

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Thursday, October 3, 2019 12:54 PM
To: Jan Brending; Patrick Munyan; Ken Woodrich
Subject: My letter to the editor

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Veto Possible

In my 12 years as your Mayor I have never ever considered vetoing legislation brought forward by the Council. This changed last night when the City Council passed an ordinance requiring merchants to charge a minimum of ten cents for every paper grocery bag used. The ordinance also bans the use of plastic bags, which I whole heartedly agree with. The City of Hood River already has such an ordinance, with no fee, and it is working very well. Proponents never brought up how successful the Hood River ordinance was but rather compared us to Portland Or.

My problem, and perhaps all of ours is, while numerous people told me they were against the ten cents charge, not one showed up to the Public Hearing last night to oppose this ordinance. With no opposition the Council rightly voted to pass this ordinance which was basically written by a very narrow special interest group.

If you oppose paying ten cents for each of your grocery bags then you need to e-mail the White Salmon City Council or Janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us or mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us stating you oppose the ten cent bag charge. If I do veto the ordinance, it is imperative for you to attend the City Council meeting Wednesday October 16.

I have till close of business on Friday October 11 to make my decision to veto this legislation. If the City receives a significant number of letters in opposition then I will veto this bill. Failing to receive a significant number of letters in opposition will signify to me that you are in favor of this ordinance and I will sign it.

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Friday, October 4, 2019 1:48 PM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Bag fee

Flag Status: Flagged

another one

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Julie Vance <sweetthingsbyjulie@hotmail.com>
Date: Thu, Oct 3, 2019 at 10:08 PM
Subject: Bag fee
To: mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

Hi Dave,

I wanted to let you know how I feel about the proposed bag fee, it's absolutely wrong! It is not the government's job to tell a business what they should charge for anything. If the business wants to give bags away at no charge, they should be able to.

For the city council to think they can tell a private business what they can or cannot charge is a gross overstep of their power.

Thank you,
Julie Vance

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Jan Brending

From: Ashley Brown-Dean
Sent: Friday, October 4, 2019 10:46 PM
To: JanB@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Plastic bags

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Hi,

This is Ashley Brown, owner of Bubba's Brew. I did sign the ordinance regarding the plastic bag ban HOWEVER the woman asking for signatures manipulated and lied about the ordinance. I was in a rush and she led on that there would be a charge on bags but insinuated that it would be plastic bags being charged. I asked her if it was like what Hood River has going on and she agreed.

So, I agreed under false information. I would like to remove my name and Bubba's Brew in agreement with the ordinance. I am not for charging for PAPER bags, ridiculous.

Thanks,
Ashley Brown
Bubba's Brew

Jan Brending

From: Brooke Vivanco
Sent: Saturday, October 5, 2019 7:58 AM
To: Janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Veto .10 plastic bag charge

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I'm in support of vetoing the .10 bag charge! I am a resident of White Salmon,

Thank you,

K. Brooke Vivanco

Jan Brending

From: Cheryl Struchen
Sent: Sunday, October 6, 2019 8:51 AM
To: JanB@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Paper bag ordinance

Flag Status: Flagged

We strongly oppose this measure are charging \$0.10 a bag.

The store has previously had to purchase plastic bags, so they should provide the paper bags also.

Cheryl and Larry Struchen

Jan Brending

From: Crystal Tolmie
Sent: Sunday, October 6, 2019 8:36 PM
To: Janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Opposition to 10 cent Bag Charge

Flag Status: Flagged

Hi, I wanted to let you know that I strongly oppose paying ten cents for each grocery bag!

Crystal Tolmie
6892 Little Buck Creek Road
White Salmon, WA 98672

Help save the endangered Monarch Butterfly - plant Wildflowers in general and Milkweed flowers in specific.

Jan Brending

From: Priscilla McMillen
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 10:08 AM
To: Janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Bag charge

Flag Status: Flagged

I oppose the 10 cent paper bag fee for White Salmon. If merchants choose to charge a bag fee, then do be it. Let's not give shoppers another reason to not shop locally. I do support banning plastic bags. Thank you.

