

Updates to Code Language for the Disposable Bag Ordinance

Environmental Services Department

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Recommendation to City Council

Adopt proposed language updates to the City's Disposable Bag Ordinance in alignment with the state's Plastic Pollution Reduction Act (PPRA)

Outcome

The City can enact PPRA legislation at or beyond its current requirements.





COUNCIL PRIORITY #5

Accelerate zero waste
infrastructure and policies



STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

ENV 1: Implement the
Our Climate Future Plan
to advance the and
waste goals.



OUR CLIMATE FUTURE

Big Move 10 Zero Waste
Economy

FORT COLLINS

City adopted; voter affirmed Disposable Bag Ordinance for large grocers*:

- plastic bag ban
- paper bag fee of \$0.10 with 6% remittance to the City

Current compliance for DBO:

- 100% of 19 large grocers remitting and reporting
- \$199,284 remittance collected in 2024

STATE OF COLORADO

Plastic Pollution Reduction Act:

- Bans plastic bags at stores
- Requires a disposable bag fee of \$0.10 with 6% remittance to the City
- Bans expanded polystyrene (Styrofoam™) at retail food establishments.

Municipalities are given authorization to:

- Enforce against violations
- Enact an ordinance at or more stringent than the state law requirements

107 businesses are remitting to the City



Approximately, 665 businesses in Fort Collins meet the criteria of the plastic bag ban and remittance of carryout bags:

- grocery, convenience, and liquor stores
- pharmacies
- clothing stores

• Exempt businesses include:

- Small businesses
- All restaurants

Retail Food Establishment Criteria

Approximately, 651 Fort Collins food establishments meet the criteria of the expanded polystyrene ban:

- Restaurants
- Fast food establishments
- Food trucks
- Cafeterias
- Prisons
- Schools*



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DBO Current State	Code Update Impacts
Plastic bag ban for 19 large grocers	Expands plastic bag ban enforcement to about 499 - 665 stores
Paper bag fee \$0.10 with remittance of \$0.06 for 19 large grocers	Expands remittance enforcement to about 499 - 665 stores
Exempts income-qualified program participants	Same exemptions
\$199,284 revenue in 2024	Anticipated \$178,782 - \$283,257 of revenue
No enforceable expanded polystyrene ban	Instates expanded polystyrene ban to ~ 651 retail food establishments
	Authorizes Council to enact more stringent policies

Plan of Action

February
2025

City Council
adopts code
updates

February
– June
2025

Business engagement & support
Development of internal
operations systems

July
2025

Remittance &
reporting are
required of stores

Updating and expanding DBO will reduce **considerable plastic and polystyrene waste** to further protect public health and advance the City's Climate Action priorities.



Thank you!