

**AGENDA**



**Recommendation for Council Action**

Austin City Council	<b>Item ID</b>	12976	<b>Agenda Number</b>	78.
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<b>Meeting Date:</b>	3/1/2012	<b>Department:</b>	Solid Waste Services
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**Subject**

Conduct a public hearing to consider an ordinance amending Chapter 15-6 of the City Code to phase in a prohibition of single-use carryout bags within the city limits.

**Amount and Source of Funding**

**Fiscal Note**

<b>Purchasing Language:</b>	
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<b>Prior Council Action:</b>	<p>April 19, 2007 - Approved Resolution No. 20070419-026 directing the City Manager to evaluate and recommend strategies for limiting the use of non-compostable plastic bags by stores located in the City, and promoting the use of compostable plastic bags, recyclable paper bags, or reusable checkout bags.</p> <p>April 10, 2008 - Approved Resolution No. 20080410-048 adopting a voluntary plastic bag reduction plan in lieu of an ordinance banning plastic bags, to reduce by half the number of plastic bags entering the waste stream within 18 months.</p> <p>June 24, 2010 – Approved Resolution No. 20100624-079 directing the City Manager to determine the cost to Austin taxpayers of processing plastic bags in the waste stream.</p> <p>August 4, 2011 - Approved Resolution No. 20110804-021 directing the City Manager to draft, process, and bring forward for Council consideration by November, 2011, an ordinance providing a comprehensive phase-out of single-use plastic bags offered at retail check-outs within the city limits of Austin. The City Manager is further directed to engage retail stakeholders and concerned citizens in the development of the draft ordinance.</p> <p>January 26, 2012 - Set a public hearing to consider an ordinance amending Chapter 15-6 of the City Code phasing in a prohibition of single-use carryout bags within the city limits. (Suggested date and time: March 1, 2012)</p>
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<b>For More Information:</b>	Bob Gedert, Austin Resource Recovery Director, 512-974-1987
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<b>Boards and Commission Action:</b>	The Zero Waste Advisory Commission (ZWAC) approved draft three of the Single-Use-Bag Ordinance at its February 8, 2012 meeting. The Environmental Board approved draft three with conditions at its February 15, 2012 meeting.
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<b>MBE / WBE:</b>	
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<b>Related Items:</b>	
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**Additional Backup Information**

A memo outlining staff's recommendation, as well as the conditions for approval provided by the Environmental Board, will be sent to the Mayor and Council prior to the March 1 public hearing and consideration of the ordinance.