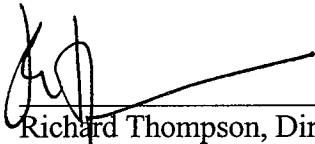


**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH  
PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended, and the City of Manhattan Beach CEQA Guidelines, the Community Development Department after conducting an Initial Study found that the following project would not have a significant effect on the environment and has instructed that this Negative Declaration be prepared.

1. **Project Title:** Municipal Code Amendment to Prohibit Single-Use Plastic Carry-Out Bags at Commercial Establishments
2. **Project Location:** Citywide
3. **Project Description:** Prohibit Issuance of Plastic Bags with Purchased Merchandise at all Manhattan Beach Commercial Establishments.
4. **Support Findings:** Based upon the Initial Study, which is attached hereto and made a part hereof, it is the finding of the Community Development Department that the above mentioned project is not an action involving any significant environmental effects.

Prepared by the Community Development Department on June 11, 2008



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Richard Thompson, Director of Community Development



**INITIAL STUDY/ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST**  
**FOR THE**  
**MANHATTAN BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE AMENDMENT TO PROHIBIT**  
**SINGLE-USE PLASTIC CARRY-OUT BAGS AT COMMERCIAL**  
**ESTABLISHMENTS**

**Prepared by:**

**City of Manhattan Beach  
1400 Highland Avenue  
Manhattan Beach, California 90266**

*June 2008*

## INITIAL STUDY, ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

1. **Project Title:** Municipal Code Amendment to Prohibit Single-Use Plastic Carry-Out Bags at Commercial Establishments
2. **Lead Agency Name and Address:** City of Manhattan Beach  
1400 Highland Ave.  
Manhattan Beach, California 90266
3. **Contact Person and Phone Number:** Mr. Eric Haaland                      Lindy Coe-Juell  
Community Dev. Dept                      Assistant to the City Manager  
(310) 802-5511                                      (310) 802-5054
4. **Project Location:** Citywide
5. **Project Sponsor's Name and Address:** Same as Lead Agency
6. **General Plan Designations:** Various
7. **Zoning:** Various
8. **Project Description** Prohibit Issuance of Plastic Bags with Purchased Merchandise at all Manhattan Beach Commercial Establishments
9. **Surrounding Land Uses And Setting** Neighboring South Bay Cities composed of residential, commercial, public/semi-public, and industrial uses.
10. **Approvals Required** Ordinance Approval:  
City of Manhattan Beach City Council
11. **Other Public Agencies Whose Approval Is Required** None

**ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:**

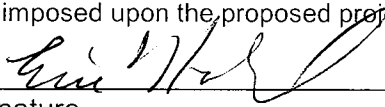
The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages:

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture Resources              | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources          | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology /Soils           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology / Water Quality          | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use / Planning      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources             | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Population / Housing     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services               | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation / Traffic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities / Service Systems   | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |   |

**DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)**

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been address by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

