

Plastics Waste Reduction Regulations Ordinance for Introduction

City Council
January 28, 2025

A woman with dark hair, wearing a dark t-shirt and dark pants, stands in a warehouse or storage area. She is holding a blue folder and a smartphone. To her left is a large, messy pile of plastic waste, including many clear plastic bags and some cardboard boxes. The background shows industrial shelving and more boxes. The entire image is framed by a thin orange border.

RECREATE
WASTE COLLABORATIVE

Plastics Waste Reduction Regulations Update

Goals of Proposed Ordinance



Minimize use of single-use plastics and non-recyclable and compostable items



Encourage reuse



Develop regulations with feedback from the community



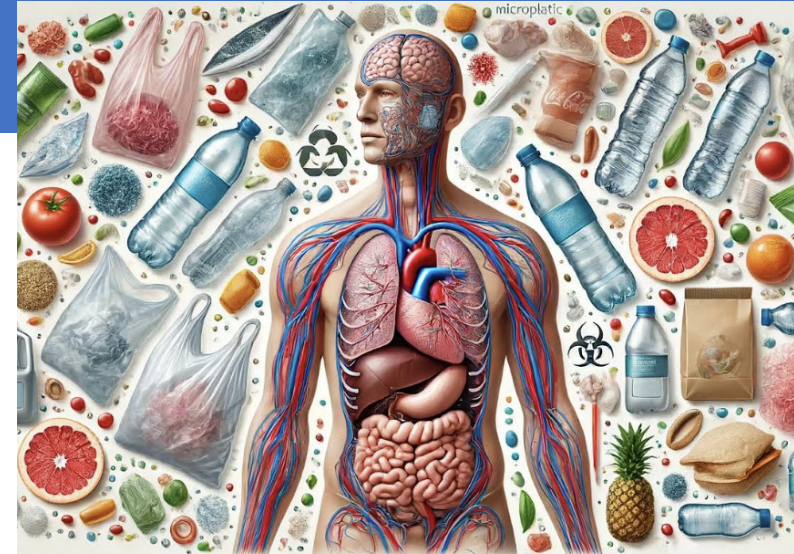
Develop regulations that can be applied effectively



Support organizations to implement the regulations

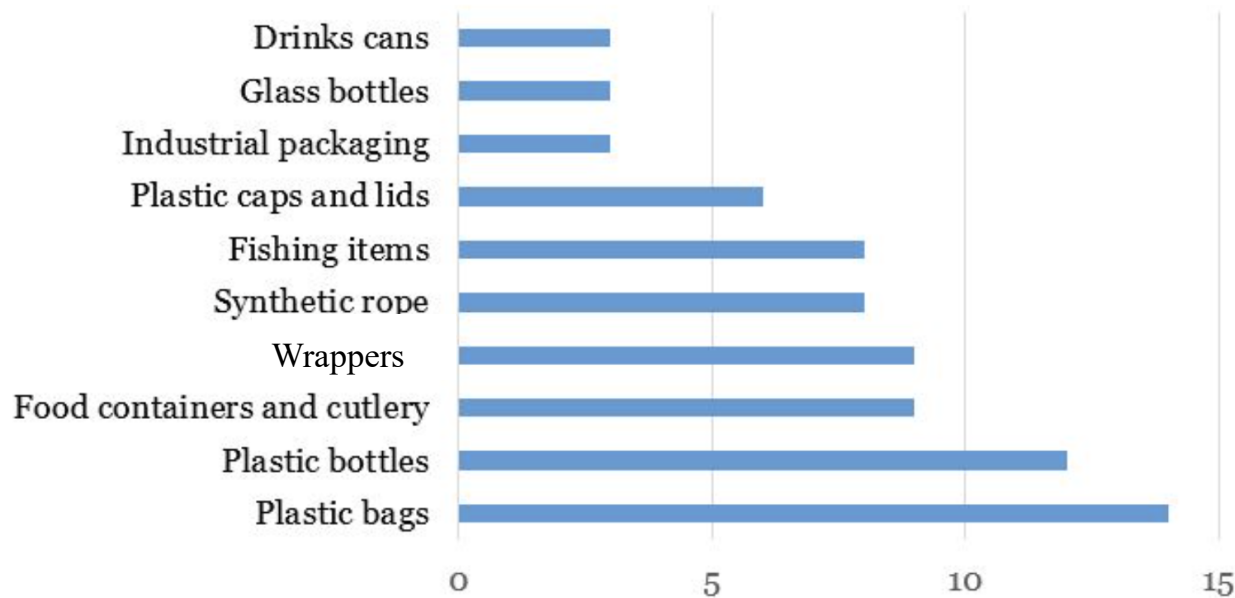
Purpose of City of Glendale Plastic Waste Ordinance: **Health**

