

From: [Alexandria Weddell](mailto:Alexandria.Weddell@skagway.org)
To: A.Hasskamp@skagway.org; [Solid Waste Advisory Committee](#)
Cc: [Steve Burnham](#); [Kathy Carr](#)
Subject: Fw: Plastic Bag / SWAC Information
Date: Sunday, January 21, 2024 9:33:38 AM
Attachments: [Anchorage plastic bag ordinance.pdf](#)
[ord_19-04-536_prohibiting_the_distribution_of_plastic_shopping_bags_as_amended_05-28-19.pdf](#)

Hi Annemarie and SWAC members,

I am very interested in revisiting the plastic bag ban idea for Skagway and was hoping that your committee might be interested in taking up the topic before I bring it to Civic Affairs.

I have attached Anchorage's ordinance to this email, which I like as an example. Also, [here is a link to their informational page about the ban](#). One of the things I like about the Anchorage model is that they passed the ordinance but delayed it going into effect, so that businesses could use up existing stock and get used to the idea. Perhaps if the table decided to move forward with this we could wait until the end of the tourist season to implement.

However, I also think it lacks a bit on offering compostable options as alternatives. The Haines ordinance, also attached, addresses this, but not some of the other items, like the exceptions and definitions, which seem very relevant to me.

Additionally, I have asked the clerks office to share with me some of the work your committee has done so far on the issue and that email is below for ease of reference.

Would you please consider revisiting this issue and then sending it to Civic Affairs with your recommendations?

Thank you,

Alex Weddell

From: Steve Burnham
Sent: Friday, January 19, 2024 5:29 PM
To: Alexandria Weddell
Cc: Kathy Carr
Subject: Plastic Bag / SWAC Information

Alex,

The Solid Waste Advisory Committee last discussed the plastic bag use at their March 3, 2020 meeting, just before all meetings for the year were cancelled due to the pandemic. You can find that meeting packet [HERE](#).

Their previous meeting regarding plastics in general was held on July 12, 2018. You can find that meeting packet [HERE](#).

You can also find the Survey Results of SWAC's Zero Waste Goals on their MOS page, [HERE](#). There are questions that may assist you in reviewing community support for limiting plastic bags.

Thanks,

Steve Burnham, Jr.
Borough Clerk
Municipality of Skagway
P.O. Box 415, Skagway, AK 99840
(Phone) 907.983.2297
(Direct) 907.983.9706
(Fax) 907.983.2151
s.burnham@skagway.org

PUBLIC RECORDS LAW DISCLOSURE: This e-mail and responses to this email are subject to provisions of the Alaska Statutes and may be made available to the public upon request.

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AO No. 2018-110, As Amended

1 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY AMENDING**
2 **ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 15.95, *DISPOSABLE PLASTIC***
3 ***SHOPPING BAGS*, TO DELAY THE DATE THE PROHIBITION ON**
4 **DISTRIBUTION GOES INTO EFFECT, TO ADD AND CLARIFY EXCEPTIONS,**
5 **TO CLARIFY TERMINOLOGY AND INCLUDE CONFORMING AMENDMENTS,**
6 **AND AMENDING THE CORRESPONDING LANGUAGE IN AMC SECTION**
7 **14.60.030 ACCORDINGLY.**
8

9
10 **WHEREAS**, on August 28, 2018 the Anchorage Assembly passed AO 2018-63(S),
11 as amended, to prohibit distributing disposable plastic shopping bags to purchasers
12 and requiring a retail seller to charge a fee for providing alternative bags that are
13 not reusable;

14
15 **WHEREAS**, members of the public and retail store owners and operators have
16 expressed concern with plastic bag inventories on hand that were commonly
17 acquired in bulk and expected to supply a store for months or years;

18
19 **WHEREAS**, while some chain store retailers could send their plastic bag inventory
20 to other locations in jurisdictions without a prohibition, many retail stores would not
21 have that option and could dispose of their customized and unusable bags in the
22 landfill in bulk after the ban becomes effective March 1, 2019;

23
24 **WHEREAS**, the intent and spirit of the plastic shopping bag ordinance is for
25 environmental protection including reduction of their volume in the Anchorage
26 Regional Landfill and blowing in the wind after disposal; and

27
28 **WHEREAS**, the Anchorage Assembly intends to provide a reasonably sufficient
29 time for local retail stores to significantly diminish or deplete their plastic shopping
30 bag inventories before the prohibition goes into effect, reducing the economic impact
31 on private sector retailers; and

32
33 **WHEREAS**, clarification to language and additional exceptions are desired and
34 beneficial to the public and the purposes of the ordinance; now, therefore,

35
36 **THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY ORDAINS:**

37
38 **Section 1.** Anchorage Municipal Code chapter 15.95 is hereby amended to read
39 as follows (*the remainder of the section is not affected and therefore not set out*):

40
41 **Chapter 15.95 [DISPOSABLE] PLASTIC SHOPPING BAGS.**
42

15.95.010 Definitions.

Alternative bag means any bag that is designed to carry customer purchases from the retail seller premises that is neither a [DISPOSABLE] plastic shopping bag nor a reusable bag.

