

**Schmidt, Ursula**

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**From:** Jaylene Moseley [Jaylene@jlmoseleyco.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 19, 2011 1:46 PM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance

This is great!!!

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**From:** Schmidt, Ursula [mailto:USchmidt@cityofpasadena.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 14, 2011 11:10 AM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** Proposed Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance

The City of Pasadena is extending an invitation to you to attend and provide input as staff recommends a proposed ordinance to the Environmental Advisory Commission that would ban plastic carryout bags, impose a ten cent charge on paper carryout bags, and require affected stores to provide reusable bags to customers for sale or at no charge. The stores that would be affected by the proposed ordinance includes large grocers (gross annual sale of \$2 million or more), retailers (at least 10,000 square feet of retail space and has a licensed pharmacy) as well as farmer's markets, drug stores, pharmacies, supermarkets, grocery stores, convenience food stores, food marts, and liquor stores.

Pasadena is committed to forging policies in support of increased environmental stewardship in partnership with the business community. Pasadena's Green City Action Plan, adopted in 2006, identifies the development of a plastic bag reduction program to support its goal of achieving zero waste to landfills by 2040.

***Environmental Advisory Commission Meeting***  
**Thursday April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**Pasadena City Hall**  
**Council Chambers**  
**100 North Garfield Avenue**

If you have any questions, please contact Ursula Schmidt, Sustainability Affairs Manager, at (626) 744-6729. (Street parking is available on Garfield Avenue and Ramona Street, adjacent to City Hall. A public parking lot is located at the Paseo Colorado Shopping Mall just south of City Hall at 280 East Colorado Boulevard)

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Checked by AVG - [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)

Version: 10.0.1209 / Virus Database: 1500/3583 - Release Date: 04/19/11

No virus found in this incoming message.

Checked by AVG - [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)

Version: 9.0.894 / Virus Database: 271.1.1/3520 - Release Date: 03/21/11 00:34:00

4/25/2011

**Schmidt, Ursula**

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**From:** Debra Cohn [debracohn@charter.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 19, 2011 11:53 AM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** Support for Proposal to Ban Plastic Bas in the City of Pasadena

Dear Environmental Advisory Commission,

I am writing to express my support for the proposal to ban plastic bags in the city of Pasadena. We have come to a critical time when every such measure brings us closer to actually meeting the global challenges of peak oil and climate crisis.

A plastic bag ban may seem trivial, but each action that the city takes raises the consciousness of the general population and has a ripple effect toward actually sustaining our planet. Plastic containers of all sorts do not decompose; they have become a blight on nature, an infestation of our oceans and oceanic creatures, are known to interfere with the hormonal balance of living creatures, and are very wasteful use of fossil fuel. When we say we throw it away, where is away? Native American tradition wisely says that we must always be looking to the seventh generation beyond us to weigh the impact of our actions on Mother Earth.

Please do your part to see that this measure passes. Thank you for all your good work in greening our city.

Sincerely,

Debra Cohn

Northeast Los Angeles Transition  
Pasadena/Altadena/Eagle Rock/Highland Park  
<http://nela-transition.wikispaces.com/>

**Schmidt, Ursula**

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**From:** Therese Brummel [theresegbrum@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 19, 2011 11:11 AM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** plastic bag ban

Dear Environmental Advisory Commission,

I am writing to express my support for the proposal to ban plastic bags in the city of Pasadena. We have come to a critical time when every such measure brings us closer to actually meeting the global challenges of peak oil and climate crisis.

A plastic bag ban may seem trivial, but each action that the city takes raises the consciousness of the general population and has a ripple effect toward actually sustaining our planet. Plastic containers of all sorts do not decompose; they have become a blight on nature, an infestation of our oceans and oceanic creatures, and a very wasteful use of fossil fuel. When we say we throw it away, where is away? Native American tradition wisely says that we must always be looking to the seventh generation beyond us to weigh the impact of our actions on Mother Earth.

Please do your part to see that this measure passes.  
Thank you for all your good work in greening our city.

Sincerely,  
Therese Brummel  
Pasadena resident 33 years  
Northeast Los Angeles Transition  
Pasadena/Altadena/Eagle Rock/Highland Park  
<http://nela-transition.wikispaces.com/>

**Schmidt, Ursula**

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**From:** Brian Biery [Brian@Flintridge.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 14, 2011 11:54 AM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance

Ursula,

I am **very** supportive of this proposal!

Thanks for developing it for our city!