- Take-out food containers can contain phthalates, PFAS, and BPA. These types of chemicals have been linked to cancer, problems in the reproductive organs, and several other health problems
- The average person eats a credit card's worth of plastic every week
- Microplastics are in our drinking water
- Microplastics are found in nearly every part of the human body



Purpose of City of Glendale Proposed Plastic Waste Ordinance: **Litter**

Common Items Found on CA Beaches:



(Credit: Caselles et al, Nature Sustainability, 2021)

Sources: NRDC, The Guardian, National Association of Home Builders pricing model



Plastic items from takeaway food and drink dominate the litter in the world's oceans



There is a 7% drop in property values when litter is present



California communities spend approximately \$428 million per year on litter cleanup

Purpose of City of Glendale Plastic Waste Ordinance: **Sustainability**

86% of California voters support plastic reduction legislation at the local level*

SB 54

- Affects all single-use packaging and plastic foodware and requires all single-use packaging be recyclable or compostable by 2032
- Costs for collecting, processing, and recycling packaging will shift from local governments to producers through a Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO)

Landfill Closures

- 10 Active landfills in LA county will be full in the next 15 years

*Oceana USA

Stakeholders: Who is Covered Under the Ordinance?



Food and beverage providers

Restaurants, cafes, cafeterias, bars, delicatessens, bakeries, schools, food trucks, street food vendors, food halls and all other entities that offer food and beverages to the public.



Foodware vendors

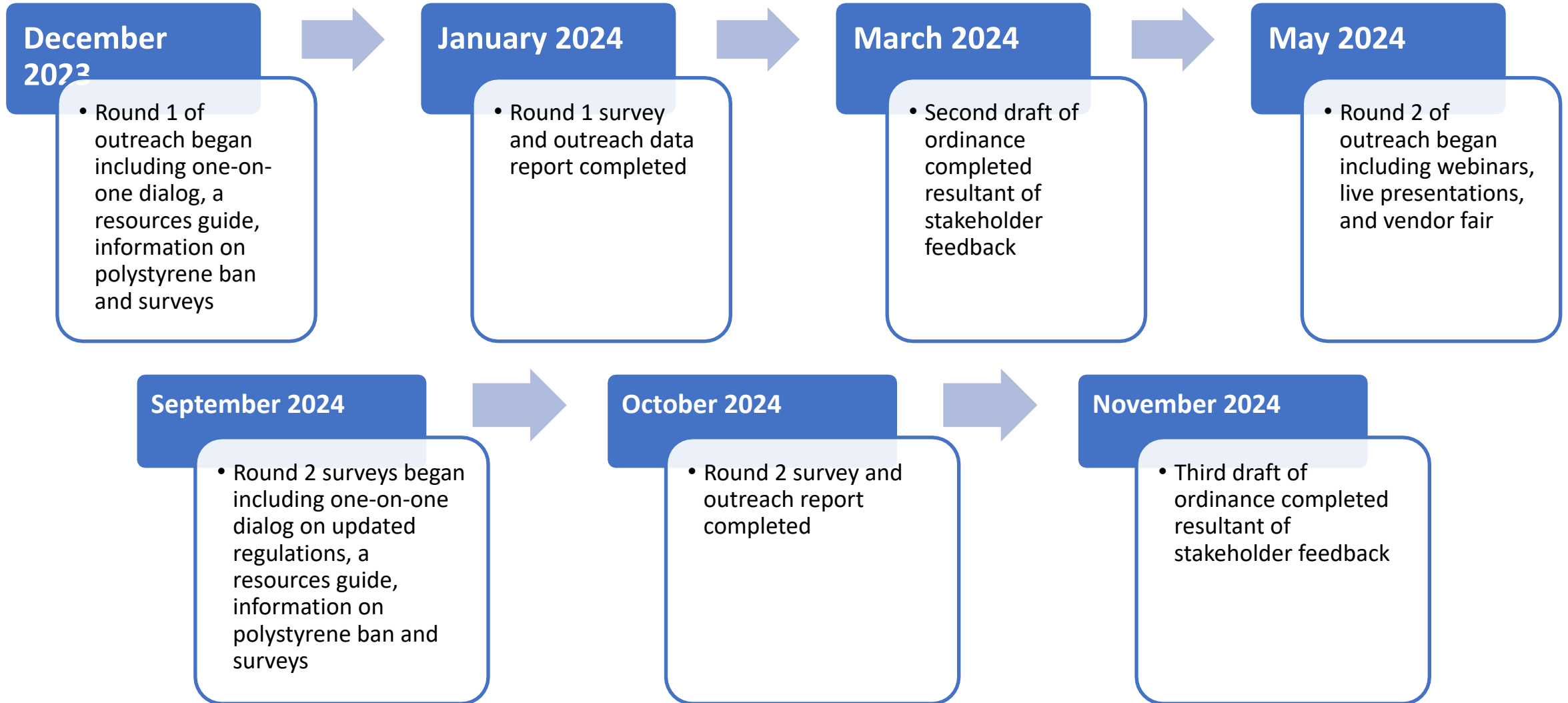
Suppliers, supermarkets, convenience stores.



