

FAQ'S – Suspension of the Single-Use Carry Out (Bring Your Own Bag) Bag Ordinance

- 1. When does the suspension of San José's Bring Your Own Bag Ordinance become effective?**
 - a. It became effective on 4/30/2020
- 2. Will retail establishments charge me for bags during the suspension?**
 - a. During the suspension of the ordinance, retail establishments will not be required to charge a fee for bags. However, they may choose to continue charging a fee outside of the ordinance.
- 3. Will this be a permanent change?**
 - a. No.
- 4. When will the suspension end?**
 - a. The suspension will be in effect until June 21, 2020 or until it is terminated by either the Director of Emergency Services, the City Council, or termination of the local state of emergency, whichever comes first.
- 5. Why is the City suspending the Bag Ordinance?**
 - a. The City is taking this action to align with the Santa Clara County Health Officer's Order prohibiting customers from bringing their own bags into grocery stores and the Governor's recent suspension of the statewide bag ban. This suspension is meant to provide clarity and consistency for customers and essential businesses when implementing rules related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 6. Can I take my items to my car without bags?**
 - a. Yes.
- 7. What should I do if I am charged for a bag?**
 - a. The City does not require retailers to charge for carry-out bags during suspension of the regulations, but some retail businesses may choose to continue charging a fee. Questions regarding fees for bags should be directed to the retail establishments during the suspension.
- 8. Can stores provide single use plastic bags?**
 - a. If it is not possible to provide a reusable or recycled paper bag, a retailer may provide a single-use plastic bag at checkout during the suspension.
- 9. To which retail establishments does this suspension apply?**
 - a. All grocery, pharmacy and retail stores, large and small.