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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 18, 2014

TO: Mayor Karen Weitkunat and City Councilmembers

CC: Darin Atteberry, City Manager 

FROM: Economic Advisory Commission

RE: EAC Recommendation for Ordinance 2014-099 – Agenda Item #21 (August 19, 2014 Regular Council Meeting)

Motion:

The Economic Advisory Commission (“EAC”) recommends the adoption of Ordinance 2014-099 (Option 1) of the disposable bag ordinance. We believe it to be the more effective of the two options at reducing number of disposable bags used in Fort Collins, as identified in the Road to Zero Waste. It would have no perceivable negative impacts on the local economy.

Additional Comments:

If Option 1 were to be modified the EAC would support the expansion to include all retail stores, the notification requirements for the consumer, and a 3-5 year sunset period for a review of the ordinance.

The EAC also believes that Option 2 as it stands could have negative economic impacts on smaller businesses, especially the requirements for onsite recycling facilities at all businesses. We also feel there should be clear direction on the use of proceeds collected by the stores to provide a solution to the problem area.