

Local Policy Solutions to the Plastic Packaging Crisis



ecology center

Martin Bourque
Executive Director



ambr

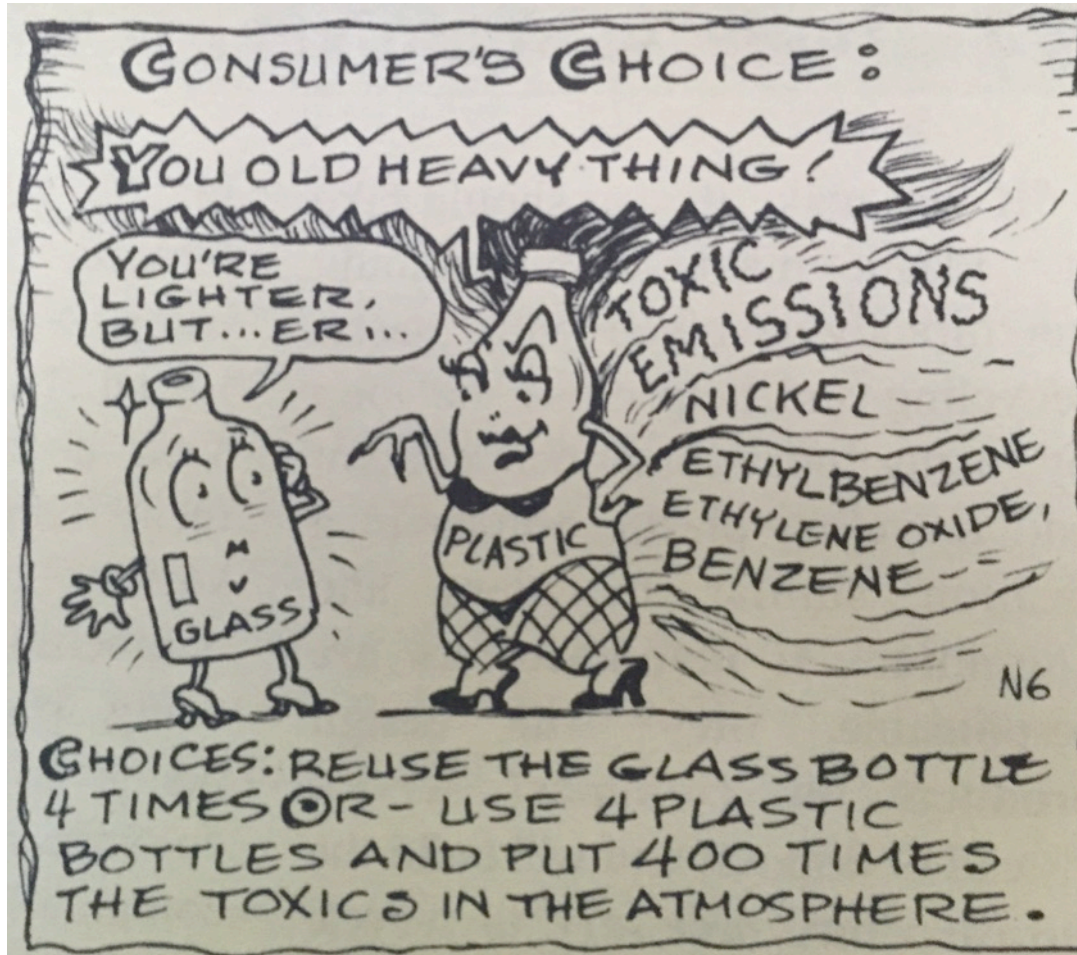
Alliance of Mission-Based Recyclers

- Reduce Reuse THEN Recycle
- Highest and Best Use
- Challenge False Solutions
- Cant' Recycle Our Way Out of the Plastic Packaging Crisis
- Global Plastic Packaging Crisis is US and Industry Based
- Voluntary Solutions Have Failed, Regulation is Necessary