[DISPOSABLE P] *Plastic shopping bag* means a bag made exclusively or primarily of soft plastic (including plastics marked or labeled as “biodegradable” or “compostable”) that is designed to carry customer purchases from the retail seller’s premises;

* * * * *

(AO No. 2018-63(S), § 1, 9-11-18)

15.95.020 Prohibition on providing or distributing [DISPOSABLE] plastic shopping bags; fees for alternative bags; exceptions.

A. On or after September 15 [MARCH 1], 2019, except as provided in this section a retail seller shall not provide a [DISPOSABLE] plastic shopping bag to a purchaser to carry away [OR PROTECT] goods purchased from, or serviced by, the retail seller.

B. On or after September 15 [MARCH 1], 2019, except as provided in this section, a retail seller shall provide an alternative bag to a purchaser to carry away goods purchased from, or serviced by, the retail seller only for a minimum fee of \$0.10 per bag with a maximum charge of \$0.50 per transaction. A retail seller

* * * * *

6. The fees in this section do not apply to any transaction where the purchase is paid directly by the United States or its instrumentalities insofar as they are immune from local regulation[100% PAID FOR BY A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROGRAM].

D. *Exceptions.* The prohibition established in this section does not apply to a plastic bag that is

1. Used by customers inside stores to contain a product that does not have other packaging, such as [INCLUDING] bulk grains, fruit, nuts, vegetables, meat, candy, bakery goods, prepared foods, other food products or small hardware items;

* * * * *

8. Sold in packages containing multiple bags intended for consumer use off the retail seller’s premises, such as for the collection and disposal of garbage, pet waste, or yard waste; [OR]

9. Provided by a retail marijuana store in accordance with the requirements of section 10.80.345; or

10. Without handles and provided to protect goods not individually wrapped in protective covering such as dry cleaning, artwork, souvenirs, cards, [COMIC BOOKS,]paper products or textiles.

(AO No. 2018-63(S), § 1, 9-11-18)

*** **

Section 2. Anchorage Municipal Code section 14.60.030 is hereby amended to read as follows (*the remainder of the section is not affected and therefore not set out*):

14.60.030 - Fine schedule.

The fine schedule under this chapter is as follows:


Code Section	Offense	Penalty / fine
***	***	***
15.95.020A.	Provide or distribute [DISPOSABLE] plastic shopping bag	First offense: warning. Second offense: \$250/violation Third and subsequent offenses: \$500/violation
***	***	***


(AO No. 93-167(S-1), § 1, 4-13-94; AO No. 94-108, § 1, 10-5-94; AO No. 94-134, § 2, 9-8-94; AO No. 95-42, § 2, 3-23-95; AO No. 95-67(S), § 9, 7-1-95; AO No. 95-102, § 1, 4-26-95; AO No. 95-118, § 3, 9-1-95; AO No. 95-163(S), § 21, 8-8-95; AO No. 95-195(S-1), 1-1-96; AO No. 96-51(S-1), § 2, 8-1-96; AO No. 96-96(S-1), § 2, 2-1-97; AO No. 96-126(S), § 3, 10-1-96; AO No. 96-137(S), § 9, 1-2-97; AO No. 97-88, § 3, 6-3-97; AO No. 97-107, § 3, 11-17-97; AO No. 97-133(S), § 1, 11-11-97; AO No. 98-27(S-1), § 2, 11-11-97; AO No. 98-160, § 2, 12-8-98; AO No. 99-13(S), 2-9-99; AO No. 99-91(S), § 4, 7-13-99; AO No. 2000-64, § 1, 4-18-00; AO No. 2000-116(S), § 4, 7-18-00; AO No. 2000-127(S), § 2, 10-14-00; AO No. 2000-129(S), § 26, 11-21-00; AO No. 2001-48, § 1, 3-13-01; AO No. 2001-74(S), § 2, 4-17-01; AO No. 2001-4, § 2, 2-6-01; AO No. 2001-145(S-1), § 11, 12-11-01; AO No. 2003-68, § 1, 9-30-03; AO No. 2003-97, § 4, 9-30-03; AO No. 2003-117, § 2, 1-28-03; AO No. 2003-130, § 8, 10-7-03; AO No. 2003-152S, § 10, 1-1-04; AO No. 2004-1, § 2, 1-1-03; AO No. 2004-99, § 2, 6-22-04; AO No. 2004-100(S-1), § 6, 1-1-05; AO No. 2004-171, § 1, 1-11-05; AO No. 2005-160, § 9, 11-1-05; AO No. 2005-84(S), § 3, 1-1-06; AO No. 2005-185(S), § 35, 2-28-06; AO No. 2005-124(S-1A), § 33, 4-18-06; AO No. 2006-39, § 6, 4-11-06; AO No. 2006-54, § 1, 5-2-06; AO No. 2006-80, § 1, 6-6-06; AO No. 2007-50, § 4, 4-10-07;

