



THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 54

February 6, 2020

ELIMINATING UNNECESSARY SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BOTTLES

WHEREAS, the burning of fossil fuels, the primary cause of climate change, is toxic to New York City and the planet, and ending our reliance on them is an existential necessity; and

WHEREAS, fossil fuels are an integral component in the production of single-use plastics, which do not biodegrade but break down into ever smaller pieces, enter the food chain, and pollute our waterways; and

WHEREAS, single-use plastics that are discarded on New York City streets wash down catch basins and end up in New York City waterways - threatening marine wildlife, putting human health at risk, negatively impacting recreational activities; and

WHEREAS, limiting plastic waste will support both the City's Zero Waste goals and carbon reductions, and eliminating the use of City funds for the unnecessary purchase of single-use plastics will allow the City to send less waste to landfills and cut emissions associated with the production and transport of single-use plastics; and

WHEREAS, the City of New York is committed to reducing the number of single-use plastic products it purchases and sells on its property; and

WHEREAS, the City of New York annually purchases at least one million single-use plastic beverage bottles, intended to be used once and then disposed; and

WHEREAS, water access is essential for health and safety and its provision via single-use plastic bottles remains a necessity in situations where alternative methods are not feasible;

NOW, THEREFORE, by the power vested in me as the Mayor of the City of New York, it is hereby ordered:

Section 1. Definitions. In this section, a "single-use plastic beverage bottle" refers to a drink, such as water, in a sealed rigid plastic bottle having a capacity of 21 fluid ounces or less.

§ 2. Development of a Reduction Plan. By June 30, 2020, every City agency shall develop, submit to the Mayor's Office of Contract Services and the Mayor's Office of Sustainability, and begin implementation of a plan to (a) eliminate any unnecessary expenditure of City funds for the purchase of single-use plastic beverage bottles in favor of reusable options determined eligible by the City and (b) eliminate the

unnecessary sale of single use plastic beverage bottles on City owned and leased property. Where reusable options are infeasible, as determined by the Mayor's Office of Contract Services, Mayor's Office of Sustainability, and other City agencies as required, other options that produce a meaningful reduction in waste may be substituted with approval by the Department of Sanitation. The goal of the plan will be to eliminate such unnecessary purchase and sale of single-use plastic beverage bottles by January 1, 2021.

§ 3. Plan Requirements. Each agency's reduction plan shall include, but need not be limited to, the following: (a) a description of the current purchases and sales of single-use plastic beverage bottles by the City agency or on the City agency's owned or leased property, if any; (b) a description of the specific projects, programs, actions, and policies to be undertaken to achieve compliance with this Order; (c) a description of steps the agency will take to limit new contractual commitments to purchase single-use plastic beverage bottles; (d) a description of steps the agency will take to ensure new or renewed contractual agreements, such as concession agreements, contain provisions limiting the purchase or sale of single use plastic beverage bottles, and the time by which such contractual provisions will be in place; and (e) a description of the accommodations for necessary use or sale of single-use plastic beverage bottles outlined below.

§ 4. Necessary Use or Sale of Single-Use Plastic Beverage Bottles. Each agency's reduction plan shall provide for the necessary use or sale of single-use plastic beverage bottles in the following circumstances: (a) when no alternative is available or practicable; (b) when necessary to protect health, safety, and welfare; (c) when compliance with this Order would conflict with contract requirements or labor agreements in existence as of the effective date of this Order or agreements solicited before the effective date of this Order, and (d) to prepare for or respond to an emergency.

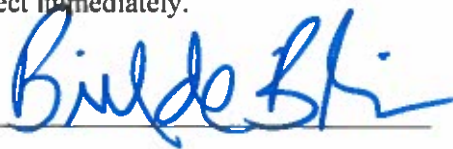
§ 5. Maintaining Accessibility. Each City agency shall include accessibility in its planning efforts and ensure that the agency's reduction plan developed pursuant to section 2 of this Order accommodates the needs of all consumers in a manner deemed sufficient by the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities.

§ 6. Outreach and Education. Agencies, including but not limited to the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities and the Mayor's Office of Sustainability, shall conduct public outreach, including to people with disabilities and representatives from advocacy organizations for people with disabilities, to inform them of the provisions of and their rights under this Order.

§ 7. Extension of Deadline. If a City agency is unable to comply with the time frames set forth in this Order, it may obtain an extension upon the approval of the Mayor's Office of Contract Services, for good cause shown, and only to the extent necessary to address the justification supporting the extension.

§ 8. Reporting. Each City agency shall report on the progress of its reduction plan developed pursuant to section 2 of this Order in its annual Agency Waste Prevention, Reuse, and Recycling Plan submitted to the Department of Sanitation pursuant to Section 16-307 of the Administrative Code, beginning with the Agency Waste Prevention, Reuse, and Recycling Plan to be submitted in June 2021.

§ 9. Effective Date. This Order shall take effect immediately.



Bill de Blasio  
Mayor