Break Free From Plastic Pollution Act

- Tax Payers Should Not Subsidize End of Life
- Turn of the Tap
- Protect Vulnerable Communities
- Systems Approach
- Minimum Recycled Content
- National Bag Ban
- National Bottle Bill

Ecology Center & Plastic “Recycling”

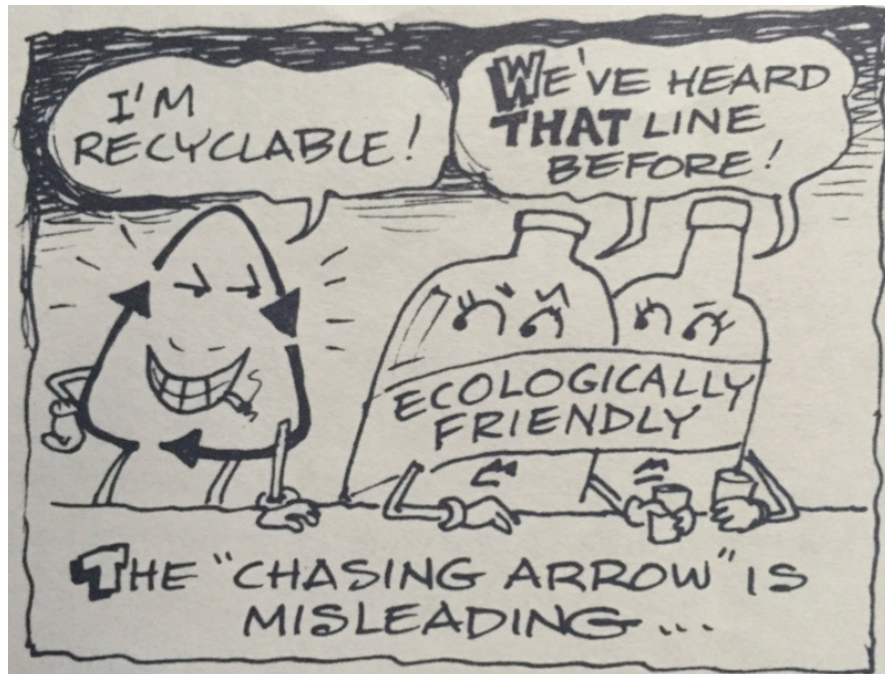


Concerns

- Environmental
- Labor
- Health