Priscilla McMillen

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 10:51 AM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Ban on plastic bags

Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Barb James <barbarajj@aol.com>
Date: Fri, Oct 4, 2019 at 5:58 PM
Subject: Ban on plastic bags
To: <Mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

Mayor Poucher,

As a concerned citizen of this community, I am writing to you in support of your veto toward the plastic bag ban in our city. It is apparent to me that groups will do just about anything in the name of Mother Earth to get the rest of the citizens of our community to be required to adhere to the new proposed plastic bag ban. We all would rather not have plastic floating in our World's waters, but banning plastic bags will not be the solution for cleaning up our world. Focusing attention on some other countries, such as Africa and China that float tons of plastic would be more fruitful. There can be constructive methods to getting rid of plastic without charging our citizens for not using the required bags for their own groceries! I have been supporting a group that does just that all over the world. I would venture to say that most of us are recycling and do not dispose of plastics in a frivolous way. Why not just ban the bags without penalizing citizens as if they were in a Socialist government? Instead there is a charge except for those with low income, with a kind of permit, referencing that many of us will pay for with that 10 cent charge. I object that any of us should pay for anything without our voting for it publicly. Where does that charge go anyway?

Thank you for your service Mayor Poucher,

Barbara James
A lifelong citizen of White Salmon

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 1:15 PM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Paper bag Tax

Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Mike Zitir <ziturmike@yahoo.com>
Date: Mon, Oct 7, 2019 at 11:02 AM
Subject: Re: Paper bag Tax
To: mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

I work swing shift so I won't be able to make the meeting. Please consider my message to you as a no vote. Thank you
David

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

On Mon, Oct 7, 2019 at 10:55 AM, David Poucher
<mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us> wrote:

Mike, thank you for your comment. Please show up at the next city Council meeting October 16 at 6:00 PM at the fire hall.

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Fri, Oct 4, 2019 at 11:07 PM Mike Zitir <ziturmike@yahoo.com> wrote:

I strongly oppose this Tax. It is hard enough for the local business to survive without giving the consumer another reason to shop across the river. Groceries and other purchases in White Salmon are quite a bit inflated already and many here are already having a tough enough time without another burden placed on them.

Sincerely, Mike Zitir

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 10:58 AM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Oppose bag fee

Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Martha Coombs <coombsmcc@aol.com>
Date: Fri, Oct 4, 2019 at 9:51 PM
Subject: Oppose bag fee
To: <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

I am a White Salmon resident. While I support the plastic bag ban, I oppose the fee on paper bags.

Martha Coombs

Sent from my iPhone
Martha C Coombs

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 10:59 AM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Veto

Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: SPENCER BOHABOY <mtnboy@icloud.com>
Date: Sat, Oct 5, 2019 at 7:15 AM
Subject: Veto
To: <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

Dear Mayor Poucher,

I am moving to white salmon in 26 days or when ever the bank finishes escrow on my new house. After living in Portland for 25 years I am really excited to be moving to a new community.

Part of that excitement is moving to a place where the governance is well thought out and often rests upon the people making good decisions and not the government making them it for them. This is a bit ironic since I work for the Oregon state government and struggle daily to help communities navigate the vagaries of our water quality rules.

Looking upon my experience living in Portland and with state governance, I would ask you to be brave and veto the ordinance. Let the people decide how many grocery bags they need and not be compelled by their neighbors. Portland is full of that mentality, and with the myriad of "do good" rules is being driven into the ground. Education, and not compulsion, is the path we should strive for.

Thank you for your time.

Spencer Bohaboy

Sent from my iPhone

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 11:00 AM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Bag tax

Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Debbie Schlegel <debbie.schlegel@icloud.com>
Date: Sat, Oct 5, 2019 at 8:24 AM
Subject: Bag tax
To: <Mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

Dear Mayer,

I am writing to let you know that I do not support the ten cent charge on paper bags. Banning plastic bags is something I support. But we reuse paper bags and we also start our fires with them in the cold winter mornings. Charging ten cents a bag is penalizing those of us who actually reuse these bags in a way that benefits our families in more than one way. The city of Hood River tried doing something like this and it failed miserably. Not everyone who would like to have their voice heard can make it to a meeting on a specific day due to prior commitments. Couldn't we do what our founding father's did and put it to a vote of the people? I suggest putting it on the ballot and letting everyone vote rather than just a select few who can make it to a meeting.

