

## MAYOR STEVEN SCHARF

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CITY HALL

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August 30, 2019

The Honorable Ben Allen California State Senate State Capitol Building, Room 5072 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 54 (Allen) California Circular Economy and Plastic Pollution Reduction Act Notice of SUPPORT (As Amended 8/14/19)

Dear Senator Allen,

The City of Cupertino is pleased to Support SB 54 (Allen), the California Circular Economy and Plastic Pollution Reduction Act. This bill directs the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to adopt regulations before January 1, 2024 that require specified producers to collectively achieve a statewide 75 percent reduction of waste generated from single-use packaging and priority single-use plastic products in the California market by 2030. SB 54 also requires all of these single-use plastic products be recyclable or compostable.

SB 54 requires producers, which include people or companies that manufacture single-use packaging and products, to source reduce these single-use plastics through a combination of source reduction, recycling, or composting by 2030. To achieve this CalRecycle's regulations will require producers to ensure these plastic products are recyclable or compostable. This will both reduce the plastic pollution in our waterways and oceans and prevent materials, which are often landfilled, from entering the waste stream.

SB 54 also requires CalRecycle by January 1, 2023, and before the adoption of regulations, to finalize a scoping plan that will include extensive outreach with stakeholders, including local governments. This will give local governments a voice in the creation of the forthcoming regulations to address potential implementation challenges.

Additionally, the scoping plan includes developing incentives and policies to maximize and encourage in-state manufacturing using recycled material generated in California. Developing these incentives will address the lack of recycling markets in California, as recyclable materials once shipped overseas are now piling up with nowhere to go.

Cities have dedicated significant time and resources to develop and implement their recycling programs and want to ensure local recycling programs continue to be successful. SB 54 will help local governments recycle more materials, throw less waste into landfills, and advance towards meeting statewide solid waste and recycling goals. The League is supportive of meeting these goals and applauds Senator Allen, and yourself, for your combined leadership on this issue.

For these reasons, the City of Cupertino is proud to support SB 54. If you have any questions, please contact Alex Gibbs at 916-447-4086.

Sincerely,

Steven Scharf

Mayor, City of Cupertino

cc:

Senator Jim Beall

Assemblymember Marc Berman Assemblymember Evan Low