Brian.

**From:** Schmidt, Ursula [mailto:USchmidt@cityofpasadena.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 14, 2011 10:55 AM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** Proposed Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance

The City of Pasadena is extending an invitation to you to attend and provide input as staff recommends a proposed ordinance to the Environmental Advisory Commission that would ban plastic carryout bags, impose a ten cent charge on paper carryout bags, and require affected stores to provide reusable bags to customers for sale or at no charge. The stores that would be affected by the proposed ordinance includes large grocers (gross annual sale of \$2 million or more), retailers (at least 10,000 square feet of retail space and has a licensed pharmacy) as well as farmer's markets, drug stores, pharmacies, supermarkets, grocery stores, convenience food stores, food marts, and liquor stores.

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**Environmental Advisory Commission Meeting**

**Thursday April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Pasadena City Hall**

**Council Chambers**

**100 North Garfield Avenue**

If you have any questions, please contact Ursula Schmidt, Sustainability Affairs Manager, at (626) 744-6729. *(Street parking is available on Garfield Avenue and Ramona Street, adjacent to City Hall. A public parking lot is located at the Paseo Colorado Shopping Mall just south of City Hall at 280 East Colorado Boulevard)*

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Checked by AVG - [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)

Version: 9.0.894 / Virus Database: 271.1.1/3520 - Release Date: 03/21/11 00:34:00

4/25/2011

**Schmidt, Ursula**

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**From:** Alan [alanbarbara2002@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 23, 2011 3:00 PM  
**Cc:** Dahl, Laura; Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** Re: Meeting on Proposed Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Red

We are unable to attend this meeting and would like to comment.

We support a ban on plastic bags. We have to start somewhere. We support a 5 cent fee per paper bag.

Thank you.  
Alan and Barbara Wann

On Apr 15, 2011, at 11:00 AM, "Dahl, Laura" <ldahl@cityofpasadena.net> wrote:

The City of Pasadena is extending an invitation to you to attend and provide input as staff recommends a proposed ordinance to the Environmental Advisory Commission that would ban plastic carryout bags, impose a ten cent charge on paper carryout bags, and require affected stores to provide reusable bags to customers for sale or at no charge. The stores that would be affected by the proposed ordinance includes large grocers (gross annual sale of \$2 million or more), retailers (at least 10,000 square feet of retail space and has a licensed pharmacy) as well as farmer's markets, drug stores, pharmacies, supermarkets, grocery stores, convenience food stores, food marts, and liquor stores.

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**Schmidt, Ursula**

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**From:** Dahl, Laura  
**Sent:** Monday, April 18, 2011 11:15 AM  
**To:** 'cbalvin@sbcglobal.net'  
**Cc:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting on Proposed Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance

Thank you, Christle. I am forwarding your comments to Ursula.

Laura Dahl

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**From:** Christle Balvin [mailto:cbalvin@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 18, 2011 10:15 AM  
**To:** Dahl, Laura  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting on Proposed Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance

Dear Laura:

I strongly support the staff recommendation to ban the use of plastic carryout bags which are now posing an environmental hazard. The staff is to be commended for this recommendation.

I will try to get in written comments before the April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Christle Balvin

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**From:** Dahl, Laura [mailto:ldahl@cityofpasadena.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 15, 2011 11:01 AM  
**To:** Dahl, Laura  
**Cc:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** Meeting on Proposed Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance

The City of Pasadena is extending an invitation to you to attend and provide input as staff recommends a proposed ordinance to the Environmental Advisory Commission that would ban plastic carryout bags, impose a ten cent charge on paper carryout bags, and require affected stores to provide reusable bags to customers for sale or at no charge. The stores that would be affected by the proposed ordinance includes large grocers (gross annual sale of \$2 million or more), retailers (at least 10,000 square feet of retail space and has a licensed pharmacy) as well as farmer's markets, drug stores, pharmacies, supermarkets, grocery stores, convenience food stores, food marts, and liquor stores.

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If you have any questions, please contact Ursula Schmidt, Sustainability Affairs Manager, at (626) 744-6729.

**Schmidt, Ursula**

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**From:** arroyolover [arroyolover@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 15, 2011 12:49 PM  
**To:** Dahl, Laura  
**Cc:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** Re: Meeting on Proposed Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance

Dear Laura & Ursula:

I would love to come to this meeting but it conflicts with my Cal Poly Pomona California Water class.

Glad to see the City is moving forward on this important issue.