Thank you for all you do,

Debbie Schlegel

Sent from my iPad

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 11:01 AM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Bag Fee

Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jennifer Owen <jenniferwn@gmail.com>
Date: Sat, Oct 5, 2019 at 9:00 AM
Subject: Bag Fee
To: <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

Dear Mr. David Poucher,

I hope to have my family's voice heard that a bag fee is unnecessary. Please veto the bag fee.

Regards,

Jennifer Yost
(503) 956-4921

Sent from my iPhone

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 11:06 AM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Bag fee

Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Nancy Sliwa <nancy@слиwa.com>
Date: Sat, Oct 5, 2019 at 9:39 AM
Subject: Bag fee
To: <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

Dear Mayor Poucher,

Thank you for your informative email. We agree that the bag fee is yet another senseless charge that hurts those that can least afford it, and stifles general commerce in White Salmon. We applaud you for opposing it. Please know that we stand with you if you decide to veto this regulation because of the fee, and hold out for a better regulation from the council that removes this fee.

We regret we cannot be at the council meeting due to a family issue that has arisen that requires our presence out of town during that time. We will be with you in spirit and pray that the council will see reason.

Nancy and Steve Sliwa

Sent from my iPad

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 11:49 AM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Plastic bag ban

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jessica Trevino <jessicatrevino814@gmail.com>
Date: Sat, Oct 5, 2019 at 10:50 AM
Subject: Plastic bag ban
To: <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

Hello Mayor Poucher,

I'd like to write you and inform you that I read your concerns regarding the plastic bag ban and agree with the banning of plastic, but I do not like the plan of paying ten cents for paper bag use. I agree with the way Hood River has approached this matter.

Thank you

-Jessica
541.399.7701

Sent from a Mobile Device

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 11:50 AM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Bags

Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: karen johnson <smurf7093@gmail.com>
Date: Sat, Oct 5, 2019 at 4:32 PM
Subject: Bags
To: <Mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

I am opposing the charge of .10. Cents per bag. This community has already had to deal with prices for food tripling since they remodeled the grocery store!! I used to do all my shopping here, now I go to Hood River! Even with gas and bridge toll, it's cheaper to shop there! A lot of us are on Social security, we can't afford any more new price hikes! We don't all work for Insitu! Please Veto this! Thank you Karen Johnson

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 12:48 PM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: 10 bag charge

Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Sarah Tegart <sarahtegart@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Oct 6, 2019 at 4:05 PM
Subject: 10 bag charge
To: <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

I am writing to let you know that I oppose the \$.10 grocery bag charge in the City of White Salmon.

Thank you,
Sarah

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 12:50 PM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Grocery bags

Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Layne Tegart <laynetegart@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Oct 6, 2019 at 4:06 PM
Subject: Grocery bags
To: <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

Hello,

I oppose the \$.10 grocery bag charge.

Thank you,
Layne

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 1:14 PM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Grocery Bag Charge

Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Rex and Donna Johnston <rexjohnston@gorge.net>
Date: Mon, Oct 7, 2019 at 11:19 AM
Subject: Grocery Bag Charge
To: <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

Mayor Poucher,

We are stating our opposition to the ten cent charge for our grocery bags. We feel that this charge would be unnecessary burden on already over priced grocery items.

Rex and Donna Johnston
White Salmon

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Tuesday, October 8, 2019 11:04 AM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: I Oppose the 10 Cent Bag Charge

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Joanna Hoffman <annaqj4827@aol.com>
Date: Mon, Oct 7, 2019 at 8:25 PM
Subject: I Oppose the 10 Cent Bag Charge
To: <Janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>
Cc: <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

Dear Mayor and City Council,

My name is Joanna and I have worked as a checker at Harvest Market for the last three years. I am very opposed to the 10 cent bag charge that has been proposed. I can tell you if we are required to charge our customers 10 cents for each paper bag we use, it will be an absolute nightmare. About 70% of our customers take plastic bags as their preferred bag of choice. About 20% request paper bags, and about 10% bring their own bags. So about 90% of our customers are used to getting their groceries bagged for free. (We offer a 5 cent bag credit for each bag you bring in yourself). If we get rid of the free plastic bags, and then have to tell each customer that we will be charging them 10 cents for each paper bag we use, they are going to be very upset. You can expect to wait even longer in the lines, as we will have to go through our explanation of what is going on with each customer who is in the line in front of you. They will argue back, ask to speak to the manager, demand that we give them bags for free, refuse to buy the items we have already rung up, refuse to shop at our store, etc, etc, etc. It will have a very negative impact on our community, not to mention the store employees. Get rid of the plastic bags if you must, though if truth be told, most people prefer them and are able to re-use them easier than the paper bags, but DO NOT charge people a 10 cent fee for using the paper bags.