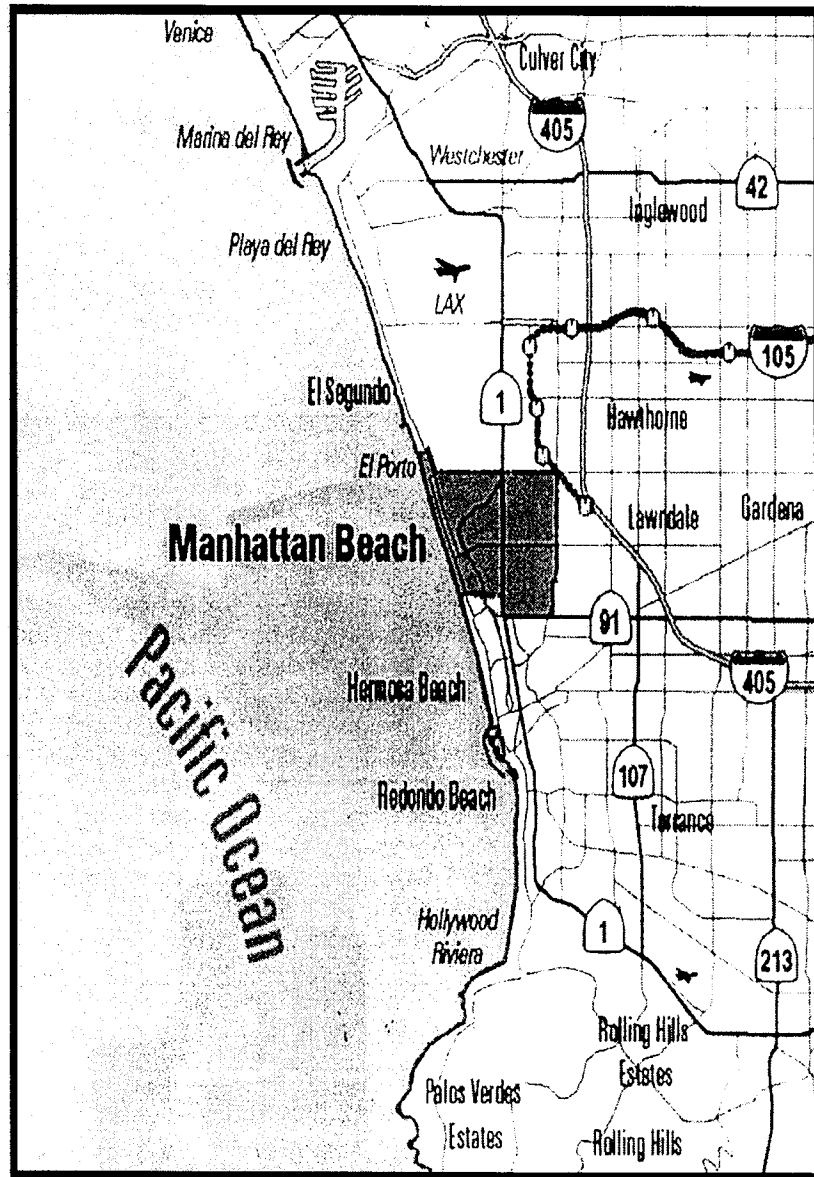
*Eric Hasland*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

*6/11/08*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*Associate Planner*  
\_\_\_\_\_

For: Richard Thompson  
Community Development Director,  
City of Manhattan Beach  
1400 Highland Avenue.  
Manhattan Beach, California 90266  
(310) 802-5000

FIGURE 1 – REGIONAL LOCATION MAP



## **Detailed Project Description**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH, CALIFORNIA, ADDING A NEW SECTION 5.88.010 TO A NEW "ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS" CHAPTER 5.88 TO TITLE 5 OF THE MANHATTAN BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE PROHIBITING THE USE OF PLASTIC CARRY-OUT BAGS

## **Earlier Analysis**

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Guidelines Section 15063(c)(3)(D)) permits earlier analysis to be used where a CEQA document has adequately analyzed an effect. No earlier analysis had adequately analyzed the project's potential effects and as such, no earlier analysis was utilized.

## **References**

California Air Resources Board, *The 2001 California Almanac of Emissions & Air Quality* (2001).

South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), *Draft Final 1997 Air Quality Management Plan* (October 1996).

California Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resources Protection, Los Angeles County, *Important Farmland 2002 Map* (2004).

California Department of Water Resources, *California's Groundwater*, Bulletin 118 (October 2003).

California Code of Regulations, Title 14 Chapter 3, *Guidelines for California Environmental Quality Act* (2004). (Short Title: State CEQA Guidelines [14 CCR 3, Section 15001])

California Government Code, Section 65962.5.

California Public Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.98

California Public Resources Code Division 13, *Environmental Quality*, Sections 21000-21178, 2004.