Best,

Meredith

On Fri, Apr 15, 2011 at 11:00 AM, Dahl, Laura <ldahl@cityofpasadena.net> wrote:

The City of Pasadena is extending an invitation to you to attend and provide input as staff recommends a proposed ordinance to the Environmental Advisory Commission that would ban plastic carryout bags, impose a ten cent charge on paper carryout bags, and require affected stores to provide reusable bags to customers for sale or at no charge. The stores that would be affected by the proposed ordinance includes large grocers (gross annual sale of \$2 million or more), retailers (at least 10,000 square feet of retail space and has a licensed pharmacy) as well as farmer's markets, drug stores, pharmacies, supermarkets, grocery stores, convenience food stores, food marts, and liquor stores.

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**6:00p.m.**

**Pasadena City Hall**

**Council Chambers**

**100 North Garfield Avenue**

**Schmidt, Ursula**

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**From:** lauriebethkay@juno.com  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2011 12:06 PM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** Pls. Support a Ban on Plastic Bags

I understand there is a vote scheduled for 4/28. This is such a simple and important thing to do. I strongly urge Pasadena to support the ban.

Thank you!

Laurie Kay  
1830 Pasadena Glen Rd.  
Pasadena, CA 91107  
(626) 797-6200

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**Schmidt, Ursula**

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**From:** Don Erway [derway@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2011 10:42 AM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** banning plastic bags is important

Dear Environmental Advisory Commission,

I am writing to express my support for the proposal to ban plastic bags in the city of Pasadena. We have come to a critical time when every such measure brings us closer to actually meeting the global challenges of peak oil and climate crisis.

A plastic bag ban may seem trivial, but each action that the city takes raises the consciousness of the general population and has a ripple effect toward actually sustaining our planet. Plastic containers of all sorts do not decompose; they have become a blight on nature, an infestation of our oceans and oceanic creatures, and a very wasteful use of fossil fuel. When we say we throw it away, where is away? Native American tradition wisely says that we must always be looking to the seventh generation beyond us to weigh the impact of our actions on Mother Earth.

Please do your part to see that this measure passes. Thank you for all your good work in greening our city.

Sincerely,  
Don Erway  
819 La Bellorita St  
Pasadena, CA

**Schmidt, Ursula**

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**From:** Misty Lujan [mistyjane548@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 22, 2011 3:54 PM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** Plastic Bag ban

Dear Environmental Advisory Commission,

I am writing to express my support for the proposal to ban plastic bags in the city of Pasadena. We have come to a critical time when every such measure brings us closer to actually meeting the global challenges of peak oil and climate crisis.

A plastic bag ban may seem trivial, but each action that the city takes raises the consciousness of the general population and has a ripple effect toward actually sustaining our planet. Plastic containers of all sorts do not decompose; they have become a blight on nature, an infestation of our oceans and oceanic creatures, and a very wasteful use of fossil fuel. When we say we throw it away, where is away? Native American tradition wisely says that we must always be looking to the seventh generation beyond us to weigh the impact of our actions on Mother Earth.

Please do your part to see that this measure passes. Thank you for all your good work in greening our city.

This means a lot to all of us,

Sincerely,

Misty Jane

Northeast Los Angeles Transition  
Pasadena/Altadena/Eagle Rock/Highland Park  
<http://nela-transition.wikispaces.com/>

**Schmidt, Ursula**

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**From:** Jonathan Bonilla [jonathanbonilla78@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2011 1:42 PM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Cc:** jonathanbonilla78@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** plastic bag ban proposal

Dear Environmental Advisory Commission,

I am writing to express my support for the proposal to ban plastic bags in the city of Pasadena. We have come to a critical time when every such measure brings us closer to actually meeting the global challenges of peak oil and climate crisis.

A plastic bag ban may seem trivial, but each action that the city takes raises the consciousness of the general population and has a ripple effect toward actually sustaining our planet. Plastic containers of all sorts do not decompose; they have become a blight on nature, an infestation of our oceans and oceanic creatures, and a very wasteful use of fossil fuel. When we say we throw it away, where is away? Native American tradition wisely says that we must always be looking to the seventh generation beyond us to weigh the impact of our actions on Mother Earth.

Please do your part to see that this measure passes. Thank you for all your good work in greening our city.