Thank you,
Joanna Leiter

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Tuesday, October 8, 2019 11:10 AM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Please veto this stupid ass bill

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Larry Smith <sharps4me2@yahoo.com>
Date: Mon, Oct 7, 2019 at 6:32 PM
Subject: Please veto this stupid ass bill
To: <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

Sent from my iPhone

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 11:47 AM
To: Joe; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: Veto - yes

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Thank you for the email.

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Thu, Oct 10, 2019 at 10:02 AM Joe <joelanier@hotmail.com> wrote:

First and foremost, yes I agree with your veto. Hood River citizens did not accept this, I doubt WS folks will either. I'd rather see smart people make good decisions than government telling them what to do and "punishing them" with a forced fee per bag and disguising it as a way to cover the cost of the bags. The gorge is not Portland, using that as a comparison was skewed as well.

I was at the meeting, but just started attending recently, so I missed all the background.

I was more distracted by my lack of understanding of "the process", how we got to the point of a public hearing with a vote to be taken and the intention and wording (10 cents) hadn't been agreed with yet. Without understanding of the process, this seemed like a waste of time.

If people want plastic bags to stop being used, then focus on who is making the bags.

If you really want to use all reusable bags, then stop using plastic or paper bags all together, have reusable bags for sale at the counters, and folks will buy their own bags after they grow tired of carrying their individual items out to their cars.

Joe

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 12:21 PM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Bag ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: David Poucher <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>
Date: Thu, Oct 10, 2019 at 12:20 PM
Subject: Re: Bag ordinance
To: lisa kindler <lisakindler@yahoo.com>

Thank you, I agree 100%. Please be at the next City Council meeting Oct 16 at 6:00 PM at the White Salmon Fire Hall.

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Wed, Oct 9, 2019 at 9:23 PM lisa kindler <lisakindler@yahoo.com> wrote:
Hello Mayor Poucher,

I'm writing to you to express my displeasure about the proposed bag ordinance. I would like to start this email off by saying, I am in support of a plastic bag ordinance. What I do not support is a charge/fee/fine for a paper bag. I have read through the proposal and some of the data used to support this charge comes from Portland. We are not a city like Portland. I don't want to be treated like someone from Portland. I would love to hear from the city leaders in Hood River, which is much more comparable to White Salmon, as to why they took their paper bag charge away. I find it odd that those who are proposing this ban didn't look to the city across the river from us for their data.

While I do not live in the city of White Salmon (I currently live in Bingen), this issue does effect me as I do shop at Harvest Market and Hi- School Pharmacy a great deal. If they start to charge for bags, I will be taking my business elsewhere.

Thank you for listening to my concerns. I appreciate you taking the time to read this email.

Sincerely,

Lisa Kindler

Sent from my iPhone

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 12:23 PM
To: stephenie gross; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: Plastic Bag Ban

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Thank you, I agree 100%. Please be at the next City Council meeting Oct 16 at 6:00 PM at the White Salmon Fire Hall

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Wed, Oct 9, 2019 at 6:41 PM stephenie gross <sgrossbz@gmail.com> wrote:
Mayor Poucher,

It is my desire to express encouragement for a veto on the plastic bag ban. Having such a requirement would create unnecessary administrative churn for our small town. In addition, single use bags can be reused for such an array of other uses that they should not be solely viewed as waste. Additionally, requiring a charge to customers for single use bags is extremely frustrating. As responsible adults, this insinuates that we are not able to make sound decisions on something as simple as a grocery bag. It is an insult, and an attack on a freedom. If this is enacted, I will think twice before shopping in White Salmon. While I want to support our local economy, I have no problem taking my business elsewhere if my voice is not heard.

