



Single Use Bag Ban Ordinance

- 24 cities in San Mateo and Santa Clara County
- 552,931,362 plastic bags used per year in study area
- Bans the distribution of plastic carry-out bags
- Minimum charge of 10 cents per paper bag
 - Includes all retail **except** restaurants
- **Does not** include protective bags for produce or meat
 - Intent is to reduce litter and plastic use
 - Encourages use of reusable bags
- Environmental Impact Report (EIR) studies possible environmental issues with the ordinance
- Comments on the EIR are due by August 6th

Summary of Significant Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and Residual Impacts		
Impact	Mitigation Measure	Significance After Mitigation
AIR QUALITY		
Impact AQ-1 Evaluates emissions from the manufacture of paper, plastic and reusable bags	Mitigation is not required as the ordinance will substantially reduce the number of bags produced.	The impact would be beneficial without mitigation
Impact AQ-2 Evaluates emissions due to the transportation of paper, plastic and reusable bags	Mitigation is not required as the slight increase in truck trips is not expected to exceed BAAQMD thresholds.	The impact would be less than significant without mitigation
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES		
Impact BIO-1 Evaluates the impact of litter entering coastal and bay waterways	Mitigation is not required as the number of single use bags will be reduced, thus it is anticipated there will be an 8 to 12 percent reduction of litter entering the environment.	The impact would be beneficial without mitigation
GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS		
Impact GHG-1 Evaluates the creation of methane and other GHG when paper bags decompose	Mitigation is not required as emissions would not exceed established thresholds.	The impact would be less than significant without mitigation
Impact GHG-2 Evaluates conflicts with policies/regulations that reduce emissions of GHG	Mitigation is not required as the ordinance does not conflict with existing policies or regulations.	The impact would be less than significant without mitigation
HYDROLOGY/WATER QUALITY		
Impact HWQ-1 Evaluates impacts to stormdrains	Mitigation is not required as the reduction in the use of single use bags will reduce litter by 8 to 12 percent.	The impact would be beneficial without mitigation
Impact HWQ-2 Evaluates increase in use of chemicals associated with the production of paper and reusable bags and degradation of water bodies	Mitigation is not required as bag manufacturers are required to comply with a myriad of requirements designed to protect water bodies and the environment.	The impact would be less than significant without mitigation
UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS		
Impact U-1 Evaluates the increased use of water due to the washing of reusable bags	Mitigation is not required as water use would increase negligibly and there are sufficient water supplies available to meet the needs, even in drought conditions.	The impact would be less than significant without mitigation
Impact U-2 Evaluates the increase in wastewater disposal requirements due to washing of bags	Mitigation is not required as the increase is negligible and would remain within current capacity to treat waste water in the Study Area.	The impact would be less than significant without mitigation
Impact U-3 Evaluates increase in solid waste associated with the increase in use of paper bags	Mitigation is not required as projected increase would remain within the capacity of the regional landfills.	The impact would be less than significant without mitigation