Sincerely,  
Jonathan Bonilla

**Schmidt, Ursula**

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**From:** aprylinsmca@peoplepc.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2011 12:32 PM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** Ban Plastic Bags

Dear Environmental Advisory Commission,

I am writing to express my support for the proposal to ban plastic bags in the city of Pasadena. We have come to a critical time when every such measure brings us closer to actually meeting the global challenges of peak oil and climate crisis.

A plastic bag ban may seem trivial, but each action that the city takes raises the consciousness of the general population and has a ripple effect toward actually sustaining our planet. Plastic containers of all sorts do not decompose; they have become a blight on nature, an infestation of our oceans and oceanic creatures, and a very wasteful use of fossil fuel. When we say we throw it away, where is away? Native American tradition wisely says that we must always be looking to the seventh generation beyond us to weigh the impact of our actions on Mother Earth.

Please do your part to see that this measure passes. Thank you for all your good work in greening our city.

Sincerely,  
Apyrl Mefford-Hemauer

**Schmidt, Ursula**

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**From:** Peter Ngo [pngo@caltech.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2011 1:31 AM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** supporting the plastic bag ban

Dear Pasadena Environmental Advisory Commission,

I am writing to express my support for the proposal to ban plastic bags in the city of Pasadena. I believe every such measure brings us closer to meeting the global challenges of diminishing oil reserves and climate change, and this particular measure makes economic sense

The measure may seem trivial, but each action that the city takes raises the consciousness of the general population and inspires follow-on action in our neighbors. Plastic containers of all sorts do not decompose; they are eyesores in our beautiful cities and outdoors, an infestation in our oceans, and a very wasteful use of fossil fuel. When we throw it away, where is away?

Please do your part to see that this measure passes. Thank you for all your good work in greening our city.

Sincerely,  
Peter Ngo  
Caltech, Mechanical Engineering, BS '12

4/25/2011

**Schmidt, Ursula**

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**From:** nancy power [nancyrpower@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 20, 2011 8:49 PM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** ban plastic bags

Dear Ms. Schmidt & the Environmental Advisory Commission,

I am writing to express my support for the proposal to ban plastic bags in the city of Pasadena. We have come to a critical time when every such measure brings us closer to actually meeting the global challenges of peak oil and climate crisis. We should encourage people to bring their own reusable bags by making them pay for disposable ones, even of paper.

A plastic bag ban may seem trivial, but each action that the city takes raises the consciousness of the general population and has a ripple effect toward actually sustaining our planet. Plastic containers of all sorts do not decompose; they have become a blight on nature, an infestation of our oceans and oceanic creatures, and a very wasteful use of fossil fuel. When we say we throw it away, where is away?

I would be thrilled if this measure passes. Thank you for all your good work in greening our city.

Sincerely,

## Schmidt, Ursula

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**From:** Donna Milton [dmilton@inetworld.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 20, 2011 12:18 PM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** Ban on Plastic Bags

Dear Ms. Schmidt and the Environmental Advisory Commission,

I am writing to express my support for the proposal to ban plastic bags in the city of Pasadena. We have come to a critical time when every such measure brings us closer to meeting the global environmental challenges we face.

Many people in Pasadena have already made a practice of bringing their own bags to retail and grocery locations when they shop. These re-usable bags are now widely available, and many retailers even sell them at point-of-sale locations in their stores at very modest prices. Very little else of such broad and lasting usefulness is available for so small a price.

"Convenience" is not a good enough reason to cause lasting environmental harm. Plastic containers of all sorts do not decompose; they have become a blight on nature, an infestation of our oceans and oceanic creatures, and a very wasteful use of fossil fuel.

I believe people want to participate in positive collective actions, and would take pride in doing so. Each action that the city takes raises the consciousness of the general population and has a ripple effect toward sustaining our planet.

Please do your part to see that this measure passes. Thank you for all your good work in greening our city.

Sincerely,  
Donna Milton

610 N. Holliston Ave. #A  
Pasadena, CA 91106

**Schmidt, Ursula**

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**From:** Anna L [nala870@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 20, 2011 10:05 AM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** Support for plastic bag ban proposal

Dear Environmental Advisory Commission,

I am writing to express my support for the proposal to ban plastic bags in the city of Pasadena. We have come to a critical time when every such measure brings us closer to actually meeting the global challenges of peak oil and climate crisis.

A plastic bag ban may seem trivial, but each action that the city takes raises the consciousness of the general population and has a ripple effect toward actually sustaining our planet. Plastic containers of all sorts do not decompose; they have become a blight on nature, an infestation of our oceans and oceanic creatures, and a very wasteful use of fossil fuel. When we say we throw it away, where is away? Native American tradition wisely says that we must always be looking to the seventh generation beyond us to weigh the impact of our actions on Mother Earth.