Sincerely,
Stephenie Gross

Sent from my iPad

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 12:28 PM
To: Dorothy Herman; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: Plastic bags

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Thank you, I agree 100%. Please be at the next City Council meeting Oct 16 at 6:00 PM at the White Salmon Fire Hall

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Wed, Oct 9, 2019 at 1:25 PM Dorothy Herman <dorothy@gorge.net> wrote:

Dave,

I just want you to know that I completely agree with you.

I do most of my shopping at Rosaurer's in Hood River. They give me a 5 cent credit for every bag I bring. They don't charge for any paper bags.

They also have a barrel for extra recyclable paper bags at the entrance to the store. I put paper bags in it all the time.

They don't charge for you to put your veggies in a plastic bag. I usually use the same bag for all my vegetables.

Charging 10 cents a paper bag is ridiculous. Perhaps the stores would agree that giving a 5 cent credit for a person to bring their own bag is worth it. Just the feeling that

We are saving the planet is enough for me.

Dorothy Herman

1001 NW Cherry Hill Rd. White Salmon



Jan Brending

From: Connie Riley
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 12:49 PM
To: janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Bag ban & charge

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I am against the 10 cent per bag charge. It only creates more red tape. Product prices already include bags so why add another tear of bookkeeping for merchants? In a society where we should simplify where we can, we don't need more economic bureaucracy.

I agree with banning plastic that can end up in the oceans & landfills but when I signed a recent petition, no one mentioned the 10 cent proposal.

It should be rewritten.

Please veto the current ordinance.

Connie Riley

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Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 2:36 PM
To: Stan Horack; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: Bag Ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Thank you Stan, you are reflecting my opinion on this topic, agree with the ban not the 10 cent fee.

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Thu, Oct 10, 2019 at 1:10 PM Stan Horack <nats@gorge.net> wrote:

I'm not against eliminating plastic bags, but don't think it necessary to charge \$.10 for paper bags. I always recycle paper bags as probably most people do. I carry cloth bags in both cars, but often forget to take them in when getting groceries. Cloth bags may be a slight health hazard because of having meat in them and reusing without laundering. When in Hood River and I forget to take my bags into the grocery store, I usually pay the \$.10 per bag rather than going back out to the car for my cloth bags.

I mostly oppose the fee on paper bags because of the added regulations on business and customers with marginal benefit to the environment. Allowing clothes lines in the city would probably provide more benefit to the environment. The impact would be on people (visual) and be protective of the environment. We presently landfill yard waste and tree limbs. They are not allowed to be burned in the city and the recycling that was formerly available in Bingen was stopped because of problems of people abusing the site. Both could be composted with significantly less environmental detriment. These are more complex issues and require effort on the part of the city and its citizens so we pass a law to minimize paper bags because most of the impact to accomplish it is on others i.e. businesses.

I'm unable to attend council meetings because of a conflict on Wednesday evenings.

Jan Brending

From: magramaryann@gorge.net
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 3:15 PM
To: janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: 10 cent paper bag fee

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I oppose this fee.

Maryann stembridge

Jan Brending

From: Paul Siebenaler
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 8:15 PM
To: Janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Plastic Bag Ordinance

Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mayor

Please veto the plastic bag ordinance.

While I support the ban of plastic bags, especially since Harvest Market also supported the ban. The council made a huge error in requiring a 10 cent a bag fee. There is no reason for the City to mandate such a fee. If Harvest Market and other retailers need to charge a fee to convert from plastic to paper, let them make that determination.

Keep government out of the decision to have the retailers charge a fee for bags.

Thank you,

Paul Siebenaler
Resident of White Salmon

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

A letter from Mayor Dave to White Salmon residents and anyone who may shop at our local Harvest Market. Please respond to him with your thoughts before Friday, October 11th (tomorrow!)
Jacqueline Camp, Secretary

In my 12 years as your Mayor I have never ever considered vetoing legislation brought forward by the Council. This changed last night when the City Council passed an ordinance requiring merchants to charge a minimum of ten cents for every paper grocery bag used. The ordinance also bans the use of plastic bags, which I whole heartedly agree with. The City of Hood River already has such an ordinance, with no fee, and it is working very well. Proponents never brought up how successful the Hood River ordinance was but rather compared us to Portland Or.

