

CHATSWORTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
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May 5, 2012

Councilman Mitchell Englander  
Council District 12  
200 N. Spring Street, Office #405  
Los Angeles CA 90012

Dear Councilman Englander,

Re: OPPOSED - CF 11-1531, Single Use Bag Ordinance

At the Chatsworth Neighborhood Council's May 2, 2012 meeting, the Board members voted NOT TO SUPPORT the proposed City Single Use Bag Ordinance /Resolution, and instead we support banning plastic bags only, with NO CHARGE for paper bags.

The Board was in agreement that, while plastic bags are frequently reused by residents to collect trash, line waste baskets and pick up dog and cat droppings, they also end up wind-blown from poorly designed city trash cans and ultimately are caught in trees, rivers, beaches and the ocean. These same issues are not evident with paper bags, which are recycled in blue bins like newspapers and large cardboard carryout boxes.

Brown paper bags are recyclable, originate from farmed trees and are not known to cause environmental degradation in comparison to other single-use items, such as single-use plastic water bottles. If the City Council wants Los Angeles to be on the cutting edge of environmental policy, then strong consideration should be given to banning single-use plastic water bottles, which end up throughout the entire waste stream, from rubbish bins, recycle centers, beaches, the ocean and landfills.

The Chatsworth Neighborhood Council would strongly urge the entire Los Angeles City Council to reconsider CF 11-1531 and amend it to only ban single-use plastic bags.

Sincerely,

Andre van der Valk, President  
Chatsworth Neighborhood Council