Please do your part to see that this measure passes. Thank you for all your good work in greening our city.

Sincerely,

Anna Liao  
Pasadena, CA



**Schmidt, Ursula**

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**From:** Mimi Fitzgerald [mimifg@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 20, 2011 7:15 AM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** Yes! Please! Let's ban plastic bags in Pasadena!

As a Pasadena resident for almost thirty years, I love that we are ahead of the curve on so many things! Please ban plastic bags! We need to show the way toward responsible living on this precious earth.

Sincerely,  
Mary T Fitzgerald  
595 N. Garfield Av. # 1  
Pasadena, CA 91101

Life may not be the party we hoped for,  
but while we are here, we might as well dance.  
Mimi Fitzgerald

## Schmidt, Ursula

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**From:** Gaboon [gaboon@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2011 2:59 PM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** Plastic Bag Ban

Dear Ms. Schmidt,

I will be unable to attend the 28 April 2011 Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) meeting; however, I wanted to e-mail my strong support for a ban on single-use plastic shopping bags as well as a ban on single-use paper bags with less than 40% post-consumer recycled content. Also, I believe that a small fee for paper bags is reasonable for those who forget to bring a bag... 5 to 25¢ per paper bag would not be a burden to consumers.

Human nature being what it is, until there is an across the marketplace ban on single-use bags, particularly plastic bags, the populace will continue to throw away \*free\* bags in mass quantities. Discarded plastic bags become hazardous pollutants in the world's oceans and litter our landscapes. Most "plastic" bags are a petroleum-based product. As oil prices go up and finite fossil fuels supplies come to an end, all of the products made with petroleum content need to be reconsidered.

Furthermore, plastic bags persist in the environment, in landfills, and as litter. In the end, plastic bags cost a phenomenal amount to clean up and dispose of in landfills or by barges (some of which illegal dump at sea). Plastic bags floating in the ocean emulate the shape of jellyfish, which causes sea turtles and sea birds to ingest them with fatal results. Bits of micro-trash, including pieces of plastic bags, are also ingested by curious and highly endangered California condors, that in turn feed plastic trash to their young. Crops impacted with plastic trash can kill the chicks of these majestic birds. The list of damage caused by the wasteful and excessive use of plastic bags is extensive. Though there's been a lot of lip service about recycling single-use plastic bags, that has not become a reality. The plastic simply continues to accumulate.

Some will complain that a ban on single-use plastic bags is another step towards a "Nanny State," though this is not the case. It is extremely difficult for ecologically responsible businesses to unilaterally eliminate plastic bags. No one store can afford to pioneer a total ban on single-use plastic bags. If one store attempts to ban the bags or to charge for paper bags, other markets will take advantage and conduct, "We don't charge you for your bag" ad campaigns in competition with the environmentally responsible market or store. Until U.S. citizens become as accustomed to carrying their own shopping bags and paying for paper bags as do the residents of Europe and numerous other countries, folks will complain and believe that they cannot possibly live without their free plastic bags. When I visited Russia and Scotland, I was surprised at first to see everyone carrying their own shopping bags. After a day or two, though, I became used to doing so myself. It was refreshing to see how quickly one can adapt. For that to happen in the USA, a ban that applies equally to all businesses is necessary.

A ban on single-use plastic bags will help train "spoiled" Americans to respect limited resources. The great abundance in this country has led to wasteful packaging, pollution, and costly garbage disposal services. Jobs will be generated as recycled canvas, fold-up rip-stop nylon, and creative "fashion" shopping bags enter the market. A variety of companies will specialize in bags with all sorts of useful and attractive designs, such as the large shoulder bags sold by IKEA stores at low cost. IKEA banned their yellow plastic bags recently and, after a bit of initial grumbling, customers have adapted with no problems.

I urge Pasadena to do what is right for the environment by implementing a full ban on single-use plastic bags with a small fee for single-use paper bags. After a brief period of whining and whinging, we will all adapt. Our communities and the planet will be the better for this decision. It is time for us to join Europe and other countries in reducing plastic waste.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Respectfully,  
Lori L. Paul  
An Altadena resident who shops in Pasadena

626.798.3235  
gaboon@sbcglobal.net  
153 Jaxine Drive  
Altadena, California 91001 USA

**Schmidt, Ursula**

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**From:** Jackie - Alternative Outfitters [jackie@alternativeoutfitters.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 28, 2011 2:14 PM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** Thank you for considering a Ban on Plastic Bags

Dear Environmental Advisory Commission,

I am a small business owner here in the city of Pasadena and I am writing to express my support for the proposal to ban plastic bags in our city. I own a small boutique in Pasadena, called Alternative Outfitters, and we would gladly welcome the ban.