My problem, and perhaps all of ours is, while numerous people told me they were against the ten cents charge, not one showed up to the Public Hearing last night to oppose this ordinance. With no opposition the Council rightly voted to pass this ordinance which was basically written by a very narrow special interest group.

If you oppose paying ten cents for each of your grocery bags then you need to e-mail the White Salmon City Council or Janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us or mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us stating you oppose the ten cent bag charge. If I do veto the ordinance, it is imperative for you to attend the City Council meeting Wednesday October 16.

I have till close of business on Friday October 11 to make my decision to veto this legislation. If the City receives a significant number of

letters in opposition then I will veto this bill. Failing to receive a significant number of letters in opposition will signify to me that you are in favor of this ordinance and I will sign it.

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

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"To preserve liberty, it is essential that the whole of the people always possess arms and be taught alike, especially when young, how to use them." Richard Henry Lee, American Statesman 1778



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Jan Brending

From: White Salmon, Washington via White Salmon, Washington
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2019 10:11 AM
To: janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Form submission from: Contact City Hall

Flag Status: Flagged

Submitted on Friday, October 11, 2019 - 10:11am Submitted by anonymous user: 138.210.168.195 Submitted values are:

First Name: Ron
Last Name: Schultz
Email: rons@gorge.net

Question/Comment:

Regarding the imposing of a \$.10 cost per paper bag, I am opposed to that cost. However I do agree with the plastic bag ban, however that should not include the plastic bags that are there for produce etc. at Harvest Market.

I will not be able to attend a council meeting to oppose the new bag cost, as I work out of town.

Thank you, Ron Schultz

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.white-salmon.net/node/7/submission/461>

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2019 12:13 PM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Plastic bag

Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Tony Gregg <tony.gregg@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Oct 11, 2019 at 10:51 AM
Subject: Plastic bag
To: <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

I would like to throw my hat into this and say that while I fully support the plastic ban I vehemently do not support the \$.10 per bag "TAX".

Tony gregg

Jan Brending

From: thenewspaper@gorge.net
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2019 6:33 PM
To: David Poucher
Cc: Jan Brending
Subject: Re[2]: plastic bag ban

Flag Status: Flagged

Thank you for the update.

Unfortunately I can not attend that meeting due to a prior work commitment in The Dalles at the same time.

If my letter can be entered into the record without my attending that would be great. If my appointment gets rescheduled as it was last week I will attend.

thank you

Steven Nybroten

----- OriginalMessage -----

From: "David Poucher" <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>
To: thenewspaper@gorge.net
CC: "Jan Brending" <janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>
Sent: Fri, Oct 11, 2019, 12:15 PM
Subject: Re: plastic bag ban

Thank you. Please be at the Next City Council meeting on Oct. 16 at 6:00 PM at the White Salmon fire hall.

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Thu, Oct 10, 2019 at 9:31 PM <thenewspaper@gorge.net> wrote:
Mayor David Poucher, ,

I have sent a letter to your office regarding my thoughts on the ban. I will reiterate them here in event that the letter does not arrive before your deadline. I do not have any intention of making it appear as two separate letters.

I strongly encourage you to veto/reject the councils decision to enact the existing plastic bag ban.

I do not mind the banning of the bags, although I do not necessarily agree with it. However, I strongly object to the city telling business that they are REQUIRED to charge for a bag and how much. Is that the cities business to tell people what to sell and how much to charge?

The cost of the bag is already "baked" into the price of the goods. It is very unlikely the business will reduce product costs to offset that new charge. Essentially this will be a small profit center for the business; bags do not cost 10 cents each; so why would they object to this? I suspect that in the total, there will also be sales tax on this item? As a small business owner (Postal Annex- Hood River) I understand those line item costs and how that part works.

Requiring that payment can also be viewed as a new "tax". Being forced to pay for something without any say in the matter. If going this route, then should it not be voted on by the community?

I do appreciate your view that the ban is one thing, telling business what and how to do it is certainly different thing. Is this where the city really wants to be-telling business what to charge, what to sell, how to run their business? Cost, price and charges should be market driven.

