



FW of my email:: Single Use Bag Ordinance - OPPOSE

Harvey pearson <harvey.pearson@hotmail.com>
To: eric.villanueva@lacity.org

Fri, Dec 7, 2012 at 3:06 PM

Dear Mr. Villanueva:

Please send my below email regarding the proposed Single-Use Carryout Bags ban to Council File Number: 11-1531 for inclusion therein. Thank you very much. Harvey Pearson Los Feliz.

From: harvey.pearson@hotmail.com
To: june.lagmay@lacity.org
CC: tom.labonge@lacity.org
Subject: Single Use Bag Ordinance - OPPOSE
Date: Wed, 5 Dec 2012 08:51:54 -0800

Dear President Wesson and Council Members:

This will not just be another form letter supporting the ordinance:

First of all, there have been more scientific, insufficiently washed reusable bags', studies being introduced into our science-based evidence recently since the supposedly discredited Gerba report of June, 2010.

For example, a November 1, 2012 study ("Scientists: Reusable bags found to have same bacteria as dirty underwear") reported that 50% of the bags examined had *dangerous* E. coli bacteria, about 50% had chloroform and almost all had some kind of bacteria. Their (simplistic) recommendation was that people wash their reusable bags like they do their underwear.

The problem with that advice, of course, is that if someone, for example, washes his or her hands well before leaving a public restroom, his/her hands will be clean. However, if someone else, who has just contaminated his hands, does NOT, and then grips the door handles on the way out, anyone/everyone else is at risk of having their just cleaned hands re-contaminated when doing likewise!

Another point: Environmental Resources Planning, LLC turned in a July 9, 2012 report to the council that concluded that the proportion of plastic bags as a component of Los Angeles litter has been greatly exaggerated; perhaps accounting for as little as 1 percent (or less) of total city litter.

That said--If the council is nevertheless bound and determined to go ahead and ban plastic shopping bags, please at least require *all* major supermarkets in the city to offer (o.k., sell at a price of 10 cents a bag) paper bags that come WITH HANDLES. Otherwise, shoppers may be tempted to accumulate plastic bags to "try" and remember to take to the market with them when they go (especially if they go by way of an impromptu walk) to the market for *vital*, "paper-in-plastic"-like carrying strength purposes.

Thank you for your consideration.

Harvey Pearson

Los Feliz 90027