Rand McNally, *The Thomas Guide, Los Angeles and Orange Counties Street Guide*, 2008.

South Coast Air Quality Management District, *CEQA Handbook*, 1993.

City of Manhattan Beach, *General Plan*, Adopted December 2, 2003.

City of Manhattan Beach, *General Plan Final Environmental Impact Report*, October 2003.

City of Manhattan Beach, *Municipal Code*.

City of Manhattan Beach, *Local Coastal Program Land Use Plan Amendment*, Adopted January 1994.

California Department of Conservation, Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program, 2002

California Environmental Quality Act, CEQA Guidelines, 2004

An Overview of Carryout Bags in Los Angeles County, A staff report to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, August 2007.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Marine Debris Program, <http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/>

California Integrated Waste Management Board, <http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Plastic/>

Agalita Marine Research Foundation, <http://www.algalita.org/research.html>

“Pelagic Plastics”, [www.algalita.org/pelagic\\_plastic.html](http://www.algalita.org/pelagic_plastic.html)

*Moore, C.J., Lattin, G.L., Zellers, A.F., Working Our Way Upstream: A Snapshot of Land-based Contributions of Plastic and other Trash to Coastal Waters and Beaches of Southern California., 2005*

*Moore, C.J., Lattin, G.L., Zellers, A.F., A Brief Analysis of Organic Pollutants Sorbed to Pre and Post-Consumer Plastic Particles from the Los Angeles and San Gabriel River Watersheds, 2005*

*Moore, C.J., Lattin, G.L., Zellers, A.F., Density of Plastic Particles Found in Zooplankton Trawls from Coastal Waters of California to the North Pacific Central Gyre. -.2006*

Californians Against Waste [http://www.cawrecycles.org/issues/plastic\\_campaign/plastic\\_bags](http://www.cawrecycles.org/issues/plastic_campaign/plastic_bags)

US EPA 2005 Characterization of Municipal Solid Waste, <http://www.epa.gov/msw/facts.htm>

Environmental Ministry of Ireland, <http://www.environ.ie/en/Environment/Waste/PlasticBags/>

“The Problem With Marine Debris”, California Coastal Commission Public Education Program’s web article, <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/marinedebris.html>.

Boustead Consulting & Associates: Life Cycle Assessment for Three Types of Grocery Bags – Recyclable Plastic; Compostable, Biodegradable Plastic; and Recycled, Recyclable Paper, Prepared for the Progressive Bag Alliance, 2007.

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution: Plastics in Our Oceans, <http://www.whoi.edu/science/B/people/kamaral/plasticsarticle.html> (June 16, 2008).



Earth 911: Facts About Plastic Bags, <http://earth911.org/plastics/facts-about-plastic-bags/> (June 16, 2008).

Ocean Conservancy: Marine Debris, [http://www.oceanconservancy.org/site/PageServer?pagename=issues\\_debris](http://www.oceanconservancy.org/site/PageServer?pagename=issues_debris) (June 16, 2008).

National Geographic: Are Plastic Grocery Bags Sacking the Environment?, John Roach for National Geographic News, September 2, 2003, <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/pf/80107147.html> (June 16, 2008).

Ordinance No. 2115, An Ordinance of the City of Manhattan Beach, California, establishing a ban on plastic carry-out shopping bags Citywide.

## **REPORT PREPARERS**

Lead Agency: City of Manhattan Beach  
1400 Highland Avenue  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

## INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

### EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

- 1) A brief explanation is required for all answers, except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factor as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis.)
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- 4) "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from Section XVII, "Earlier Analyses," may be cross-referenced).
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiring, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
  - a) *Earlier Analysis Used.* Identify and state where they are available for review.
  - b) *Impacts Adequately Addressed.* Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
  - c) *Mitigation Measures.* For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures, which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
- 7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
- 8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
- 9) The explanation of each issue should identify:
  - a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
  - b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance.

# ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

I <u>AESTHETICS</u>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>Would the project:</i>				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway corridor?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare, which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

## Explanation of Checklist Judgments:

**I(a-d). No Impact:** Plastic bags are a significant component of litter in the environment due to their durability and light weight. The City of Los Angeles conducted a waste characterization study in June 2004 and found that plastic bags made up 25 percent by weight, and 19 percent by volume, of litter found in 30 storm drain catch basins. Often, plastic shopping bags are white or brightly colored, creating a significant eyesore throughout the community, which is currently aesthetically detrimental. Adoption of a prohibition of single-use plastic carry-out bags would prohibit plastic shopping bags Citywide, thereby decreasing the amount of plastic bags that become litter and improving visual aesthetics. The project would not adversely affect any scenic vistas, damage scenic resources, degrade existing visual character, and will not create a source of substantial light or glare. Therefore, no impact is anticipated and no further investigation is required.

II <u>AGRICULTURE RESOURCES</u>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the project:</i>				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
c) Involve other changes in the existing environment that due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

## Explanation of Checklist Judgments:

**II(a-c). No Impact:** The proposed project involves the adoption of an ordinance which would ban plastic shopping bags Citywide, and will have no impact on land designated as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, or land within a Williamson Act contract. Therefore, no impact is anticipated and no further investigation is required.

III <u>AIR QUALITY</u>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:</i>				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

**Explanation of Checklist Judgments:**

**III(a,b). No Impact:** The proposed project involves the adoption of an ordinance which would ban plastic shopping bags Citywide. The project would not conflict or obstruct the implementation of the applicable air quality plan nor violate any air quality standards in the City.

**III(c). Less Than Significant Impact:** There is a potential that the banning of plastic bags in the City of Manhattan Beach may result in an increase in paper bag usage. The proposed ordinance does require that all paper bags used in the City at point of sale be at least composed of 40% recyclable material. However, it is well documented that the manufacture and distribution of paper bags can consume more energy than plastic bags. This increased use of energy could have an impact on the environment by increasing emissions from power plants and possibly from trucks carrying the heavier, bulkier paper bags.

However, the banning of plastic bags by political subdivisions is not widespread. In California only San Francisco, Oakland and Malibu have enacted such bans and Oakland's was invalidated by a court. San Francisco's ban does not include biodegradable plastic bags and so will not displace all plastic bag usage.

The population of Manhattan Beach is only 33,852 according to the 2000 census. However, per capita bag usage would provide an inflated measurement of any net increase in paper bag use since the proposed ordinance does not ban the use of plastic bags by residents but their distribution at point of sale. Only 11.2% of the City is zoned commercial and there are only 217 licensed retail

establishments within the City which might use plastic bags. There are only two supermarkets, three (and two future) drug stores, and one Target store known to be high volume users of plastic shopping bags in the City which would be affected by the ban. The remaining businesses tend to be smaller and lower volume and many restaurants and most fast food outlets already use paper bags for take out orders.

Plastic bags would not be replaced by paper bags on a one to one ratio since paper bags have a higher capacity. One study (commissioned by the plastic bag industry) estimates that for every 1500 plastic bags it would take 1000 paper bags to replace them. Other studies find that paper bags may hold up to four times the volume of plastic bags. In light of anticipated education efforts, increased publicity (partially resulting from the subject ordinance), and the public's increased concern for pollution and water quality, at least some percentage of plastic bags are expected to be replaced by reusable bags rather than paper bags.

Based on the foregoing it appears that any increase in the total use of paper bags resulting from the proposed ban on plastic bags in Manhattan Beach (and even considering it as a cumulative increase from the bans in Malibu and San Francisco) would be relatively small with a minimal or nonexistent increase in energy consumption. Therefore, the project should not conflict with nor obstruct AQMP implementation, and no further investigation is required.

