



March 15, 2013

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING  
AND  
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION  
FOR  
THE REUSABLE BAG ORDINANCE**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the City of San Mateo has prepared an Initial Study/Negative Declaration, which identifies and discusses potential environmental impacts of the project and, if necessary, proposes mitigation measures to be incorporated in the project to eliminate any potentially significant impacts, for the following project.

**CITYWIDE ORDINANCE: REUSABLE BAG ORDINANCE**

**PROJECT SUMMARY:**

The City of San Mateo is proposing to adopt a Reusable Bag Ordinance that would regulate the use of paper and plastic single-use carryout bags within the City of San Mateo. This Ordinance is effectively the same ordinance adopted by the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors on November 6, 2012, which will become effective April 22, 2013.

The proposed Reusable Bag Ordinance would apply to all retail establishments located within the City of San Mateo, including those selling clothing, food, and personal items directly to the customer. The proposed Ordinance would not apply to restaurants, take-out food establishments or non-profit charitable reuse organizations. The proposed Ordinance exempts retail customers participating in the California Special Supplemental Food Programs and the CalFresh program from the paper bag charge. The proposed Ordinance would prohibit the free distribution of single-use carryout paper and plastic bags and would require retail establishments to charge customers for recycled paper bags and reusable bags at the point of sale. The minimum charge would be ten cents (\$0.10) per recycled paper bag until December 31, 2014, and twenty-five cents (\$0.25) per paper bag on or after January 1, 2015.

**Requested Applications:**

- A. Proposed adoption of a new City Ordinance
- B. Initial Study & Negative Declaration to assess potential environmental impact

Project Manager: Kenneth Chin, Project Manager  
330 W. 20th Avenue  
San Mateo, CA 94403  
[kchin@cityofsanmateo.org](mailto:kchin@cityofsanmateo.org)  
(650) 522-7313

Project Applicant: City of San Mateo  
330 W. 20th Avenue  
San Mateo CA 94403

#### **AVAILABILITY OF NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND INITIAL STUDY:**

The application requires the preparation of an environmental impact assessment under the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Copies of the Initial Study/Negative Declaration are available at City Hall (330 West 20th Ave.), at the City's Main Library (55 West 3rd Ave, Reference Desk). It is also available online on the City's website at [www.cityofsanmateo.org/index.aspx?NID=2539](http://www.cityofsanmateo.org/index.aspx?NID=2539).

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW DOCUMENT:**

The public review period for the Draft Negative Declaration starts on **March 15, 2013 and extends to April 3, 2013** (20 day public review period). Please submit all written comments on the Draft Negative Declaration to Kenneth Chin, Project Manager, City of San Mateo Public Works Department, 330 West 20th Avenue, San Mateo, CA, 94403. If you have questions, please call Kenneth Chin at (650) 522-7313. If any person challenges this item in court, that person may be limited to raising only those issues the person in written correspondence delivered at, or prior to, the public hearings.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING:**

After the conclusion of the public review for the environmental document, the City Council will hold a public hearing to review this ordinance. The City Council public hearing is scheduled for **April 15, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.** in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, 330 W. 20th Avenue, San Mateo, California.

The requested City Council approvals include:

- A. Adopt a Resolution approving the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Reusable Bag Ordinance
- B. Introduction of the Reusable Bag Ordinance

If any person challenges this item in court, that person may be limited to raising only those issues the person or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered at, or prior to, the public hearings.

*AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT — In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for this meeting should notify the City Clerk 48 hours prior to the meeting at (650) 522-7041.*

