

From: Josh [REDACTED]

To: Torres, Michael Angelo (DPH - Contractor)

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Dear Chair Torres,

I write on behalf of a group of entomologists and public health professionals to raise serious concerns about the Commission's recommendation to ban **insect** sticky traps.

Sticky traps serve as essential, non-toxic monitoring tools in science-based pest management programs. They allow targeted responses and help prevent infestations before they become severe. Removing them will not reduce pests. Instead, it will remove the earliest possible detection method and lead to greater reliance on broad chemical treatments.

These outcomes disproportionately harm poor, marginalized communities and children. Indoor pests like cockroaches are major asthma triggers, and asthma already affects low-income families and children at much higher rates. Monitoring with sticky traps enables early interventions that reduce both pest populations and allergen exposure without increasing pesticide use.

Eliminating these tools will make safe, effective pest management more costly and less accessible, forcing vulnerable populations to endure worsened infestations and greater exposure to harmful chemicals.

We urge the Commission to reconsider the recommendation and engage directly with public health and entomology experts before moving forward with a ban. Please see the attached consensus statement for more details.

Thank you for considering these critical public health and equity implications.

Sincerely,

Josh [REDACTED]

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Josh [REDACTED]

Urban & Public Health Entomologist