| Local Jurisdictions with Bans on Single Use Plastic Bags | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| | City of West Hollywood (Proposed) | Los Angeles County | Long Beach | Santa Monica | Pasadena | City of Los Angeles (Proposed) |
| Link/Website | http://www.weho.org/plasticbagban | Amendment to Title 12 - Environmental Protection of the Los Angeles County Code. Add Chapter 12.85. | http://www.litterfreelb.org | sustainablesm.org/bag | http://www.cityofpasadena.net/Plastic_Bag_Ba n_Ordinance.aspx | http://www.zerowaste.lacity.org/info/Bag_Policy. html |
| Logo/Slogan | Plastic Bag Ban | Bag Ordinance | Litter Free Long Beach/ Plastic Bag Ban | Bring Your Bag | Plastic Bag Ban | Reusable Bag Policy |
| Date ordinance adopted | Anticipated July 2012 | November 16, 2010 | May 17, 2011 | February 8, 2011 | October 3, 2011 | Anticipated March 31, 2012 |
| Date ordinance effective | January 2013 for large retailers July 2013 for small retailers | July 1, 2011; January 1, 2012 | Phase I - August 1, 2011, Phase II - February 1, 2012 | Effective March 9, 2011; Enforcement September 1, 2011 | July 1, 2012; December 31, 2012 | N/A |
| Types of retailers | Retail establishments less than 10,000 SF and retail establishments greater than 10,000 SF. | Three categories of Retail Stores: Effective first to the large retailers (supermarkets and large retail with a pharmacy), then small retailers | Large retailers (supermarkets and large retail with a pharmacy), and small retailers. | 4 Tiers of Retail Stores: 1. Grocery, Convenience, Minimart, Liquor, Pharmacies 2. Department, Hardware, Durable Goods, City Facilities 3. Restaurants, Food Vendors & Trucks 4. Farmers Markets | Larger stores with gross annual sale of \$2 million or more and those with >10,000 SF of retail space (with a pharmacy); and Smaller grocers, food markets, liquor store, convenience stores, etc. | The policy will apply to the following types of stores: •Supermarkets •Large retail stores with a pharmacy •Grocery stores, convenience stores, or foodmarts |
| Produce bags prohibited? | No | No | No | No | No | No |
| Take-out food vendors exempted? | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Limitations on retailers providing paper bags | 10-cent fee | 10-cent fee | 10-cent fee | Tier 1 Retail: 10-cent fee. Other Tiers: No fee | 10-cent fee | Los Angeles would be the first city in CA to ban both plastic and paper bags. |
| Paper bag specifications ^{1, 2} | "Recyclable paper carryout bag" needs to meet all of 6 requirements ¹ | "Recyclable paper carryout bag" needs to meet all of 6 requirements ¹ | "Recyclable paper carryout bag" needs to meet all of 6 requirements ¹ | " Recycled Paper Bag" needs to meet all of 5 requirements ² | "Recyclable paper carryout bag" needs to meet all of 6 requirements ¹ | N/A |
| Reusable bag specifications ³ | Needs to meet all of 6 requirements | Needs to meet all of 6 requirements | Needs to meet all of 6 requirements | Needs to meet all of 6 requirements | Needs to meet all of 6 requirements | The City is considering requiring all retailers to offer reusable bags at the point of sale for a cost or for free. May specify that reusable bags must be made out of recyclable or reusable materials. |
| If there is a fee, where does the money go? | Retained by the store | Retained by the store | Retained by the store | Retained by the store | Retained by the store | N/A |
| Penalties | Written warning, then fines of \$100, \$200, \$500 for 2nd - 4th violation | Written warning, then fines of \$100, \$200, \$500 for 2nd - 4th violation | First violation: \$100 per day; Second violation: \$200 per day; Third violation: \$500 per day | Verbal or written warning, then fines of \$75, \$93.75, and \$112.50 for 2nd - 4th violation | Written warning, then fines of \$100, \$200, \$500 for 2nd - 4th violation | N/A |
| Enforcement | Commercial Code Compliance | Dept. of Public Works/Director of Public Works | Not specified in ordinance | Office of Sustainability and the Environment | Departments of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures, and Public Health | N/A |
| Reporting requirements | Voluntary Annual: # of paper bags provided; Total amount collected from paper bag fee | Quarterly: # of paper bags provided; total amount collected from paper bag fee; efforts to promote recycling of single-use bags | Stores must retain relevant records for three years and allow inspection of them by the City upon request | Semi-annual reporting of paper bag usage | Quarterly: # of paper bags provided; total amount collected from paper bag fee; efforts to promote recycling of single-use bags | N/A |
| Undue hardship extension? ⁴ | Undue Hardship Extensions may be considered | One Year | One Year | One Year | N/A | N/A |
| WIC and SNAP ⁵ customers exempted from bag fee? | Yes, stores must provide free paper or reusable bags | Yes, stores must provide free paper or reusable bags | Yes, stores must provide free paper or reusable bags | Yes, stores must provide free paper or reusable bags | Yes, stores must provide free paper or reusable bags | Yes, stores must provide free paper or reusable bags |
| Farmers' markets exempted | Farmers' markets exempted | N/A | Only Produce Bags Permitted | Eight-pound recycled paper bags may be used to distribute mushrooms at farmers' markets free of charge. | No but paper bags allowed to be distributed free of charge. | N/A |

Notes

1 "Recyclable paper carryout bag" means a paper bag that meets all of the following requirements: (1) contains no old growth fiber, (2) is one hundred percent (40%) postconsumer recycled material; (3) is capable of composting, consistent with the timeline and specifications of the American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) Standard 06400; (4) is accepted for recycling in curbside programs in the City (5) has printed on the bag the name of the manufacturer, the location (country) where the bag was manufactured, and the percentage of postconsumer recycled material used; and (6) displays the worked "Recyclable" in a highly visible manner on the outside of the bag.

4 No reasonable alternative or the ordinance would deprive a person of a legally protected right.

5 WIC - Women, Infants and Children; SNAP - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

^{2 &}quot;Recycled Paper Bag" means a paper carryout bag provided by a store to a customer at the point of sale that meets all of the following requirements: (1) The paper carryout bag is accepted for recycling in curbside programs in a majority of households that have access to curbside recycling programs in the City. (4) The paper carryout bag is accepted for recycling in curbside programs in a majority of households that have access to curbside recycling programs in the City. (4) The paper carryout bag is the minimum percentage of postconsumer content.

^{3 &}quot;Reusable bag" means a bag with handles that is specifically designed and manufactured for multiple reuse and meets all of the following requirements: (1) has a minimum lifetime of 125 uses, which for purposes of this subsection, means the capability of carrying a minimum of 223 pounds 125 times over a distance of a least 175 feet; (2) has a minimum volume of 15 liters; (3) is machine washable; (4) does not contain lead, cadmium, or any other heavy metal in toxic amounts; (5) has printed on the bag, or on a tag that is permanently affixed to the bag was manufactured, a statement that the bag does not contain lead, cadmium, or any other heavy metal in toxic amounts, and the percentage of postconsumer recycled material used, if any; and (6) if made of plastic, is a minimum of at least 2.25 mils thick.