We already do what we can to encourage our customers to bring their own bags when they shop with us by offering incentives and discounts when they shop with a reusable bag and we think that a ban would only bring more awareness to the issue.

A plastic bag ban may seem trivial, but each action that the city takes raises the consciousness of the general population and has a ripple effect toward actually sustaining our planet. Plastic containers of all sorts do not decompose; they have become a blight on nature, an infestation of our oceans and oceanic creatures, and a very wasteful use of fossil fuel.

Please do your part to see that this measure passes. Thank you for all your excellent work in greening our city. I am always proud to say I am a resident and business owner in a city that takes the issues of our environment so seriously.

Regards,

Jackie Horrick  
Alternative Outfitters  
Phone: (626) 396-4972 Fax: (626) 396-4952

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**Schmidt, Ursula**

---

**From:** Meb787@aol.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 27, 2011 12:09 PM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** Plastic bag reduction ordinance

Environmental Advisory Commission members,

Since I will be unable to be at your April 28, 2011 meeting, I am writing in support of the proposed Pasadena ordinance which would ban plastic carryout bags. Although I am a resident of La Canada Flintridge, I am a frequent shopper in Pasadena.

For the past 15 years, one of my husband's and my volunteer activities has been to pick up trash. As members of the La Canada Flintridge Trails Council, we have participated in regular cleanups of the Pasadena portion of the Flint Canyon Trail. This trail location runs alongside and slightly below the 210 and gets a huge amount of debris blown off the freeway. The trash is mainly comprised of plastic carryout bags and fastfood containers. We have also participated in cleanups along the Arroyo Seco in the Central Arroyo and along portions of the Flint Wash, a tributary of the Arroyo Seco in La Canada Flintridge. Plastic carryout bags litter these areas as well. The bags and other debris which volunteers do not pick up end up in the stream channel and the ocean.

These bags damage the environment and are a visual blight on our beautiful area. We all need to wean ourselves off them and remember to use our reusable bags. The charge for paper carryout bags should help remind us!

Thank you to the City of Pasadena for its commitment to its Green City Action plan goals.

Mary E. Barrie  
La Canada Flintridge

**Schmidt, Ursula**

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**From:** Ami Howard [amihoward@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2011 8:55 PM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** I support the plastic bag ban

Dear Environmental Advisory Commission,

I am writing to express my support for the proposal to ban plastic bags in the city of Pasadena. We have come to a critical time when every such measure brings us closer to actually meeting the global challenges of peak oil and climate crisis.

A plastic bag ban may seem trivial, but each action that the city takes raises the consciousness of the general population and has a ripple effect toward actually sustaining our planet. Plastic containers of all sorts do not decompose; they have become a blight on nature, an infestation of our oceans and oceanic creatures, and a very wasteful use of fossil fuel. When we say we throw it away, where is away? Native American tradition wisely says that we must always be looking to the seventh generation beyond us to weigh the impact of our actions on Mother Earth.

Please do your part to see that this measure passes. Thank you for all your good work in greening our city.

Sincerely,  
Ami Howard

--

310-497-6116  
[amihoward@gmail.com](mailto:amihoward@gmail.com)  
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/amihoward/sets/>

"I am the gate-keeper of my own destiny and I will have my day in the hot sun!"  
-Nacho Libre

## Schmidt, Ursula

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**From:** Meredith Rose [rockorose@sonic.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 27, 2011 3:21 PM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** Plastic Bag Ban

Dear Environmental Advisory Commission,

I am writing in support of a ban on plastic bags in the city of Pasadena. This is no small thing, I understand. Many of us are use to the convenience that plastic bags afford us in shopping, walking the dog, and general all round handiness.

But as you know, plastic does not biodegrade. People use it recklessly because of its cheap convenience. Yet plastic is made with fossil fuels and we as a society pay a hidden price everyday. I know that San Francisco passed a similar ban some time ago. When I visited that city recently I was shocked by the absence of these plastic signposts that usually litter streets and alleys and storefronts.

I strongly urge you to support this ban, and I appreciate the work you have already done to make Pasadena a green city.

