

RESOLUTION NO. 2012- 108

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF COCONUT CREEK, FLORIDA, URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO REPEAL SECTION 403.7033, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO ALLOW MUNICIPALITIES TO REGULATE THE USE OF RETAIL PLASTIC BAGS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Coconut Creek is aware of Section 403.7033, Florida Statutes, which does not permit local governments from regulating disposable plastic bags, wrapping, and containers, pending completion of an analysis by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP); and

WHEREAS, as required by Section 403.7033, Florida Statutes, FDEP prepared and completed an analysis of regulations for disposable plastic and paper retail bags and recommended that the Florida Legislature take action to discourage the use of single-use paper bags and plastic retail bags and encourage the use of reusable retail bags; and

WHEREAS, according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), approximately 100 billion plastic bags are used in the United States every year; and

WHEREAS, discarded plastic bags cause unsightly litter, harm land and marine wildlife, interfere with landfill operations, clog flood control systems and breed mosquitoes; and

WHEREAS, as plastic bags degrade, over time they break down into smaller, more toxic petro-polymers, which may contaminate soils and waterways; and

WHEREAS, switching from plastic bags to paper bags is not a solution as life cycle analyses show a higher level of environmental harm from manufacturing to disposal of paper compared to plastic bags. In addition, biodegradable or compostable

bags are not a solution as Florida has no solid waste commercial scale composting facility to handle biodegradable bags which will ultimately end up in a landfill; and

WHEREAS, less than 1% of plastic bags are recycled because it costs more to recycle a bag than make a new one; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature has not taken any action to further address the issue and such inaction perpetuates the use of plastic bags and exacerbates their adverse effect upon the environment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Coconut Creek hereby supports legislation relating to reducing or eliminating disposable plastic bags;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF COCONUT CREEK, FLORIDA:

Section 1: That the City Commission hereby urges the Florida Legislature to either repeal Section 403.7033, Florida Statutes, to allow municipalities to regulate the use of disposable plastic bags by retail establishments, or in the alternative, take action to provide for uniform, statewide regulation of disposable plastic bags.

Section 2: That the City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to forward true copies of this Resolution to members of the Broward County Legislative Delegation, the City Commissions of each municipality in Broward County, the Florida League of Cities, the Broward County League of Cities, and any other interested persons or agencies having interest or jurisdiction over the matter.

Section 3: That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage and adoption.

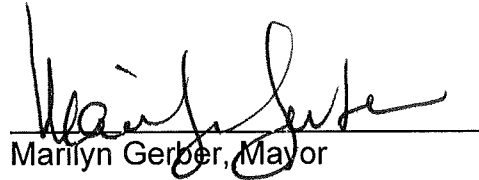
Adopted this 13th day of December, 2012, on a motion by

Commissioner Tooley and seconded by Commissioner Aronson.

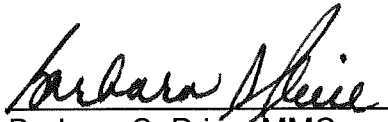
Ayes 5

Nays 0

Absent or
Abstaining 0


Marilyn Gerber, Mayor

ATTEST:


Barbara S. Price, MMC
City Clerk

Gerber Aye

Belvedere Aye

Sarbone Aye

Tooley Aye

Aronson Aye

SR:jw

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