



**SF Environment**

**Our home. Our city. Our planet.**

A Department of the City and County of San Francisco

Edwin M. Lee  
Mayor

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Director

**April 20, 2020**

## **Food Service and Packaging Waste Reduction Ordinance Waiver**

### **One Month Waiver for Meat & Fish Trays Prepackaged Outside San Francisco**

The San Francisco Department of Environment, authorized by the Food Service and Packaging Waste Reduction Ordinance (No. 140-16, Chapter 16 of the San Francisco Environment Code) Section 1606(g), hereby waives for one (1) additional month, from April 21, 2020 to May 20, 2020, Environment Code Section 1605 as it applies to the sale or distribution to consumers within San Francisco of meat and fish trays for raw or butchered meat (including poultry) or fish that is sold from a refrigerator or similar retail appliance, if the meat or fish have been prepackaged outside San Francisco and are being sold or distributed in the same prepackaged material. This waiver allows the continued sale and distribution to consumers, until May 20, 2020, of raw or butchered meat or fish packaged in trays made with of polystyrene foam or other material that is not compostable or recyclable may be sold or distributed to consumers if suitable alternatives are not available in adequate supply during this time.

The Department is issuing this waiver based on its assessment of the increased demand for packaged meats due to the San Francisco Health Order to reduce exposure to COVID-19 and potential shortage of supply in suitable alternatives to polystyrene foam. The Department will consider an extension of this waiver period beyond May 20, 2020, ONLY if it receives a request before from meat packaging stakeholders or distributors, on the efforts and progress made towards being able to provide San Francisco stores with raw or butchered meat or fish packaged in compostable or recyclable non-polystyrene foam tray alternatives. Any consideration to extend this waiver beyond May 20, 2020 will be based on the Departments' assessment and satisfaction of the efforts and made to comply with Environment Code Chapter 16.