- Markets
- Downcycling

Ecology Center & Plastics Greenwashing

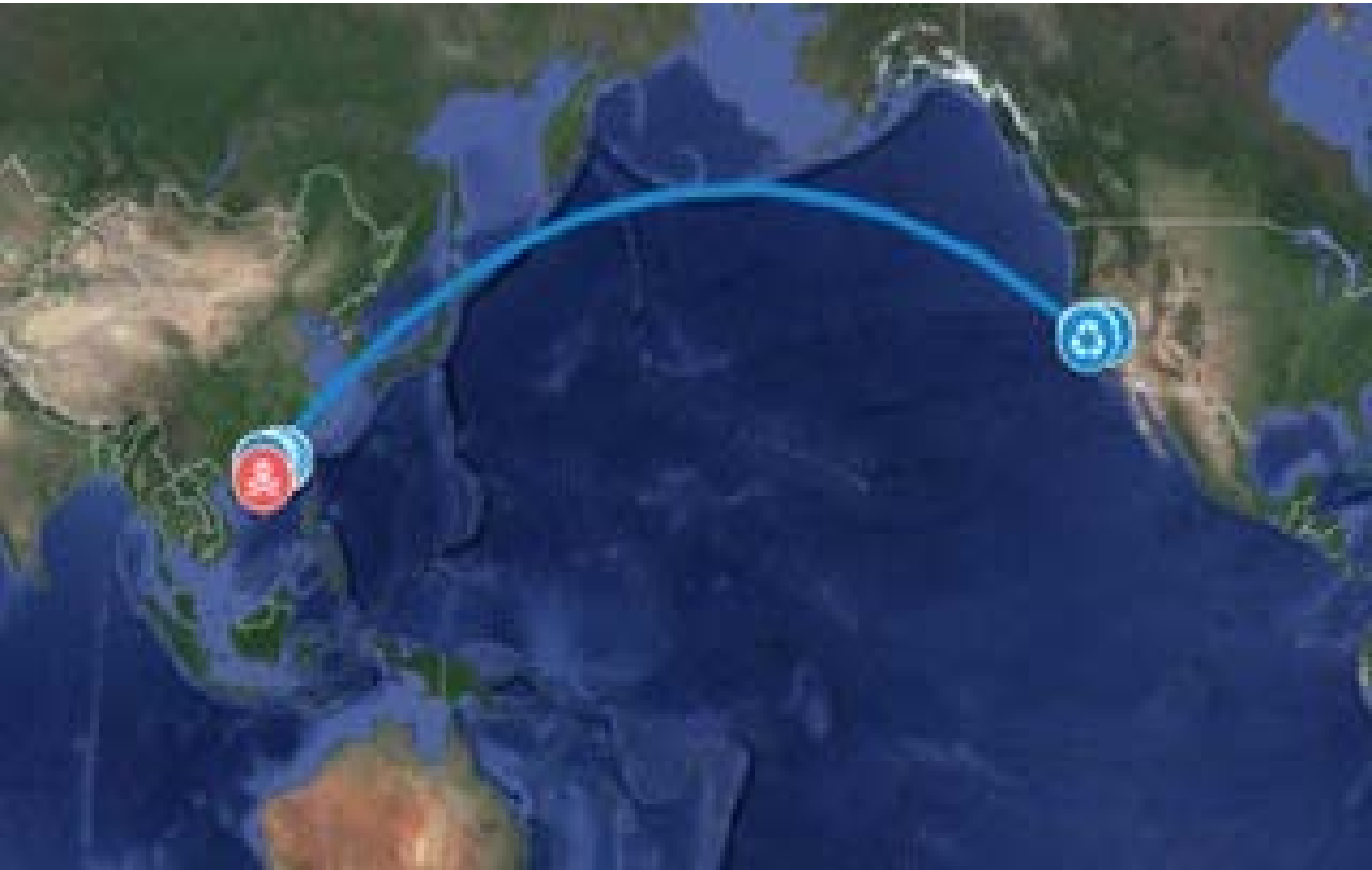
- 1980s Fought Plastics Industry on the Bottle Bill
- 1990s Fought Against Co-Option of Chasing Arrows
- 2000 Fought Single Stream Recycling
- 2010's Fought Industry's "Collect All Plastics" Campaign
- 2019 Passed First Foodware Reduction Ordinance



