CHARLES RIVER REGIONAL CHAMBER

April 1, 2025,

Dear Wellesley Town Meeting Members,

On behalf of the Charles River Regional Chamber and the Wellesley business community, I am writing to express our support for Article 35, which would introduce a "Skip-the-Stuff" ordinance.

This is a simple yet impactful initiative. By providing utensils, condiments, and other single-use items only upon request, we can significantly reduce waste while helping businesses lower costs. It's a practical, common-sense measure that benefits both businesses and the community. Many of our members have noted that such a policy is easy to implement, reduces unnecessary expenses, and aligns with broader sustainability goals.

Additionally, this ordinance would provide businesses with a clear reason they can point to when customers inquire about the absence of utensils in their takeout orders. Having a town-backed policy allows businesses to reinforce sustainable practices while ensuring consistency in customer interactions.

Finally, we value the approach of enforcing the first three violations through written warnings, as it allows businesses to adjust more easily to the new policy.

We appreciate the town's and the petitioner's commitment to including the business community in this conversation, and we urge Town Meeting to vote for Article 35. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Skar Reil-

Greg Reibman, President & CEO 617-799-0550

Charles River Regional Chamber

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