**III(d,e). No Impact:** The project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations or create objectionable odors.

IV <u>BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES</u>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>Would the project:</i>				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

e)	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?			X
f)	Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?			X

**Explanation of Checklist Judgments:**

**IV(a-e). No Impact:** The project consists of the adoption of an ordinance which would ban plastic shopping bags, thereby decreasing the prevalence of plastic bag litter in the marine environment in and near the City. The proposed project is not expected to result in any impacts to federally protected wetlands. It is not expected to substantially interfere with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or impact any native wildlife nursery sites. The proposed project does not conflict with any local policies protecting biological resources, or conflict with any adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan or other local or regional conservation plans.

Plastic debris is a major pollutant of coastal waters. In the Pacific Ocean there exists a huge accumulation of debris know as the "Great Pacific Garbage Patch" or "Plastic Soup." This is an accumulation of mostly plastic debris drawn by currents to accumulate in the area of the northern Pacific Ocean known as the "North Pacific Gyre". Some scientists estimate the density of plastic in this region at one million pieces of plastic per square mile. Plastic does not biodegrade so over the past two decades this mass has been growing. Some studies show that plastic photo-degrades breaking into smaller pieces and making its way into the food chain via animals such as jellyfish.

While it may be difficult to ascertain the exact numbers of marine life which perish every year due to ingestion of or choking on plastic debris there are numerous anecdotal accounts of marine life being discovered with plastic debris in their stomachs or clogging their breathing apparatus.

Reducing the use of plastic bags in Manhattan Beach will have only a modest positive impact on the migration of plastic refuse into the ocean. However, as a coastal City the imposition of the ban is likely to have some modest impact on improving water quality and removing a potential biohazard from the marine environment. The proposed project would not result in substantial adverse effect, directly or through habitat modification on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive or special species. The adoption of the ordinance would not adversely affect riparian habitats or other sensitive natural communities identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. A prohibition of single-use plastic carry-out bags is anticipated to result in a positive effect on species and habitats. No impacts to listed species or habitat plans are anticipated, and no further investigation is required.

Consequently, no impacts to biological resources are anticipated. No further investigation is required.

<b>V</b> <b><u>CULTURAL RESOURCES</u></b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>Would the project:</i>				
k) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in CEQA Guidelines §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
l) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
m) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geological feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
n) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Explanation of Checklist Judgments:**

**V(a-d). No Impact:** The proposed project involves the adoption of an ordinance to ban plastic shopping bags Citywide and does not include any development or alterations of physical sites or structures. The project would not result in substantial adverse change to a historical resource or archaeological resource. The project would not directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site, nor disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries. Consequently, there is no impact and no further research is necessary.

<b>VI</b> <b><u>GEOLOGY AND SOILS</u></b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>Would the project:</i>				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving: i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risk to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

e)	Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	X
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**Explanation of Checklist Judgments:**

**VI(a-e) No Impact:** The project does not include any development; therefore, the project would not expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects involving rupture of a known earthquake fault, strong seismic ground shaking, seismic-related ground failure, liquefaction, landslides, or substantial soil erosion or loss of top soil. A prohibition of single-use plastic carry-out bags would not result in future development that would be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable, or result in offsite landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse as a result of the project. No further investigation is required.

<b>VII HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>Would the project:</i>				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

**Explanation of Checklist Judgments:**

**VII(a-h). No Impact:** The project involves the adoption of an ordinance to ban plastic shopping bags in the City of Manhattan Beach and does not cause increased use, disposal or disruption of hazardous materials or create a public or safety



hazard or affect existing emergency response plans or routes. The City is not within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport and the project would not create or result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area. The proposed ordinance would not affect emergency procedures or result in exposure of people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires. No associated impacts are anticipated, and no further investigation is required.