City of Glendale

City buildings, property, parks, and city-sponsored events and concessions.

Timeline for Stakeholder Engagement



Strategy for Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder engagement was conducted in two phases

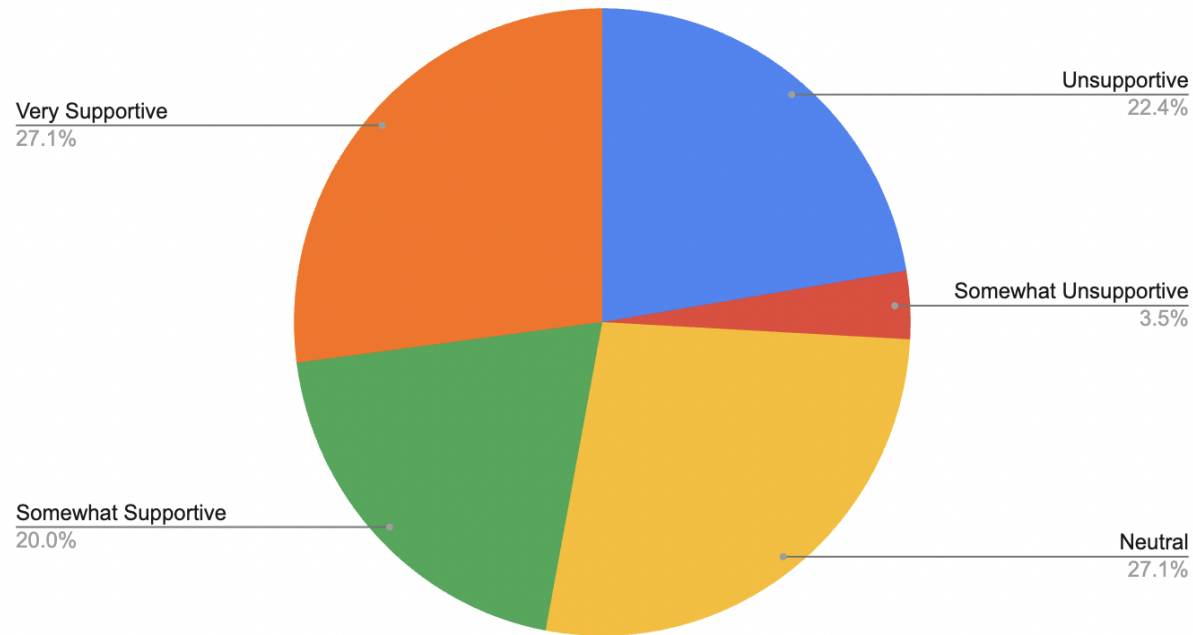
Round 1

- **December 2023** -The City of Glendale and ReCREATE began outreach with over 139 businesses visited and 89 surveys were conducted – visits were in-person with a manager or owner with the purpose of educating and creating an open dialog
- **January 2024** – Adjustments to the proposed ordinance made to reflect the concerns and feedback of the owners and managers of Glendale businesses
- **March 2024** - Second draft of ordinance resultant from outreach completed

Plastic Waste Reduction Proposed Ordinance **Round 1**

- Required reusable foodware for dining on premises
- Required all “to-go” items be served in compostable materials
- Required all foodware accessories (utensils, straws, stirrers) be compostable
- Required a 25 cent cup fee for all to-go beverages (to discourage/encourage)
- Required compliance with AB 1276

Results: Level of Support for Regulations Round 1



Nearly 50% of business owners/managers were supportive of the first version of the regulations

Summary of Feedback:

- 139 businesses visited
- 89 surveys conducted
- Cost and product performance were biggest concerns
- 20% of businesses have already implemented compostable and/or reusable foodware
- Majority of businesses have over 50% of orders as takeout/delivery

Summary of Policy Changes **Round 2** – Based on Stakeholder Feedback

<u>Initial Policy</u>	<u>Proposed Policy</u>	<u>Proposed Policy With Sustainability Commission Recommendations</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reusables required for dine-in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reusables required for dine-in effective January 2026 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● January 2026 for large F&B providers ● July 2026 all others
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Straws, utensils, stirrers must be fiber-based compostable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Straws, utensils, stirrers must be fiber-based compostable – 6 months after adoption 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Compostables required for take out/delivery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Compostables <u>or recyclables</u> required for take out/delivery – January 2026 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Compostables required for take out/delivery – January 2027
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 25 cent customer charge for disposable cups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <u>NO</u> 25 cent customer charge for disposable cups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No change

Disposable Foodware Requirements

All to-go foodware must be served in **compostable (PFAS free/Third-party certified) or recyclable (non-black plastics #1, #2, #5, cardboard, and aluminum) containers.**

Disposable straws, stirrers, and utensils must be natural fiber (paper, pasta, sugar cane, bamboo, or wood) and must be provided **by request only.**



Webinars and Presentations



Two webinars were conducted to provide information on the proposed regulations and collect feedback from stakeholders



Presentations along with a Q&A session were given to The Downtown Glendale Chamber of Commerce, the Glendale Chamber of Commerce, The Montrose Shopping Park Association, The Crescenta Valley Chamber of Commerce, and The Glendale Sustainability Commission

