Environmental Resources Planning, LLC

624 Main Street, Suite B 🗢 Gaithersburg, MD 20878 🗢 Phone: (240) 631-6532 👁 sstein@erplanning.com

July 9, 2012

Los Angeles City Councilmembers Los Angeles City Hall 200 N. Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Single-Use Carryout Bags / Council File: 11-1531 & Council File: 11-1531- S1

Dear Councilmembers:

I appreciate the recent opportunity we had to discuss plastic bags as a component of litter. While I was in Los Angeles, numerous individuals were claiming that plastic bags comprise 60 percent of litter, attributing this data to FoLAR's trash sorts, which is inaccurate. The purpose of this memo is to correct that misstatement and to provide the correct data.

FoLAR sorts that counted plastic grocery bags separately showed that they comprised an average of 13-16 percent by weight and 17-20 percent by volume, significantly less than some are claiming.

Trash sorts that recorded data for all plastic film products showed that they comprised about 25 percent by weight and 38-41 percent by volume of all trash, still much less than some are claiming.

The Folak trash sort data tables are shown below:	AR trash sort data tables are shown be	low:
---	--	------

Table 1: Plastic Grocery Bags: % of Trash				Table 2: All Plastic Film Products: % of Trash					
Site	Year	Wt.	Vol.	Count	Site	Year	Wt.	Vol.	Count
Fletcher	2004	4	-		Fletcher	2004		34%	
Long Beach	2004	-	-		Long Beach	2004	27%	46%	
Willow	2004	10%	10%		Willow	2004	33%	30%	
Fletcher	2005	-	n/a		Fletcher	2005	15%	-	
Fletcher	2009	-	-		Fletcher	2009	33%	47%	
Balboa	2010	-	-	9%	Balboa	2010	-	-	17%
Fletcher	2010	-	-		Fletcher	2010	11%	30%	
Steelhead	2010	13%	15%		Steelhead	2010	25%	42%	
Balboa	2011	16%	33%		Balboa	2011	25%	67%	
Compton	2011	13%	19%		Compton	2011	15%	29%	
Steelhead	2011	31%	31%		Steelhead	2011	44%	51%	
Willow	2011	13%	10%		Willow	2011	17%	29%	
Median		13%	17%		Median		25%	38%	
Mean		16%	20%		Mean		25%	41%	

Numerous litter surveys show that plastic bags comprise a much smaller portion of litter than this. Additionally, these surveys, including those conducted in San Francisco and San Jose,

Environmental Resources Planning, LLC

624 Main Street, Suite B 🗢 Gaithersburg, MD 20878 🗢 Phone: (240) 631-6532 🗢 sstein@erplanning.com

consistently show that all retail plastic bags account for less than 5 percent of litter, less than 1 percent in most of them.

Due to this disparity, it behooves the City to conduct its own statistically-based litter survey to clarify this point of confusion before acting on regulations intended to reduce plastic and paper bag litter.

Conducting a comprehensive litter survey in the City of Los Angeles will provide the City with unimpeachable data from which informed and comprehensive litter reduction programs can be crafted and implemented.

Sincerely,

Steven R. Stein, Principal Environmental Resources Planning, LLC 624 Main Street, Suite B Gaithersburg, MD 20878

www.erplanning.com



Cc: Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation Eric Villanueva, Legislative Assistant, Energy & Environment Committee



ang Canaday an, Roccallor Vice Chils are Receator Vice Chile Annelese Kynthes

torne un, Escustor 1... Grave Group ** Escustor Vice Chur ** Califonda ** Fo

Statelbollon & CEE Christian C. F. J. C. H. A. F. B. B. Spy Street

dan Bulldings r Geblandh & Delvas

ntures nt Olympic Rivil I.T atlin Partner:

Divelet Diff.

tanye Beak

dy Calige Deole paidly Shaplail Frencheton ar Inc. Jarricount Constants Aligorits

.....

line their

Ath & Servi

626 Wilshire Blvd.
Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA <u>90017</u>

telephone 213.624.1213 facsimile 213.624.0858 www.ccala.org

The Honorable Herb Wesson Council President Los Angeles City Council 200 N. Spring Street, Room 430 Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Community Care Facilities Ordinance (CF 11-0262): OPPOSE

Dear Council President Wesson:

Established in 1924, Central City Association (CCA) is L.A.'s premier business advocacy association whose 450 members employ over 350,000 people in the Los Angeles region. CCA has strong objections to the Community Care Facilities Ordinance (CCFO). In particular, CCA objects to the parolee/probationer provisions and the provisions requiring tenants in low-density zones to share no more than one written or verbal lease.

The proposed single lease requirement prohibits shared permanent supportive housing in lowdensity zones. In doing so, it threatens the livelihood of 40,000 households in Los Angeles who currently share single-family homes and have relied on multiple leasing agreements to qualify for federal and state housing assistance.

The city of Los Angeles must adopt an approach to housing that is both equitable and regional in scope. Relegating the city's neediest and most challenged to high-density zones is not a sustainable option – especially since single-family residential areas comprise 80% of all available residential areas within the city's boundaries.

The restrictions placed on the construction of parolee/probationary homes in low-density zones are also troublesome. Property owners and landlords cannot be responsible for conducting criminal background checks, or go through the cumbersome process of locating court documents on parolees simply to monitor the number of parolees or individuals on probation in each apartment building for the city. Public safety is a shared responsibility, one which requires public sector input and shared participation from the city as a whole.

Ultimately, the CCFO would increase homelessness in Los Angeles by closing-out an entire category of housing for the most vulnerable Angelenos. At the same time, the city already has ample tools at its disposal to address nuisance properties. Please join us in opposing the CCFO.

Regards,

(ane so

Carol E. Schatz President & CEO

Cc: Los Angeles City Council