<b>VIII</b> <b><u>HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY</u></b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>Would the project:</i>				
a)    Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
b)    Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
c)    Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
d)    Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
e)    Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
f)    Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
g)    Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
h)    Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
i)    Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
j)    Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

**Explanation of Checklist Judgments:**

**VIII(a-j).**    **No Impact:** The proposed project does not involve any development; therefore, would not violate water quality standards or water discharge requirements. Furthermore, the proposed reduction of plastic bag usage would not generate increased use of groundwater, alter existing drainage patterns, increase surface water runoff, or degrade water quality. The project does not involve placing structures within a 100-year flood hazard area or impede and redirect flood flow. The project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss,

injury or death involving flooding, or inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflow. The proposed project is anticipated to have a positive impact on water quality by reducing the potential for plastic bags entering storms drains and the ocean from the Manhattan Beach area.

There is a potential that the banning of plastic bags in the City of Manhattan Beach may result in an increase in paper bag usage. The proposed ordinance does require that all paper bags used in the City at point of sale be at least composed of 40% recyclable material. However, it is well documented that the manufacture and recycling of paper generates more wastewater than plastic bags. This increased use of energy could have an impact on the environment by increasing emissions from paper mills and recycling plants.

However, the banning of plastic bags by political subdivisions is not widespread. In California only San Francisco, Oakland and Malibu have enacted such bans and Oakland's was invalidated by a court. San Francisco's ban does not include biodegradable plastic bags and so will not displace all plastic bag usage. Malibu is a City of only 12,575 with an extremely small retail component within its boundaries.

The population of Manhattan Beach is only 33,852 according to the 2000 census. However, per capita bag usage would provide an inflated measurement of any net increase in paper bag use since the proposed ordinance does not ban the use of plastic bags by residents but their distribution at point of sale. Only 11.2% of the City is zoned commercial and there are only 217 licensed retail establishments within the City which might use plastic bags. There are only two supermarkets, three (and two future) drug stores, and one Target store known to be high volume users of plastic shopping bags in the City which would be affected by the ban. The remaining businesses tend to be smaller and lower volume and many restaurants and most fast food outlets already use paper bags for take out orders.

Plastic bags would not be replaced by paper bags on a one to one ratio since paper bags have a higher capacity. One study (commissioned by the plastic bag industry) estimates that for every 1500 plastic bags it would take 1000 paper bags to replace them. Other studies find that paper bags may hold up to four times the volume of plastic bags. In light of anticipated education efforts, increased publicity (partially resulting from the subject ordinance), and the public's increased concern for pollution and water quality, at least some percentage of plastic bags are expected to be replaced by reusable bags rather than paper bags.

Plastic debris is a major pollutant of coastal waters. In the Pacific Ocean there exists a huge accumulation of debris know as the "Great Pacific Garbage Patch" or "Plastic Soup." This is an accumulation of mostly plastic debris drawn by currents to accumulate in the area of the northern Pacific Ocean known as the "North Pacific Gyre." Some scientists estimate the density of plastic in this region at one million pieces of plastic per square mile. Plastic does not biodegrade so over the past two decades this mass has been growing. Some studies show that plastic photo-degrades breaking into smaller pieces and

making its way into the food chain via animals such as jellyfish. Reducing the use of plastic bags in Manhattan Beach will have only a modest positive impact on the migration of plastic refuse into the ocean. However, as a coastal City the imposition of the ban is likely to have some modest impact on improving water quality or at least preventing it from degenerating as quickly.

Based on the foregoing it appears that any increase in the total use of paper bags resulting from the proposed ban on plastic bags in Manhattan Beach (and even considering it as a cumulative increase from the bans in Malibu and San Francisco) would be relatively small with a minimal or nonexistent increase in pollutants generated from production and recycling. This is counterbalanced by a modest reduction in plastic refuse being generated in a coastal region. No further investigation is required.

Consequently, no impacts to hydrology and water quality are anticipated. No further investigation is required.

