



## Plastics Food Service Packaging Group

City of Saint Paul – Sustainable “To Go” Food Packaging Initiative - Nov 21, 2016 Working Group meeting

### “Partnerships: Successful approaches that deal with litter/waste reduction for Packaging without impacting specific products” - Industry (ACC)/City Partnership Case Studies:

#### **Honolulu, Hawaii (Oahu):**

The plastics industry (ACC), working with local government partners in Oahu, Hawaii, commissioned a comprehensive study of the solid waste (litter and trash) and storm water management systems, particularly as they relate to litter control and diversion opportunities in Honolulu. The goals of this study were to identify specific, actionable and sustainable strategies for improving and integrating litter control functions with the solid waste and storm water management systems. The study was completed in early 2016 and we began to move towards implementing its recommendations. Partnerships are now with *KHIB (Keep Hawaiian Islands Beautiful)* and *KAB (Keep America Beautiful)*, *Local Hawaiian Restaurants*, *KUPU* (whose mission is to empower youth to serve their communities through character-building, service learning, and environmental stewardship opportunities that encourage integrity (pono) with God (Ke Akua), self and others) and with KHIB in an intern program to help foster positive litter prevention and education messages. Pilot project underway to install new trash cans with lids to reduce blowing litter and waste in largest park – Ala Moana Park.

#### **Baltimore, MD:**

In 2013, the plastics industry (ACC) partnered with the City of Baltimore (Mayor’s office, DPW, City Council, and Baltimore Sustainability Commission) to address zero waste programs there through neighborhood empowerment. ACC funded the “Clean Community Competition” which incentivized and awarded (\$5000 first prize) Baltimore City neighborhoods that developed and document programs that reduce litter and packaging waste. Waste Management has also funded the program, and this has become a positive local activity that does not impact packaging products per se – but address all litter and waste.

#### **Los Angeles, CA – City and County:**

ACC’s Plastics Division has been working for last 10 years proactively in L.A. on a number of programs that have reduce litter and waste in L.A., as well as increasing recycling of plastics, including polystyrene foam:

- Assisted L.A. Bureau of Sanitation in advertising campaign “New to the Blue” for their curbside residential and multifamily recycling program. \$250,000 helped with citizens better understanding which plastics went into curbside program
- Funded Friends of the L.A. River for litter/packaging cleanup for 10 years in L.A. Funded college interns to help with measurement and cleanup.
- Sponsored L.A. Conservation Corps (group promoting recycling and environmental responsibility to youth in Los Angeles Region) for 10 years. Litter and waste education resulted in a cleaner L.A.
- Instituted “Rinse and Recycle” program in conjunction with California Restaurant Association which has engaged over a 1000 restaurants who put posters and help educate consumers on how to increase plastics, including polystyrene foam, foodservice recycling for “to go” packaging.

#### **Interactive Plastics Recycling Map/Markets – Moore Recycling partnership:**

ACC Plastics Division, working with partner groups FPI, EPS-IA, Canadian Plastics Industry Association and SPI, helped develop through recognized recycling expert Moore Recycling, an interactive website to facilitate recycling of polypropylene and foam polystyrene in U.S. and Canada. Communities throughout the U.S. have a source that is current to see where they can take their plastic recycling: <http://www.recyclomoreplastic.org/>  
End market studies are next step, to assist communities like Saint Paul, with plastics recycling.