

## **ORDINANCE No.**

\*Amend Code to promote reusable checkout bags and reduce use of single-use plastic checkout bags  
(Ordinance; replace Code Chapter 17.103)

The City of Portland ordains:

Section 1. The Council finds:

1. In 2011, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 184759 to promote reusable shopping bags and reduce use of single-use plastic checkout bags. As of October 15, 2011, select stores were required to provide only recycled paper bags or reusable checkout bags to customers.
2. Over the past year, a number of jurisdictions have adopted single-use checkout bag policies which include a more expansive range, or even all, retailers or food providers. Examples from cities on the West Coast include: Corvallis and Eugene, Oregon; San Francisco and Santa Cruz, California; and Seattle, Washington.
3. On October 10, 2012, City Council accepted Plastic Bag Ban One-Year Report (Report) brought forth by the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS). The report findings included:
  - Fewer than five consumer complaints regarding non-compliance
  - Reusable checkout bag use increased 304 percent
  - Highly recyclable paper checkout bag use increased 491 percent.
4. Portland City Council adopted Ordinance 184759 as a first step to promote the use of reusable checkout bags. The policy reduced single-use plastic shopping bag consumption, but this initial scope represents only a modest share of total single-use checkout bag use.
5. In adopting this ordinance, the Council intends to expand the range of regulated or affected businesses to include currently subject businesses and other retail and food establishments on a phased timeline.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council directs:

- a. The City Code is amended by replacing Chapter 17.103, Single-Use Plastic Checkout Bags, attached as Exhibit A to this ordinance, for existing Chapter 17.103. Chapter 17.103 under this Ordinance shall take effect on March 1, 2013 to allow the public and affected businesses time for any necessary transitions.
- b. After March 1, 2014, the Director of the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability shall return to Council with a report regarding the results of the enactment of this Ordinance and making recommendations as to any potential expansion of the program.

Section 2. The Council declares an emergency exists because the on-going use of single-use plastic shopping bags is harmful to the public health and welfare; therefore this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage by the Council.

Passed by the Council:

Mayor Sam Adams

Prepared by: Megan Ponder

Date Prepared: Nov. 7, 2012

**LaVonne Griffin-Valade**

Auditor of the City of Portland

By

Deputy