<b>IX</b> <b><u>LAND USE AND PLANNING</u></b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>Would the project:</i>				
a)     Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>X</b>
b)     Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>X</b>
c)     Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>X</b>

**Explanation of Checklist Judgments:**

**IX(a).**     **No Impact:** The proposed project involves the adoption an ordinance which would ban plastic shopping bags Citywide. The project does not physically divide an established community. No further investigation is required.

**IX(b-c).**     **No Impact:** The proposed ordinance would not conflict with any applicable land use plan and policy or conflict with any habitat or natural community conservation plans. Furthermore, it would complement the water pollution policies of the City of Manhattan Beach Local Coastal Program to protect marine resources by decreasing the prevalence of plastic shopping bag litter. The project would result in beneficial impacts to litter prevention efforts Citywide. No further investigation is required.

<b>X</b> <b><u>MINERAL RESOURCES</u></b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

<i>Would the project:</i>		
a)	Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of future value to the region and the residents of the State?	X
b)	Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?	X

**Explanation of Checklist Judgments:**

**X(a,b).**        **No Impact:** The proposed project is the adoption of an ordinance and does not affect known state, regional, or local mineral resources. No impacts to mineral resources are anticipated. Consequently, no impact or interference with mineral recovery will result, and no further investigation is required.

<b>XI</b>	<b><u>NOISE</u></b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>Would the project result in:</i>					
a)	Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
b)	Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
c)	A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
d)	A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
e)	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
f)	For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

**Explanation of Checklist Judgments:**

**XI(a-d).**        **No Impact:** The project would not expose people to, or generate, noise levels in excess of standards established in the General Plan Noise Element or the Manhattan Beach Noise Ordinance. The proposed ordinance would not expose people to excessive ground vibration or result in a substantial permanent or a temporary increase of ambient noise. No further investigation is required

**XI(e,f).**        **No Impact:** The proposed ordinance is effective Citywide, but will not cause any additional exposure to airport noise. The Manhattan Beach City limits are not located within two miles of an airport or near an airstrip; therefore, no impacts are anticipated. Consequently, no airport-related noise impacts are anticipated, and no further investigation is required.

<b>XII</b> <b><u>POPULATION AND HOUSING</u></b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>Would the project:</i>				
a)     Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
b)     Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
c)     Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

**Explanation of Checklist Judgments:**

**XII(a-c).     No Impact:** The proposed project includes the adoption of an ordinance and would not increase, decrease, or otherwise affect population or local population growth rates. Therefore, no impacts to population or housing would occur as a result of the proposed project. No further investigation is required.

<b>XIII</b> <b><u>PUBLIC SERVICES</u></b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>Would the project: result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services?</i>				
a)     Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
b)     Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
c)     Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
d)     Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
e)     Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Explanation of Checklist Judgments:**

**XIII(a-d).     No Impact:** The proposed project is the adoption of an ordinance to ban plastic shopping bags Citywide and does not involve Public Safety, School, or Recreation services. No further investigation is required.

**XIII(e).     Less than Significant Impact:** The implementation of the ordinance will involve enforcement and education outreach to residents and business owners by administrative City staff. The implementation of the ordinance is anticipated to involve comparable staff resources to similar ordinances previously adopted by the City of Manhattan Beach. Any impacts to government services and facilities

are anticipated to be less than significant, and no further investigation is required.

<b>XIV RECREATION</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				X
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				X

**Explanation of Checklist Judgments:**

**XIV(a,b). No Impact:** The proposed project is the adoption of an ordinance and would not increase the use of recreational facilities. The project does not require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities or otherwise affect existing recreational facilities. No further investigation is required.

