

County of Santa Clara

Department of Planning and Development
Planning Office
County Government Center, East Wing, 7th Floor
70 West Hedding Street
San Jose, California 95110-1705
(408) 299-5770 FAX (408) 288-9198
www.sccplanning.org



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Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration

Per the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), this notice has been prepared to inform you that the following project will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Project Name	Applicant
Single Use Carryout Bag Ordinance	County of Santa Clara
Project Location	
Unincorporated areas of Santa Clara County	
Project Description	
The proposed Ordinance will prohibit the distribution of single use carryout plastic bags and single use carryout paper bags from retail establishments in the unincorporated areas of Santa Clara County for 'point of sale' purchases. The Ordinance will allow affected retail establishments to distribute either a 'green' paper bag or a reusable bag. Reusable bags may be given away or sold and are defined as bags made of cloth or other machine washable fabric that has handles; or a durable plastic bag with handles that is at least 2.25 mils thick and is specifically designed and manufactured for multiple use. 'Green' paper bags may be sold to customers for a minimum fee of \$0.15 and are defined as paper bags that are 100% recyclable and are made from 100% recycled material. Reusable or 'Green' paper bags will be required to be distributed free to shoppers enrolled in SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) or WIC nutrition program for Women, Infants, and Children. The Ordinance will not affect restaurants, fast-food establishments, and retail stores run by non-profit organizations such as Goodwill and Salvation Army. The ordinance will not apply to protective bans such as meat/produce bags, newspaper bags, pharmaceutical bags, flat greeting card bags, dry cleaning bags, bakery item bags, and bags that hold live plants or small hardware items.	
Purpose of Notice	
The purpose of this notice is to inform you that County Staff has recommended that a Negative Declaration be approved for this project. Based upon substantial evidence in the record, Staff finds that the proposed project could not have a significant effect on the environment. A public hearing for the proposed project is tentatively scheduled for the Board of Supervisors on November 9, 2010 in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, County Government Center; 70 West Hedding Street, San Jose, CA 95110. It should be noted that the adoption of a Negative Declaration does not constitute approval of the project under consideration. The decision to approve or deny the project will be made separately.	
Public Review Period:	Begins: October 8, 2010 Ends: October 27, 2010
Public Comments regarding the correctness, completeness, or adequacy of this negative declaration are invited and must be received on or before the end of the review period listed above. Such comments should be based on specific environmental concerns. Written comments should be addressed to the attention of Rob Eastwood, County of Santa Clara Planning Office, County Government Center, 70 W. Hedding Street, San Jose, CA 95110 , For additional information regarding this Negative Declaration, please contact Rob Eastwood at (408) 299-5792.	
The full length Initial Study may be viewed at the following locations:	
(1) Santa Clara County Planning Office, 70 West Hedding Street, East Wing, 7 th Floor, San Jose, CA 95110 (2) Planning Office Website www.sccplanning.org (Environmental Documents under "Find it Fast") (3) Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library – 150 E. San Fernando street, San Jose, CA 95112	
Prepared and Approved by Rob Eastwood, Senior Planner, AICP	
_____ Signature _____ Date	