



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Cook County Building, Board Room,
118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois**

Consent Agenda

Thursday, April 27, 2023, 10:00 AM

Fifth Set

[23-2736](#)

Sponsored by: BRIDGET DEGNEN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION HONORING THE ECO FLAMINGO FOR ITS DEDICATION AND LEADERSHIP IN ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY IN COOK COUNTY

WHEREAS, founded in 2020, the Eco Flamingo is a zero-waste general store located in the 12th District of Cook County; and

WHEREAS, Bethany Barbouti started the Eco Flamingo after witnessing the zero-waste movement in Europe, and bulk shopping in the Middle East and Asia. Bethany Barbouti sought to create a store that would provide a more environmentally conscious way of shopping in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, the Eco Flamingo aims to provide only the most environmentally friendly options both in the products they offer and their own operations. The store eliminates waste by offering products that are refillable in containers that already exist, and offering goods that are long-lasting, compostable and/or recyclable, package-free, and sustainably produced. No goods in the store have plastic packaging, most consumables are offered in bulk, and customers are encouraged to bring in their own containers to refill with products. To date 43,676 containers have been refilled in the stores, saving waste from landfills and waterways; and

WHEREAS, the Eco Flamingo works with local and regional makers and suppliers who also use sustainable practices in their own businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Eco Flamingo shows care for the earth and all the people and creatures who live here. The small business implements fair labor practices within its team, and only works with brands that follow the same practices. The products offered at Eco Flamingo are all vegetarian, and their own brand line products are vegan; and

WHEREAS, the Eco Flamingo strives to make sustainable products available across economic backgrounds and intentionally strives to keep prices low while providing livable wages; and

WHEREAS, the Eco and Flamingo is also an EcoShip collection site. EcoShip collects gently used shipping materials, like padded envelopes, poly shipping bags, bubble wrap, and packing peanuts, and gives them to individuals who will reuse the items. The Eco Flamingo is also a collection site for Terracycle, which recycles hard-to-recycle waste; and

WHEREAS, the Eco Flamingo strives every day to fulfill its mission to reduce waste and pollution in our community, to help people re-think the products they use and the way they shop and consume, and to provide a channel for people to make more environmentally responsible decisions when shopping for household essentials;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, hereby honor and celebrate Bethany Barbouti for her achievements and leadership in environmental sustainability and the success of the Eco Flamingo Zero-Waste General Store; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and that an official copy of the same be tendered to Bethany Barbouti and the Eco Flamingo.