

San Diego Miramar College Sustainability Resolution: Moving Toward Zero Waste for Campus Food and Drink

First Read:

Whereas, the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) has established a [strategic goal](#) to be a leader in sustainability, emphasizing the importance of environmentally responsible policies and practices; and

Whereas, the strategies outlined in the district's strategic plan encourage the promotion of sustainability through governance, community welfare, and infrastructure planning; and

Whereas, the California Community Colleges Board of Governors has reaffirmed its commitment to climate action and sustainability through the [2025 Climate Action and Sustainability Commitment](#), which outlines a [comprehensive framework](#) for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting clean energy, and integrating sustainability practices across all campuses, thus positioning California Community Colleges as leaders in advancing environmental responsibility and preparing students for a green economy; and

Whereas, sustainability initiatives support an environmentally responsible campus culture, engaging students, and preparing future leaders to address global sustainability challenges; and

Whereas, achieving long-term sustainability goals, including reducing campus waste, benefits from clear guidelines, collaboration, and gradual implementation that allows campus departments and partners to adapt to new practices; and

Whereas, there are practical and accessible alternatives to single-use plastics at campus events, such as reusable or compostable serviceware, bulk food options, refillable beverage stations, and coordinated waste-sorting practices.

Resolved, that San Diego Miramar College supports the development of campus guidelines by 2027 that encourage event organizers and campus partners to reduce the use of single-use plastics when feasible, including items such as balloons, plastic table coverings, disposable plates, cups, bottles, and utensils; and

Resolved, that the San Diego Miramar College community will be encouraged to select menu options and catering practices that align with waste-reduction goals and to work collaboratively with vendors to identify sustainable alternatives; and

Resolved, that San Diego Miramar College will explore and implement feasible options to reduce single-use plastic in campus vending machines, with the goal of identifying alternatives for beverages by 2027 and continuing to expand options for food items as practicable; and

Resolved, that the San Diego Miramar College Environmental Sustainability Subcommittee, in collaboration with facilities and campus stakeholders, will assess current access to water refill stations and develop a plan to increase availability in high-use areas, with the goal of improving convenient access to refill stations across campus.