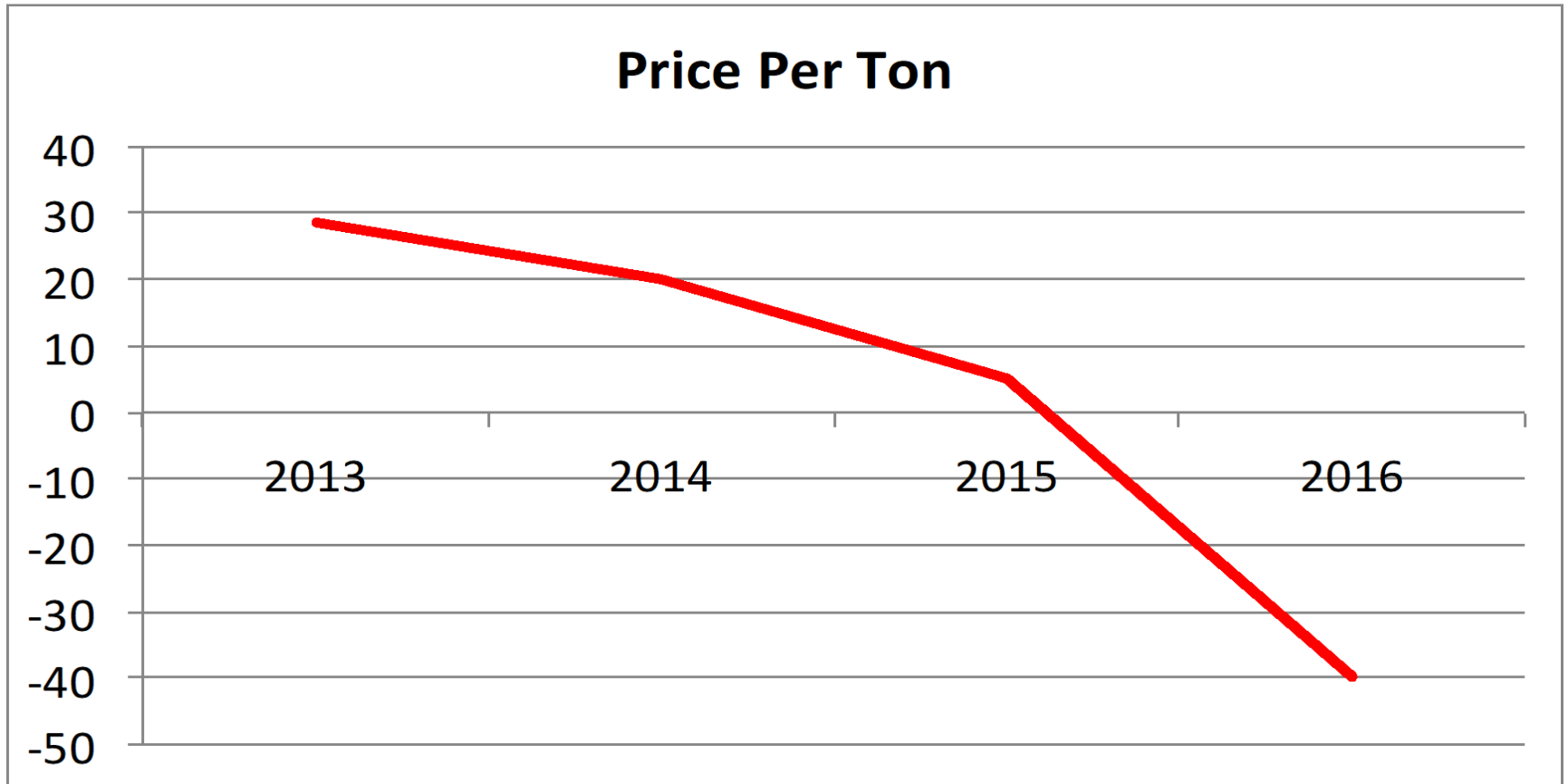
Plastics in Paradise



Plastics in Reality



Local Plastic Recycling Trends



Devastating Plastic “Recycling” Destinations

Pollution to Land Air and Sea



Litter to Storm Drains



- Water Board Says 0 Litter by 2022
- 67% of Street Litter is Food Packaging
- \$2M for 200 Waste Capture Devices
- Increased Storm Drain Taxes by \$2M

Street Litter in Business Districts



- Telegraph BID Collects 75 Tons of Litter
- 5 Full Time Employees
- Downtown Berkeley Association 7 FTE
- Carts 6 Days a Week = Eyesore

Berkeley Single Use Disposable and Litter Reduction Ordinance

March 22nd 2019:

Accessory Foodware By Request or Self Service
Only

Compost and Recycling Receptacles in Self Bussing
Businesses

January 1, 2020:

Disposable Foodware Must Be BPI Certified
Compostable

\$0.25 Charge for Disposable Cups (Hot and Cold)

July 1, 2020:

Reusable Foodware for All In-House Dining

Berkeley Single Use Disposable and Litter Reduction Referrals to City Staff

1. Small Businesses Technical Assistance
2. Reusables and Dishwashing Mini-Grants
3. Reusable Foodware Service Pilot Project
4. Future Proposal for Food Container Charge

The Future is Reusable

Concept:

A uniform citywide reusable foodware service under municipal franchise



Berkeley Disposable Free Dining



ecology center

Martin Bourque
Executive Director

martin@ecologycenter.org