

RESOLUTION TO JOIN THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY SINGLE-USE BAG REDUCTION AND RECYCLING PROGRAM

WHEREAS, on January 22, 2008, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adopted a comprehensive program to reduce consumption and increase recycling of carryout plastic bags in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County, with the goal of decreasing the disposal rate by 30 percent by July 1, 2010, and by 65 percent by July 1, 2013, with the provision that failure to achieve these goals triggers action to establish a ban on plastic bags at affected stores; and,

WHEREAS, each year, approximately 6 billion plastic carryout bags are consumed in Los Angeles County, the equivalent of 600 bags per person per year, with less than five percent being recycled; and,

WHEREAS, due to their propensity to become litter, plastic carryout bags cause harm to marine animals and other aquatic life, and have a significant negative impact on our quality of life and the environment; and,

WHEREAS, in Los Angeles County, local governments and State agencies spend tens of millions of dollars each year on prevention, cleanup, and enforcement activities to reduce litter at beaches, waterways, parks and roads; and,

WHEREAS, as demonstrated in other countries as well as other communities in the United States, the widespread use of reusable bags is extremely effective in reducing plastic bag consumption and plastic bag litter; and,

WHEREAS, the use of reusable bags can be increased and consumption of carryout plastic bags reduced through a combination of supermarket and retail store employee training, incentives, and public education programs; and,

WHEREAS, the County's program provides a framework for shared responsibility among stakeholders, incorporating measurable goals and monitoring the use and recycling of plastic bags; and,

WHEREAS, the County has extended an invitation to the City of _____ and other cities to participate in this program by sharing ideas and coordinating efforts; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE City of _____ agrees to participate in the County of Los Angeles Single-Use Bag Reduction and Recycling Program; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City Manager is instructed to coordinate with the County of Los Angeles in developing and implementing the Program, including imposition of the ban on carryout plastic bags at affected stores if established disposal rate reduction goals are not met, and coordinating legislative advocacy efforts, as appropriate; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City Attorney is instructed to work with the City Manager, in consultation with the County of Los Angeles, in preparing an Ordinance for adoption by the City Council providing for any appropriate measures deemed necessary to fully implement the Program within the City.

The forgoing Resolution was adopted on the _____ day of _____, 2008, by the City Council of the City of _____.