<b>XV TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>Would the project:</i>				
a) Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?			X	
b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?			X	
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?			X	
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				X
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?				X
f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?				X
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?				X

**Explanation of Checklist Judgments:**

**XV(a-c). Less than Significant Impact:** The proposed project involves the adoption of an ordinance to ban plastic shopping bags Citywide and would not directly affect current traffic loads, the street system capacity, existing levels of service, or air

traffic patterns. There is a potential that the banning of plastic bags in the City of Manhattan Beach may result in an increase in paper bag usage which have more mass per square foot compared to plastic and may increase traffic involved in shipping paper bags to retail establishments. The ordinance will require those paper bags to have 40% recycled content encouraging reduced use with increased costs for single-use bags, and education programs will be launched to encourage patrons to choose and use reusable bags, and thereby reduce total use of single-use bags.

While some shipping traffic increases may result, the banning of plastic bags by political subdivisions is not widespread. In California only San Francisco, Oakland and Malibu have enacted such bans and Oakland's was invalidated by a court. San Francisco's ban does not include biodegradable plastic bags and so will not displace all plastic bag usage. Malibu is a City of only 12,575 with an extremely small retail component within its boundaries.

The population of Manhattan Beach is only 33,852 according to the 2000 census. However, per capita bag usage would provide an inflated measurement of any net increase in paper bag use since the proposed ordinance does not ban the use of plastic bags by residents but their distribution at point of sale. Only 11.2% of the City is zoned commercial and there are only 217 licensed retail establishments within the City which might use plastic bags. There are only two supermarkets, three (and two future) drug stores, and one Target store known to be high volume users of plastic shopping bags in the City which would be affected by the ban. The remaining businesses tend to be smaller and lower volume and many restaurants and most fast food outlets already use paper bags for take out orders.

Based on the foregoing it appears that any increase in the total use of paper bags resulting from the proposed ban on plastic bags in Manhattan Beach (and even considering it as a cumulative increase from the bans in Malibu and San Francisco) would be relatively small with a minimal or nonexistent increase in truck traffic.

**XV(d-f).** **No Impact:** The project is the adoption of an ordinance, and does not include any development; therefore, no increase in traffic hazards, impacts to emergency access or parking capacity are anticipated.

**XV(g).** **No Impact:** The project would not conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation. No further investigation is required.

<b>XVI UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>Would the project:</i>				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<b>XVI UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		X
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		X
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		X
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		X
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

**Explanation of Checklist Judgments:**

**XVI(a-e). No Impact:** The proposed project involves the adoption an ordinance to ban plastic shopping bags Citywide. The adoption of the proposed ordinance would not affect wastewater treatment requirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board or result in construction of a new water or wastewater treatment facility or expansion of existing facilities. The project does not require any additional water supply or wastewater capacity. No further investigation is required.

**XVI(f). Less Than Significant Impact:** While the ordinance would ban plastic shopping bags, it would allow paper bags to be used Citywide. The ordinance will require those paper bags to have 40% recycled content reducing landfill demand and encouraging reduced use with increased costs for paper bags. Since the substituted paper bags can also become litter, education programs will be launched to encourage patrons to choose and use reusable bags, and thereby reduce total use of single-use bags. The substitution of paper bags for plastic that does occur, although larger in mass per square foot compared to plastic, would not significantly impact landfill capacity since a larger portion of paper bags is recycled than plastic, substituted paper bags will be at least 40% paper diverted from landfills, and the City of Manhattan Beach represents a small proportion of regional landfill users. No further investigation is required.

**XVI(g). No Impact:** The proposed ordinance complies with federal, state, and local statues and regulations related to solid waste. No further investigation is required.



XVII <u>MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE</u>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>Does the project:</i>				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

**Explanation of Checklist Judgments:**

**XVII(a-c). No Impact:** The proposed project involves the adoption of an ordinance to ban plastic shopping bags and does not include any development. The proposed ordinance does not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment or substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop, or threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community. The project would not eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. The project would not have environmental effects or substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. Furthermore, the proposed ordinance would decrease the prevalence of plastic bag litter in the marine environment, which adversely impact marine wildlife. The proposed ordinance would decrease the prevalence of plastic bag litter in the City.