Sincerely,  
Meredith Rose



April 25, 2011

VIA EMAIL  
City of Pasadena  
Environmental Advisory Commission  
Attn: Ursula Schmidt  
[uschmidt@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:uschmidt@cityofpasadena.net)

Dear EAC,

On behalf of Seventh Generation Advisors, I respectfully urge you to approve a proposed ordinance restricting the distribution of single-use bags in Pasadena.

In these tough economic times, this proposed ordinance would help lower cleanup and compliance costs. Californians use an estimated 12 billion plastic bags per year. According to CalRecycle, only three percent of these bags are actually recycled. The rest end up in landfills and as litter. Pasadena, along with other municipalities statewide, spends more than \$25 million each year to clean up plastic single-use bags from public places, storm drains, and in our waste stream. Local taxpayer dollars are also spent to comply with Stormwater Permit requirements and other standards in communities with "trash-impaired" waterways as defined under the federal Clean Water Act.

In addition to the economic benefits of a plastic bag ban, there are countless environmental benefits. These include reduced use of natural resources for bag production, reduced wildlife fatalities from strangulation and suffocation, and improved water quality. For all intents and purposes, plastic never biodegrades, but slowly photo degrades. As it photo degrades, plastic film breaks into smaller and smaller pieces which attract surrounding toxins. When mistaken as a food source, these plastic particles form a progressively greater health risk of food chain contamination.

Plastic marine pollution is a global problem with local solutions. Banning the free distribution of bags is widely considered an appropriate and practical legislative action that can protect our environment and save financial resources. The County of Los Angeles, and the City of San Jose, along with other local governments in the region and around the state, have already taken this approach, and I strongly urge you to do the same.

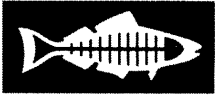
Thank you for your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leslie Tamminen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Leslie Tamminen  
Seventh Generation Advisors  
Ocean Program Director  
(310) 780-3344  
[Leslie.Tamminen@gmail.com](mailto:Leslie.Tamminen@gmail.com)





Heal the Bay

1444 9th Street  
Santa Monica CA 90401

ph 310 451 1550  
fax 310 496 1902

info@healthebay.org  
www.healthebay.org

April 25, 2011

Environmental Advisory Commission  
City of Pasadena  
Via email: uschmidt@cityofpasadena.net

**Re: Single-Use Bag Ordinance**

Dear Environmental Advisory Commission:

On behalf of Heal the Bay, we write to urge the City of Pasadena to move forward a single-use bag ordinance that bans single-use plastic bags and places a nominal charge on single-use recycled paper bags. Heal the Bay has been intimately involved in marine plastic pollution issues for many years, including efforts on single-use plastic bag legislation at the local and statewide levels. Based on this experience, we believe that this type of policy is the best approach and will move us towards the most sustainable type of bag, reusable bags.

Plastic bags are the most ubiquitous consumer item designed to last for minutes but persist in our marine environment for hundreds of years. Approximately 60 to 80% of all marine debris and 90% of floating debris is plastic and comes from mostly land-based sources.<sup>1</sup> This plastic pollution poses a persistent threat to marine life. Over 267 species worldwide have been impacted by plastic litter.<sup>2</sup>

The cleanup of litter from single-use bags puts an additional strain on our economy. One study estimated that the taxpayer cost to subsidize the recycling, collection, and disposal of plastic and paper bags could amount to as much as 17 cents per bag.<sup>3</sup> This figure does not include the additional costs that local governments incur annually for cleaning littered streets and beaches and installing trash control devices to comply with total maximum daily load limits (TMDLs) for trash under the Clean Water Act.

Policies that focus only on recycling and education do *not* work. Californians use an estimated 19 billion single-use plastic bags every year. We cannot recycle our way out of this problem and urgent action is needed to help reduce this pollution. Despite efforts to expand recycling programs, less than 5% of single-use plastic bags are currently being recycled.<sup>4</sup> In fact, the bag recycling program established by AB 2449 has not demonstrated any significant increase in

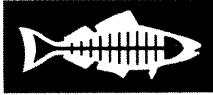
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<sup>1</sup> M. Gordon (2006) "Eliminating Land-based Discharges of Marine Debris in California: A Plan of Action from The Plastic Debris Project;" Prepared by the California Coastal Commission (Available at: [www.plasticdebris.org/CA\\_Action\\_Plan\\_2006.pdf](http://www.plasticdebris.org/CA_Action_Plan_2006.pdf)).

