

Project Summary

The College is attempting to reduce physical and financial waste of the community by eliminating the supply of disposable to-go cups in the Valentine Dining Hall, known as 'Val'.

Background

1. Since the pandemic, there has been a noticeable increase in the use of cold to-go cups in Val, leading to higher waste generation and financial costs. Moreover, it's been observed that these to-go cups, originally designed for off-premises consumption, are frequently being used within the dining hall itself.
2. While the disposable cups are compostable, the composting process itself demands effort and energy. Additionally, there's a significant concern regarding the improper disposal of these cups, as many end up in incorrect waste categories rather than in designated composting bins.

Statistics

Val currently goes through approximately 2300 to-go cups per day, costing around 300 dollars. For an entire school year, excluding summer and winter breaks, the cost adds up to around \$60,000. The carbon footprint in the manufacturing process is estimated to be 115 kilograms of CO2 equivalent. The water consumption in the manufacturing process is estimated to be 575 liters.

Proposed Plan

The college plans to eliminate all to-go cups in the Valentine Dining Hall, effective immediately.