



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Weitkumat and Councilmembers
FROM: Greg McMaster, Chair, Air Quality Advisory Board
CC: Darin Atteberry, City Manager
DATE: November 19, 2012
SUBJECT: Disposable Bags Recommendation

The AQAB received a presentation from staff in November that outlined options for reduction of disposable bags including education only, impose a tax or fee, or ban disposable bags. The Board discussed a range of environmental harms that occur from use of disposable bags, including littering, harming wildlife and ecosystems, etc., and also recognized the problems plastic bags cause in single stream recycling machinery. The Board discussed what they thought would be appropriate next steps. All members favored Council taking action to correct the problems caused by plastic bags, and the large minority not supporting the motion was only because they specifically wanted a stronger motion banning plastic bags at this time.

Dennis Georg moved and David Dietrich seconded a motion to recommend to Council that they adopt ordinances that would significantly reduce plastic bags.

- Vote 4-3-0 (4 supporting – 3 against– 0 abstained)
- Scott Groen, Nancy York and Hugh Mackay dissented because they felt the motion was not strong enough – they wanted plastic bags banned.

Please contact me if you have any questions or want additional detail on the recommendation.
Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.