- Try your beverage straw-free, if it's just a preference.
- Pack a silicone straw into your bag or lunchbox.
- Keep a set of reusable straws at work or school for a midday iced coffee run.
- Traveling light? Buy a collapsible straw with a keychain attachment to keep your straw accessible wherever you are.

**UTENSILS**

- Pack metal cutlery into your lunch bag to enjoy your meal plastic-free.
- Buy a reusable container complete with a built-in utensil compartment.
- Use scrap fabric to roll up a spoon, fork, knife and chopsticks for a DIY utensil rollup.
- Invest in a bamboo utensil set in a travel pouch to ensure you can keep your cutlery with you on the go, plus avoiding metal makes travelling with it a breeze.

**SHOPPING BAGS**

- Buy a reusable grocery bag at the checkout; most grocery stores have them for purchase at the till.
- Leave heavy-duty reusable bags near the front door or in your car.
- Tuck a light-weight, foldable bag in your backpack or purse.
- Keep extra bags on hand to offer to a friend if they forget theirs.

**TAKE-OUT CONTAINERS**

- Order your meal to stay rather than to go; read a book or invite a friend!
- When dining out, bring a reusable container for leftovers.
- Enjoy meals with many dishes? Invest in a multi-layer tiffin box! They're stackable and light-weight, plus often made of metal so they don't absorb odours.

**BEVERAGE CUPS**

- Keep a reusable water bottle on hand. A foldable version works great on the go.
- Bring a travel mug along for your morning coffee or tea. Bonus: your beverage will stay warmer for longer.
- Pack a smoothie into a mason jar and toss it in your bag - it's spillproof!
- Find a universal wooden or silicone mug lid to make any ceramic mug a travel mug!

**LET'S TALK TRASH**

CITY OF CHILLIWACK  
2019 / 2020

# SINGLE-USE ITEM CONSULTATION



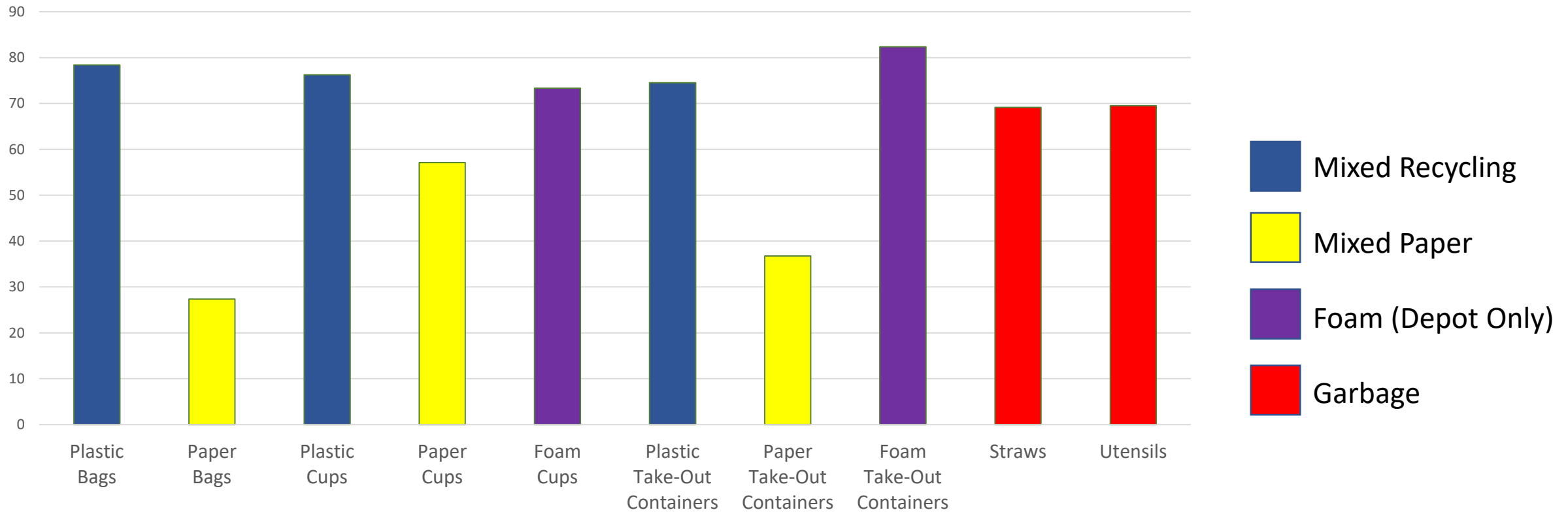
Feedback from residents at pop-up booths was generally in favour of reducing single-use items

Public consultation occurred in December:

- Online survey received over 1000 responses
- Three pop-up booths connected with almost 200 people

# SINGLE-USE ITEM CONSULTATION

Online Survey: Percent “Very Important” and “Important” when asked how important it is to reduce your use of particular single-use items:



# SINGLE-USE ITEM CONSULTATION

Input from businesses is being sought:

Open House:

- January 23 from 4:00-7:00pm in the Slesse Room at Evergreen Hall

Workshop:

- January 28 from 12:00-1:30pm at Sardis Library

On-line Survey:

- Available at [chilliwack.com/SUI](https://chilliwack.com/SUI) until February 9

# QUESTIONS?