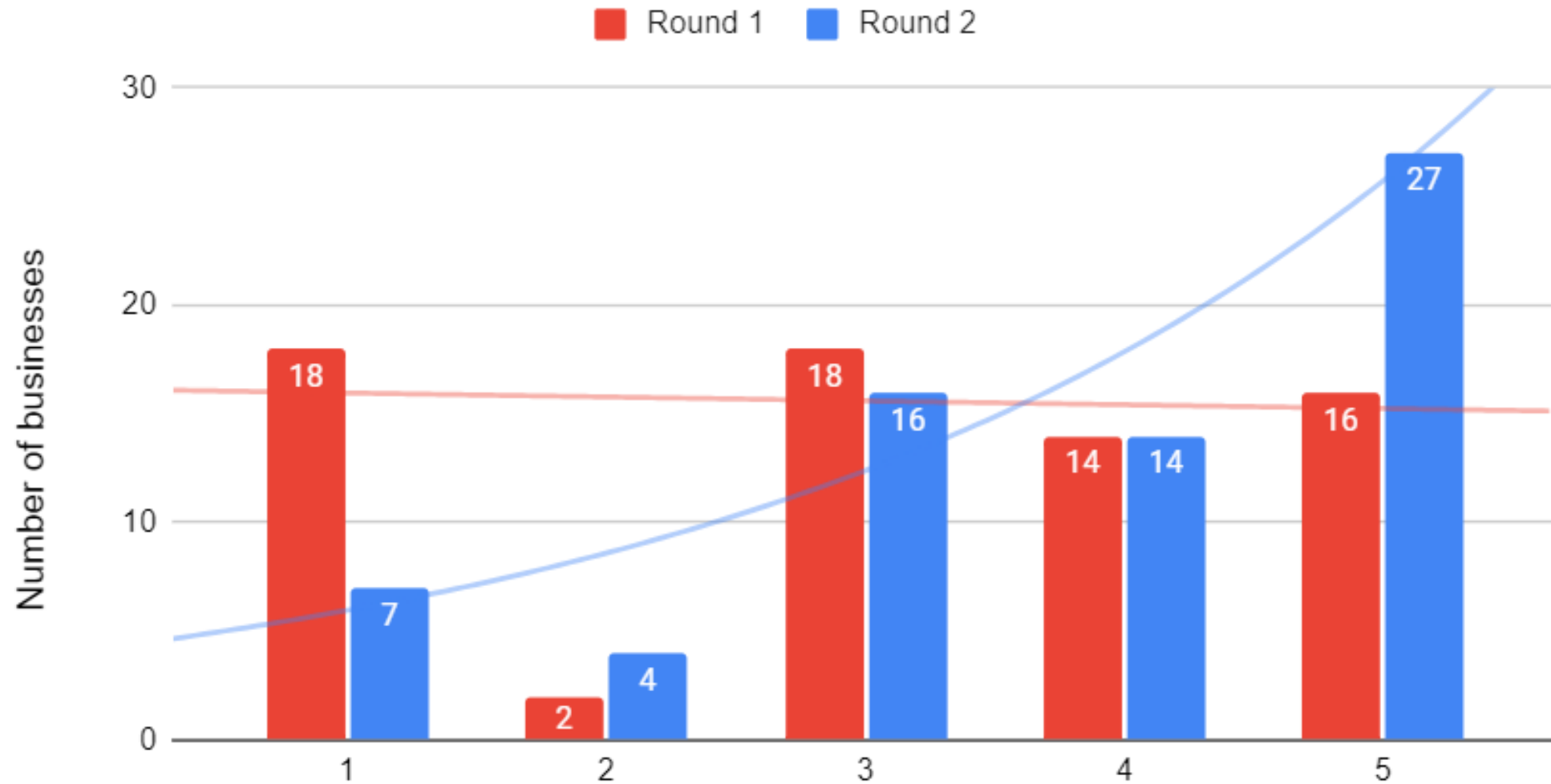


Vendor Fair held



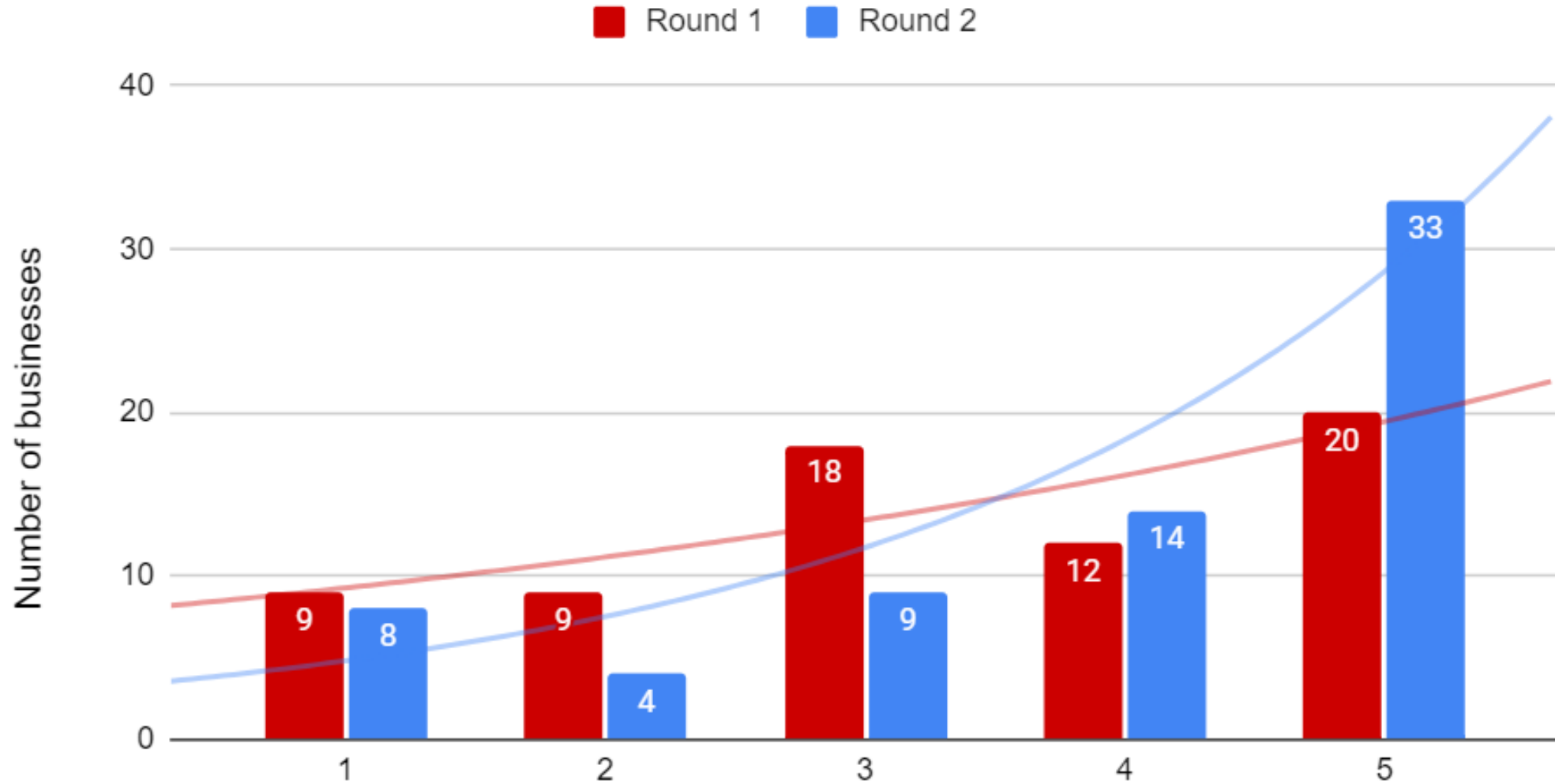
A video on how to identify compliant foodware products was provided to food and beverage establishments