1 AO No. 2007-60, § 4, 11-1-07; AO No. 2007-70, § 3, 5-15-07; AO No. 2008-
 2 84(S), § 5, 7-15-08; AO No. 2009-61, § 3, 7-7-09; AO No. 2009-82, § 5, 7-7-
 3 09; AO No. 2009-40(S), § 3, 7-21-09; AO No. 2009-112, § 4, 10-13-09; AO
 4 No. 2009-122, § 2, 12-17-09; AO-2010-35(S), § 7, 5-11-10; AO No. 2010-39,
 5 § 2, 5-11-10; AO No. 2010-87(S), § 3, 12-7-10; AO No. 2011-46, § 4, 4-12-
 6 11; AO No. 2011-59, § 10, 5-24-11; AO No. 2011-106(S), § 3, 11-8-11; AO
 7 No. 2011-112, § 4, 11-22-11, eff. 12-22-11; AO No. 2012-10, § 1, 1-31-12;
 8 AO No. 2012-77, § 29, 8-7-12; AO No. 2013-109(S-1), § 5, 12-3-13; AO No.
 9 2013-130(S-1), § 1, 1-14-14; AO No. 2014-42, § 31, 6-21-14; AO No. 2014-
 10 85, § 4, 8-5-14; AO No. 2014-110(S), § 2, 9-9-14; AO No. 2014-137(S), § 3,
 11 11-18-14; AO No. 2015-23(S), § 20, 3-24-15; AO No. 2015-48, § 16, 5-14-
 12 15 ; AO No. 2015-54, § 1, 5-26-15 ; AO No. 2015-65, § 4, 6-9-15 ; AO No.
 13 2015-111(S-1), § 2, 1-1-16 ; AO No. 2016-16(S), § 4, 2-9-16 ; AO No. 2016-
 14 76(S), § 7, 7-12-16 ; AO No. 2016-81(S), § 4, 8-25-16 ; AO No. 2016-83(S),
 15 § 9, 7-26-16 ; AO No. 2016-82 , § 3, 8-9-16; AO No. 2016-116 , § 2, 10-18-
 16 16; AO No. 2016-115(S) , § 2, 11-15-16; AO No. 2016-124(S) , § 11, 12-20-
 17 16; AO No. 2017-26 , § 2, 5-1-17; AO No. 2017-29(S) , § 61, 6-1-17; AO No.
 18 2017-30 , § 3, 3-21-17; AO No. 2017-31(S) , § 5, 5-26-17; AO No. 2017-
 19 119(S) , § 4, 11-9-17; AO No. 2017-101 , § 2, 2-5-18; AO No. 2017-161(S) ,
 20 § 3, 2-27-18)

21
 22 **Section 3.** This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon passage and
 23 approval by the Assembly.
 24

25
 26 PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 18th day of December,
 27 2018.
 28

29
 30 
 31 _____
 32 Chair

33 ATTEST:
 34 
 35 _____
 36 Municipal Clerk
 37

An ordinance of the Haines Borough Adopting Haines Borough Code Chapter 8.10, Prohibiting the Distribution of Non-Compostable Plastic Shopping Bags.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE HAINES BOROUGH ASSEMBLY:

Section 1. Classification. This ordinance is of a general and permanent nature and the adopted amendment shall become a part of the Haines Borough Code.

Section 2. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance or any application thereof to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid, the remainder of this ordinance and the application to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective January 1, 2020.

Section 4. Adoption of Chapter 8.10. Chapter 8.10 of the Haines Borough Code of Ordinances is adopted to read as follows:

NOTE: **Bolded**/UNDERLINED ITEMS ARE TO BE ADDED
STRIKETHROUGH ITEMS ARE DELETED

8.10.010 Distribution of Non-compostable Plastic Shopping Bags Prohibited.


It shall be unlawful for all establishments in the Borough to provide single-use, non-compostable plastic shopping bags for the purpose of carrying away goods from the point of sale, except as provided in 8.10.020.

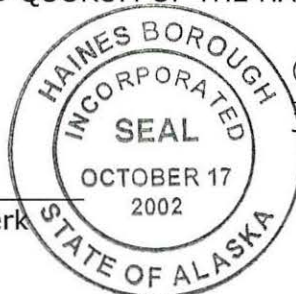
8.10.020 Exceptions

Plastic bags used by customers to package bulk items such as fruit, vegetables, nuts, grains, candy; or bags used for damp or leaking products such as frozen items, meat or fish shall not be prohibited.

ADOPTED BY A DULY CONSTITUTED QUORUM OF THE HAINES BOROUGH ASSEMBLY THIS 28th DAY OF MAY, 2019.

ATTEST:


Alekka Fullerton, CMC, Borough Clerk




Janice Hill, Mayor

Date Introduced: 04/23/19
Date of First Public Hearing: 05/14/19
Date of Second Public Hearing: 05/28/19