



Environmental Services
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MEMORANDUM

Date: December 11, 2020
To: Mayor Troxell and City Councilmembers
Thru: Darin Atteberry, City Manager [initials]
Jacqueline Kozak Thiel, Chief Sustainability Officer [initials]
Lucinda Smith, Environmental Services Director [initials]
From: Molly Saylor, Senior Specialist, Environmental Sustainability [initials]
Re: **December 08, 2020 Work Session Summary: Single Use Plastics Ballot Item Discussion**

Attendees: All Councilmembers were present virtually.

Staff presented options for Council to consider as part of a potential future ballot item on single use plastics. Key discussion points:

- There were different perspectives shared on the options presented.
- Some Councilmembers expressed preferences for
 - passing an ordinance banning plastic bags and putting a fee on paper bags at large grocers in Fort Collins (hybrid approach).
 - referring the adopted ordinance to a vote at the April election.
- Some Councilmembers expressed interest in
 - including expanded polystyrene take-out containers in the ordinance.
 - addressing other items *and* concern about the timing with the pressures on small business due to COVID-19.
 - including equity considerations for low-income residents.
- Some Councilmembers shared
 - an interest in addressing plastic pollution through innovation and circular economy strategies.
 - desire to see performance measures included in the plastic pollution ordinance.
 - including expanded polystyrene take-out containers from franchise restaurants in the ordinance.

Next steps:

- Dec 15 – Council consideration of a resolution to direct staff to develop an ordinance and ballot language based on Council feedback from December 8th.
- Dec 16 – Jan 31 – Online engagement on OurCity (<https://ourcity.fcgov.com/plastics>) around the Council-preferred elements of a plastic policy.
- Jan 12 – Present ordinance and ballot language aligned to the Dec 15 resolution for Council feedback.
- Feb 2 – First reading of the plastic pollution ordinance.
- Feb 16 – Second reading of plastic pollution ordinance *and* resolution to refer the ordinance to the ballot as a referendum.