Change in Level of Support



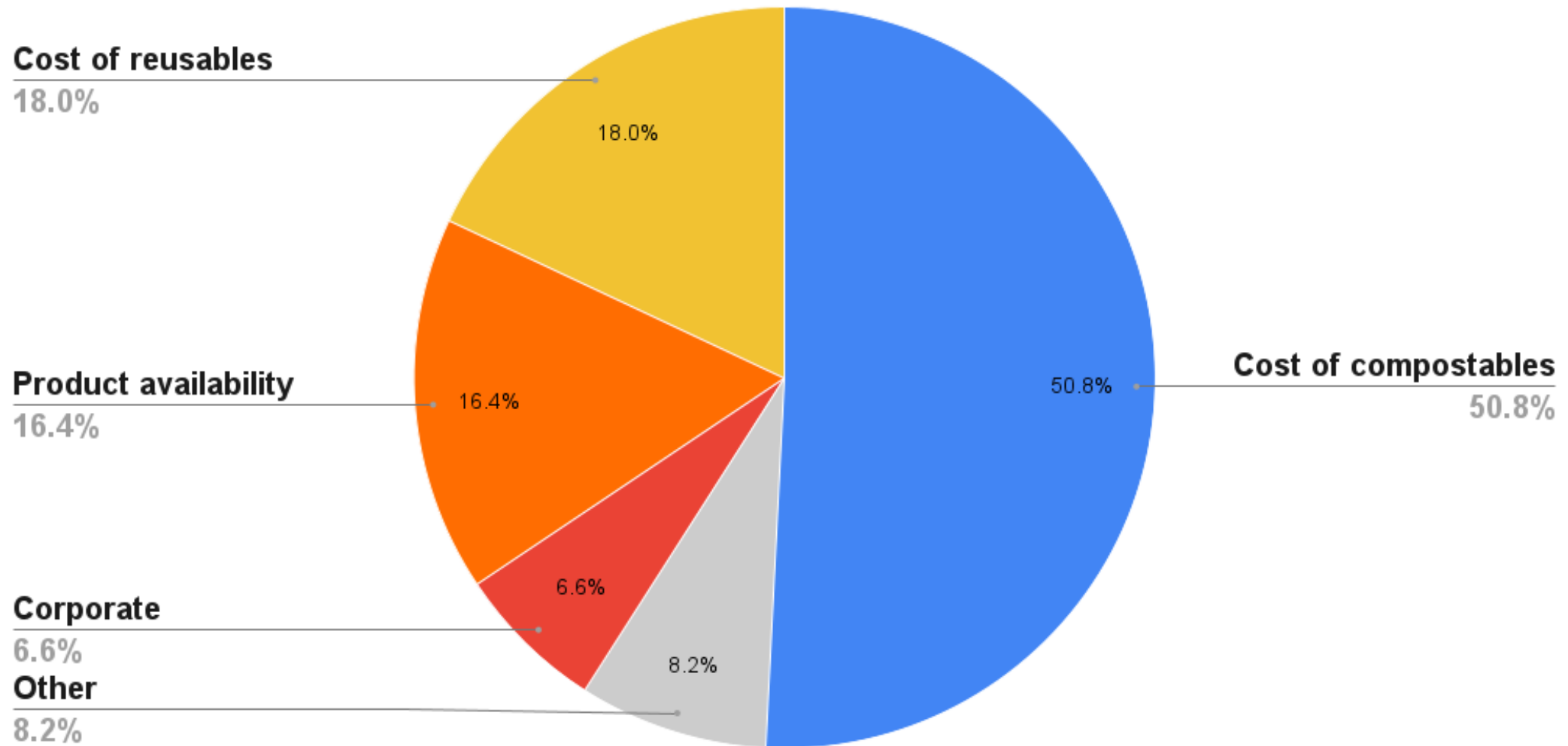
(1 being not supportive at all and 5 being very supportive)

Change in Level of Confidence



(1 being not confident at all and 5 being very confident)

What is the Primary Barrier You See to Implementation?