<sup>2</sup> D.W. Laist (1997) "Impacts of marine debris: entanglement of marine life in marine debris including a comprehensive list of species with entanglement and ingestion records" In Coe, J.M., Rogers, D.B. (Eds.), *Marine Debris—Sources, Impacts, and Solutions*: Springer-Verlag, New York, 99-139.

<sup>3</sup> City of San Francisco Dept of the Environment "[Bag Cost Analysis](#)" (Nov.18, 2004).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2005 Characterization of Municipal Solid Waste, Table 7; California Assembly Bill 2449 (Levine), statutes of 2007.



Heal the Bay

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recycling rates. The vast majority of these bags inevitably end up in our landfills or as litter, clogging stormdrain systems, and make their way to our waterways and ocean.

Initially in 2008, the County of Los Angeles looked towards recycling and education to address the problem of plastic bag pollution. Despite efforts to increase recycling and education programs, significant reductions were not been realized so in 2010 the County banned the distribution of single-use plastic bags and placed a charge on recycled paper bags. In total, nine municipalities in California have realized that a single-use plastic bag ban is the best approach and have adopted ordinances (LA County, Marin County, San Jose, San Francisco, Fairfax, Palo Alto, Malibu, Calabasas, Santa Monica).

Pasadena has an opportunity to be a true leader in dealing with plastic bag pollution. The urgency for local government to take action has never been greater. The legacy of our growing addiction to single-use plastic packaging will be felt in the environment for centuries to come. Banning plastic bags in the City of Pasadena will help enhance the city's recreational and tourism economy, improve the quality of life for residents, free valuable landfill space, and restore our environment to a cleaner and healthier state.

Thus, we urge you to move forward with an ordinance to ban single-use plastic bags and place a charge on single-use paper bags.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kirsten James".

Kirsten James  
Water Quality Director

**Schmidt, Ursula**

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**From:** Donna Sider [dsider@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 28, 2011 9:41 AM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance  
**Importance:** High

Ursula,  
We cannot move quickly enough on this HUGE threat to our environment. It is immediate & real. Sorry I am unable to deliver this comment in person but am wholeheartedly behind this proposal. Please reply with outcome.  
Thank you,  
Donna Sider

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**From:** Schmidt, Ursula [mailto:USchmidt@cityofpasadena.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 14, 2011 10:55 AM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** Proposed Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance

The City of Pasadena is extending an invitation to you to attend and provide input as staff recommends a proposed ordinance to the Environmental Advisory Commission that would ban plastic carryout bags, impose a ten cent charge on paper carryout bags, and require affected stores to provide reusable bags to customers for sale or at no charge. The stores that would be affected by the proposed ordinance includes large grocers (gross annual sale of \$2 million or more), retailers (at least 10,000 square feet of retail space and has a licensed pharmacy) as well as farmer's markets, drug stores, pharmacies, supermarkets, grocery stores, convenience food stores, food marts, and liquor stores.

Pasadena is committed to forging policies in support of increased environmental stewardship in partnership with the business community. Pasadena's Green City Action Plan, adopted in 2006, identifies the development of a plastic bag reduction program to support its goal of achieving zero waste to landfills by 2040.

***Environmental Advisory Commission Meeting***  
**Thursday April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**Pasadena City Hall**  
**Council Chambers**  
**100 North Garfield Avenue**

If you have any questions, please contact Ursula Schmidt, Sustainability Affairs Manager, at (626) 744-6729. *(Street parking is available on Garfield Avenue and Ramona Street, adjacent to City Hall. A public parking lot is located at the Paseo Colorado Shopping Mall just south of City Hall at 280 East Colorado Boulevard)*

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## Schmidt, Ursula

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**From:** Tania Rizzo [tkrizzo@charter.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 28, 2011 2:26 PM  
**To:** Schmidt, Ursula  
**Subject:** Ban on plastic bags

Dear Ms. Schmidt:

I'd like to convey my and my family's strong support for the Environmental Advisory Commission's approval of a proposed ban on the use of plastic bags at grocery stores, pharmacies and other retailers in Pasadena. My family has been using reusable cloth bags for many years and would like to see their use adopted wherever practical. We feel the reduction in litter, trash, resources and expense is well worth the small effort involved and will result in a cleaner and healthier environment for everyone.

We are proud that Pasadena is considering this sensible and responsible policy.

Thank you,

Tania and Michael Rizzo