



Memorandum

TO: CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Mayor Chuck Reed
Councilmember Nora Campos
Councilmember Sam Liccardo
Councilmember Kansen Chu

SUBJECT: SINGLE USE BAGS

DATE: September 18, 2009

Approved

Date

Chuck Reed *9/22/09*
Nora Campos RF

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the Reduction of Single Use Carryout Bags memo from Vice-Mayor Chirco and Councilmembers Liccardo, Chu, and Campos with the following amendments:

1. Finish environmental review of the ordinance before adoption
2. Develop a method for measuring success and establish a baseline of data
3. Obtain the acceptance and support from both the Santa Clara County Cities Association and Santa Clara County Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission
4. Amend item 2c exempting "green" paper bags that contain 50% recycle content to exempting "green" paper bags that contain 40% recycle content to conform to industry standards

BACKGROUND

Reducing the use of single use bags is an important issue that has received a significant amount of attention lately. However, this issue is not confined to City of San José, but instead affects areas well beyond our borders. For this reason in order to achieve our ultimate goal of completely eliminating single use bags we must not act in isolation. Rather, a regional solution is the answer.