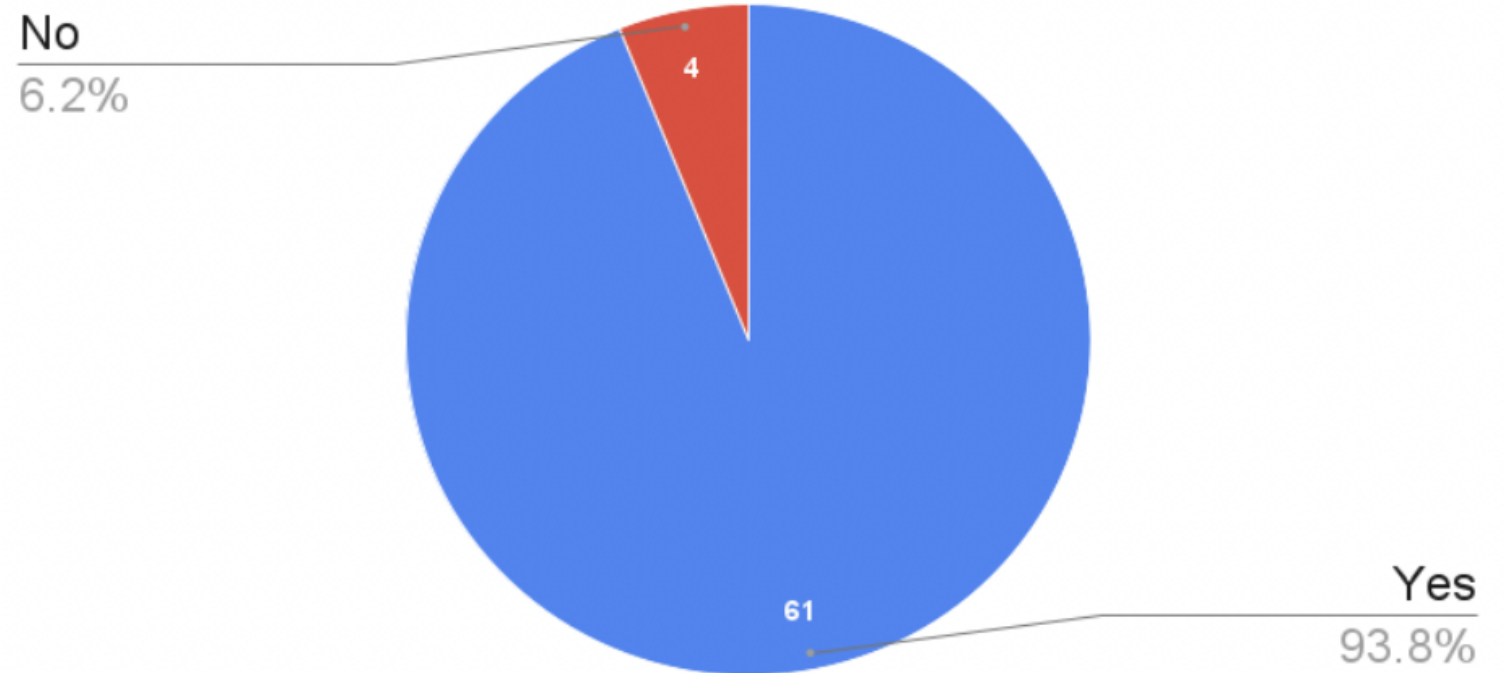
Do You Prefer a Phased in Implementation?

Phase 1:

