



NEWS RELEASE

COUNCILMEMBER MARTI EMERALD

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COUNCILMEMBER EMERALD JOINS THE OCEAN BEACH COMMUNITY TO RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF BANNING PLASTIC BAGS

San Diego, CA – July 1, 2015 – Councilmember Marti Emerald joined with the 5Gyers Institute, Environment California, the Surfrider Foundation, and the Ocean Beach People’s Food Market to mark the day when the State of California ban on plastic bags would have gone into effect. Because of a referendum initiated by opposition, that ban has been put on hold pending a vote of the electorate.

The City of San Diego is engaged in a Zero Waste initiative. The State has mandated that cities recycle 75% of waste by 2020. The City’s goal is to be totally waste free by the year 2040. While this is an ambitious goal, the Councilmember believes we must pursue it and pursue it aggressively. Banning one time use plastic bags will help in achieving that goal.

The San Diego City Council will be acting on a plastic bag ban in the City of San Diego late this year or early next year. It is currently undergoing environmental review. Councilmember Emerald voted for the ban at the Environment Committee, and is an enthusiastic supporter.

The Councilmember said: “We are no longer ignorant of the effect of continuing to use non biodegradable products one time and throw them away. Now that we know the consequences of these unsustainable practices, it is time to act, for the sake of our children and our children’s children.”

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