

Cup By-law Update #2 - Businesses required to accept customers' reusable cups by July 1, 2022

Single-Use Cup By-law Amendments - effective July 1

On March 2, 2022 Vancouver City Council approved, in principle, by-law amendments to require businesses to accept customers' clean reusable cups for drinks ordered in-store starting July 1, 2022.

This requirement gives customers the option to avoid the single-use cup fee and help reduce the 82 million single-use cups thrown in the garbage each year in Vancouver, as intended by the by-law.

What this means for businesses:

- If your current food safety and sanitation plan allows your business to accept reusable cups, we encourage you to do so now.
- If your food safety and sanitation plan does not yet allow your business to accept reusable cups, we encourage you to update your plan as soon as possible and submit it to your local health authority for review and approval so you can start accepting reusable cups before July 1.

Frequently Asked Questions

Can businesses accept customer's reusable cups during the COVID-19 pandemic?

Yes. Under current BC Centre for Disease Control and Vancouver Coastal Health guidelines, vendors can accept customers' reusable cups during COVID-19 provided food vendors document their store policy and follow the required prevention measures.

What methods can food vendors use to safely accept and fill customers' reusable cups during the COVID-19 pandemic?

"Contactless Cup Methods" are available on the City's website at vancouver.ca/cups. Used by cafes and restaurants around the world, these procedures are safe for accepting customers' reusable cups during COVID-19 and are allowed by Vancouver Coastal Health.

Download a single-use item toolkit at vancouver.ca/reduce-single-use