

About Town

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City will appeal bag decision

City Council will appeal a judge's rejection of the city's plastic bag ban and may proceed with an environmental impact report (EIR). Los Angeles Superior Court Judge David Yaffe decided last month that the city should have completed an EIR before enacting the ordinance last July.

City Attorney Bob Wadden said Yaffe's analysis of the California Environmental Quality Act was flawed. An EIR is only required if there is a "substantial" environmental impact, he said

"We didn't think that there was an impact, we still don't frankly," Wadden said last month.

Savetheplasticbag.com, the coalition that sued the city last August, said they wanted to establish which is better for the environment — paper or plastic.

The case will be handled in-house and the appeal process could take 18-24 months, Wdden said.

City Council may still conduct an EIR, Wadden said, and may try to save money by collaborating with other cities that plan to conduct a plastic vs. paper study. No city has conducted an EIR concerning paper vs. plastic for the city to use as support, he said.

"The Council is still very committed to the ban," Wadden said. ER