

# PLASTICS ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT




## *New Jersey's Get Past Plastic Law deemed effective in reducing litter and waste*

On May 4th, 2022, P.L. 2020 c. 117 came into effect, reducing single-use plastic bags, paper bags, polystyrene foam, and plastic straws. The law also created the Plastics Advisory Council, tasked with evaluating the effectiveness and implementation of the law in its first year.

The Council is comprised of 16 Governor-appointed individuals, representing the plastics and recycling industry, the academic community, environmental groups, as well as state and local government. It is currently led by its Chair, Cindy Zipf of Clean Ocean Action with Co-Chair Gary Sondermeyer of Bayshore Recycling.

The Council has just released its first-year report, which includes an analysis of relevant metrics to demonstrate progress of various aspects of the law and lays out a second-year plan to continue the work of the Council. The report also outlined 20 Opportunities for



NJ Food Council estimates at least 5.5 billion plastic bags and 110 million paper bags have been eliminated from the waste stream in New Jersey in the first year of implementation, along with 15 million straws per month.

Action that fit under the following five themes:

- Effectiveness of Implementation
- Waste Reduction as a Future Focus
- Improvement of Plastic Recycling
- Reduction of Microplastics in the Environment
- Additional Legislation

To read the report, please visit:  
<https://dep.nj.gov/get-past-plastic/plastics-advisory-council/>



Any questions?  
Contact [singleuseplastics@dep.nj.gov](mailto:singleuseplastics@dep.nj.gov)  
or call (609) 984-4250