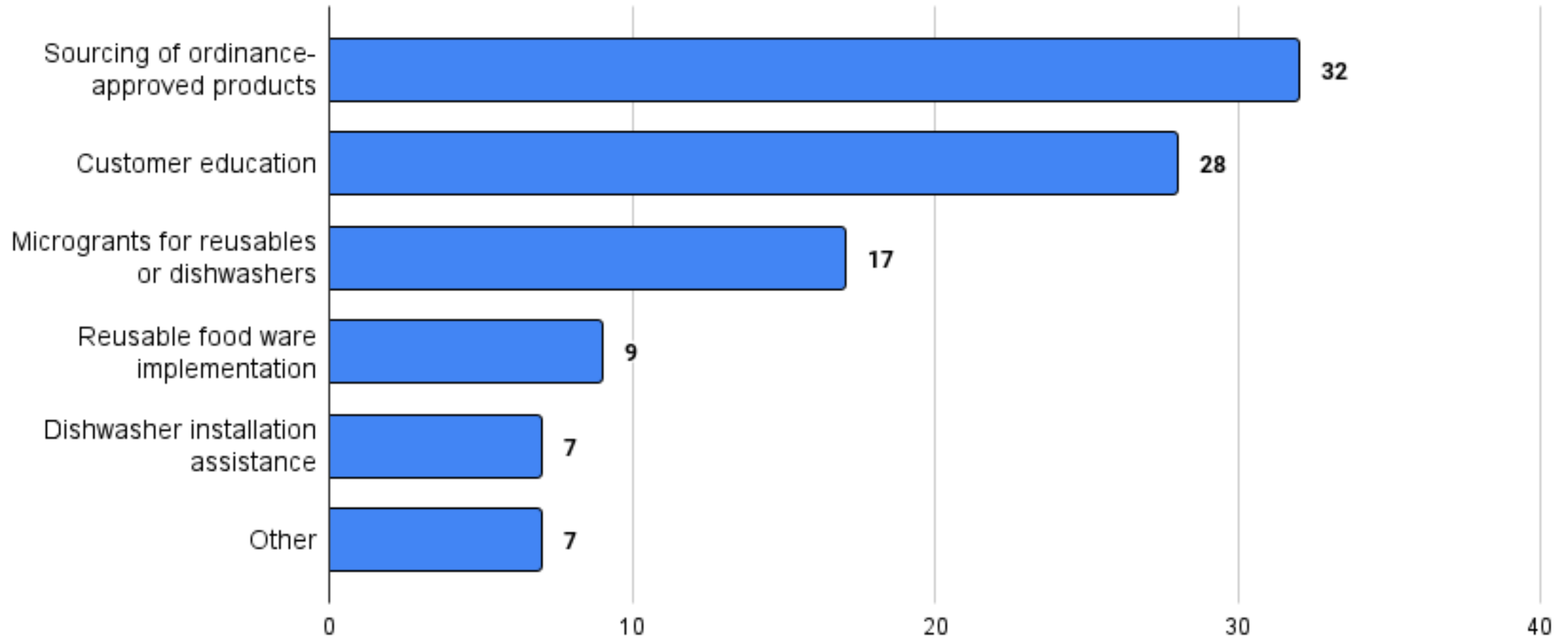
Plastic straws, stirrers and utensils 6 months after adoption

Phase 2:

All other items 1 year after adoption



What assistance would you like to see the City of Glendale offer?



Summary of Round 2 Outreach Results



Businesses were pleased with the addition of recyclable materials and removal of the 25 cent cup fee



13% more businesses felt very supportive of the updated ordinance



11% more businesses felt confident in their ability to implement the updated policy



Businesses would like a **purchasing guide for ordinance approved products**



Business would like the City to provide more **customer education**

Exemption Process

Businesses with an undue hardship are eligible for an exemption. Undue hardship includes:



- Instances where no alternative to product exists
- Instances where an alternative unavailable at a commercially reasonable price
- Instances where compliance with this title is unduly burdensome to the Food or Beverage Provider
- Regulations, including food safety laws conflict with implementation of these regulations

Thank You

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Appendix - Incentive Programs

Compliant Products

- \$50,000 per year for two years
- \$500 per establishment
- Purchase complaint products

Capital Improvements

- \$100,000 per year for two years
- Focused on small food and beverage providers
- Assist with capital improvement to install dishwashers

Appendix - Resources

A guide was provided to businesses that included resources available to support Glendale businesses with implementing reusables, compostables, and recyclables.



A technical assistance program to help food business operators reduce waste and cut costs by reducing disposable packaging.

www.rethinkdisposable.org



Glendale Compliant Product Guide helps Glendale businesses easily locate City-approved PFA-free compostables for a smooth transition.

Scan code above for website



California Green Business receive advertising in websites, e-newsletters, the press, and other online/print publications, invitations to promotional events and mixers. Receive a window decal and program seal on marketing material.

www.greenbusinessca.org

Appendix – Resources Cont'd



ReCREATE Waste Collaborative team members are here to offer technical assistance.

<https://www.recreatecollab.com/>



A subsidy program working to eliminate petroleum-based, single-use plastic from restaurants and schools by subsidizing the purchase of reusable replacements.

www.plasticfreerestaurants.org



Upstream can provide information and tips on reusable products and reuse systems

<https://upstreamsolutions.org/>



GreenScreen offers safer options for reusables

<https://www.greenscreenchemicals.org/>