

Dear Stakeholder,

You are invited to join us on December 21st at 5PM for a virtual public hearing. We will be introducing new and updated green purchasing regulations for the City and welcoming oral comments.

San Francisco's Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Ordinance, Chapter 2 of the City's Environment Code, requires the San Francisco Department of Environment (Department) to adopt a list of "Approved Alternative Products". These products have a lesser impact on human health and the environment when compared to other similar products. For each Approved Alternative Product, the Department defines environmental specifications that guide City Department purchasing. These specifications are posted and labeled on SFApproved.org as "Required". We are in the process of cementing these requirements into regulation for clarity.

The last green purchasing regulations were published in 2013. The Department has revised these regulations and added new ones to expand the number of Approved Alternative Products covered. A comparison of the old and new regulations is provided below. These new and revised regulations were drafted in partnership with the Responsible Purchasing Network, the Center for Environmental Health, and Healthcare Without Harm. They have been reviewed by City Department staff, including the Building Materials Green Team, the Custodial Products Green Team, painters, resilient flooring experts, lighting experts, architects, purchasers, and the City Sustainable Purchasing Committee.

We welcome your feedback, questions and comments. We want to ensure that these regulations are achievable for affected City Departments. To submit written comments, please email Jennifer.monnet@sfgov.org by 5PM on December 18th. To submit oral comments, please join us online for our virtual public hearing at 5PM on December 21st.

We look forward to hearing from you.

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Pronouns: she, her, hers

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The table below summarizes how the proposed 2020 green purchasing regulations differ from the 2013 green purchasing regulations and other existing green purchasing requirements on SFAApproved.org.

Product Category	Summary of main change(s)	Additional notes
Compostable plastic bags	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changed title from “Compostable bags” • Removed unnecessary details. • Added “decomposable” to the list of adjectives to avoid (section 3) 	No substantive changes
Electronic equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changed title from “Computer desktops, laptops and monitors” to reflect that the policy has expanded to other product categories. 	No substantive changes
Furniture (upholstered)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The furniture regulations are new, but their requirements are almost identical to those on SFAApproved. • The regulations now require documentation showing that the furniture product is 3rd party certified. 	Current furniture contracts for 49 Mission used very similar requirements. Regs would not apply to purchases already in process (i.e. post-RFP)
Janitorial cleaning products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarified that these regulations “do not apply to surface disinfectants and sanitizers”. • Product subcategories have been consolidated from 10 to 4 subcategories. • Subcategory “General purpose cleaners”: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Added: can’t be in aerosol containers; concentrated cleaning chemicals must be in a spill-resistant package; and we added certifications to the list of acceptable ecolabel certifications ○ Added: subcategory includes concentrated and ready-to-use products • Subcategory “Hand soaps”: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Added 2 additional certifications to the list of acceptable ecolabel certifications (Cradle to Cradle and Safer Choice) ○ Added: subcategory includes foaming and non-foaming liquid formulations 	<p>Updates made to the 2013 janitorial cleaning products regulation don’t impact contracts because 1) there is no citywide contract, and 2) the Airport’s janitorial cleaners contract meets the requirements outlined in the new regulations.</p> <p>The 2013 regulations for hand sanitizers are outdated and no longer relevant to available products, so they are not included in these updated regulations.</p> <p>The 2013 regulations for hand dishwashing detergents have been merged into these janitorial cleaning products regulations, under the sub-section Specialty Cleaners.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subcategory “Hard floor care products”: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Added: can’t be in aerosol containers; concentrated cleaning chemicals must be in a spill-resistant package ○ Added: 2 more certifications to the list of acceptable ecolabels (Cradle to Cradle and Safer Choice) ○ Added: subcategory includes concentrated and ready-to-use • Subcategory “Specialty cleaners”: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Added: concentrated cleaning chemicals must be in a spill-resistant package ○ Added: 3 more certifications to the list of acceptable ecolabels (Cradle to Cradle, Green Seal and Safer Choice) ○ Changed: urinal cakes now must have an ecolabel ○ Changed: furniture polish now required to meet Safer Choice. Eliminated previous language: “Ready-to-use in a trigger spray bottle. Non-aerosol. May not contain glycol ethers, phthalates, monoethanolamine or alkyl phenol ethoxylates; pH 6-10. No chlorinated compounds. No chemicals known to the state of California to cause cancer (as listed under Prop 65).” 	
<p>Janitorial papers</p>	<p>While this is a new regulation, there have been mandatory janitorial papers purchasing requirements listed on SFApproved.org for many years. The differences between the requirements outlined on SFApproved.org and these new regulations are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We reduced the amount of recycled content required to reflect updated market conditions. 	<p>Existing vendors have these products.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We took out the requirement that janitorial papers be “processed chlorine-free” because that wasn’t available for some categories. • Subcategory “Facial tissues” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Added: must not be labeled “anti-viral” or “anti-bacterial”; and must not contain any added inks, dyes or fragrances. • Subcategory “Paper towels” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Added: must be certified by Green Seal or UL ECOLOGO; and must not contain any added inks, dyes or fragrances. • Subcategory “Toilet paper and toilet seat covers” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Added: must be certified by Green Seal or UL ECOLOGO; and must not contain any added inks, dyes or fragrances. 	
<p>Lighting equipment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changed title from “Lighting (Lamps and Ballasts)” • The regulations differ slightly from the contract language: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ City Departments must now purchase LED lighting equipment whenever possible. Where LED’s can’t be purchased (because it’s “not possible or practical”), the alternative must comply with the specifications listed. ○ Added: to their respective sections, lists of prohibited fluorescent lamps, high-intensity discharge (HID) lamps, halogen/incandescent lamps, ballasts and luminaires. ○ Removed: any section referencing which products may be purchased if LED’s are not possible or practical. Instead, we list specs for what must be purchased and products that are prohibited. 	

Office supplies	Regulation on Office Supplies is new. However, the language in our Citywide office supplies contract specifies that SF Environment can change product specs as needed.	
Paints and primers	These paint and primer regulations are new. However, they mirror the specifications we've been recommending on SFAproved.org.	Many compliant products on existing paint contracts.
Resilient flooring	<p>These resilient flooring regulations are new. However, they mirror the specifications we've been recommending on SFAproved.org. (These specs are the same as Healthcare Without Harm's specs, referred to on SFAproved.org)</p> <p>The main difference between these specs and the ones on SFAproved is that we've added a requirement to the regulation for adhesives used with resilient flooring.</p>	Regs would not apply to purchases already in process (i.e. post-RFP)