As a consumer who has a choice, I will consider where to shop and in an environment that I like. While 30 or 40 cents at the grocery store probably won't break my bank; I will consider how I am forced to spend my money and will make an effort to shop elsewhere when possible.

Respectfully submitted,
Steven Nybrotten
PO Box 346
3 Forrest Lane
White Salmon, WA 98672
509-637-0577

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2019 12:17 PM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: No to 10 cents bags.

Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: JOSEPH SAMANTHA COOPER <joe_sam_cooper@hotmail.com>
Date: Thu, Oct 10, 2019 at 8:42 PM
Subject: No to 10 cents bags.
To: mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

Good evening sir,

Just a quick email to say no to the 10 cents for the paper bags and yes to removing the plastic. Thanks for standing up for the people of White Salmon.

Respectfully,

Joe Cooper

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2019 12:19 PM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: No 10 cent charge for bags please

Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Steve See <steves@pelletlab.com>
Date: Thu, Oct 10, 2019 at 7:59 PM
Subject: No 10 cent charge for bags please
To: <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

Please no charge for bags. Not needed.

Thanks
Steve See
White Salmon
Sent from my iPhone

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2019 12:22 PM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Grocery Bags

Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Gabe Yost <gabeyost@me.com>
Date: Thu, Oct 10, 2019 at 5:49 PM
Subject: Grocery Bags
To: <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

Mr. Poucher,

I agree that you represent the silent majority, regarding the grocery bag issue. Many of us are willing to accept giving up plastic bags, but it feels a bit like extortion when we are given only one choice at the register and then charged a municipal fee for it. If a retailer chose to impose that cost, I could voice my disagreement by choosing a different retailer. It doesn't work that way if it is imposed as law. It is not practical, nor should it be expected, that all persons can have reusable grocery bags with them at all times. They certainly shouldn't be fined for not having one. Thank you for speaking up!

Respectfully,

Gabe Yost

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2019 12:23 PM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Opposition to Shopping Bag Charge

Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Steve Schenk <sschenk957@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Oct 10, 2019 at 4:11 PM
Subject: Opposition to Shopping Bag Charge
To: <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

I agree that we shouldn't charge an arbitrary fee of 10 cents for a bag to carry out a purchase. Please consider using your veto for the recently passed ordinance.

Thanks

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2019 12:25 PM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Pay for bags

Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jerry Anson <jerryansonbuilders@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Oct 10, 2019 at 2:55 PM
Subject: Pay for bags
To: <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

I am against the \$.10 per bag cost in White Salmon Wa.

--

Jerry Anson
541.490.3755 Mobile

Sent from my iPhone6

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 2:38 PM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: VETO paper bag charge

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Herb Hardin <j2h3@gorge.net>
Date: Thu, Oct 10, 2019 at 2:29 PM
Subject: VETO paper bag charge
To: Poucher David <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>
Cc: <Janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

Dave - please veto the \$0.10 charge for paper bags.

Questions:

Who gets the money?

If it is the store owner, that's just another profit margin for him - and Thriftway is already pricier than competition in H -R. Hurts our local buyers.

If it's the city, that's just another publicly unvoted tax which again hurts White Salmon residents and local area buyers.

Comments:

Paper bags may be recycled by the homeowner as fire starters in their own wood stoves - same with newspapers — so shall we ban those too?

Paper bags also wind up in the landfill, decompose and produce methane gas which is collected and sold by our PUD - great recycle, reduces

the amount of free methane - another greenhouse gas - helps our local PUD and local area residents.

The N.W. is a logging area - paper bags help support our timber industry.

Cloth bags are: (a) bulky and awkward; (b) unsanitary in a food store, (c) do not normally get recycled.

And finally, what the heck is government doing dictating such trivia to citizens? Wasting time and energy which should be spent on more important things which ARE the normal responsibilities of government? Where in our Constitution, in Article 1, Section 8 (Commerce clause, or elsewhere)

does it give "government" the right to ban paper (or plastic) bags. Is that really part of "commerce"? If so, why not ban plastic packaging? Plastic wrap?

Plastic bottles? — much of which are NOT biodegradable. OUR PAPER AND PLASTIC BAGS WIND UP IN OUR LANDFILL - MOST ARE BIODEGRADABLE.

WE'RE NOT DUMPING THEM IN THE OCEAN AS IS SO COMMON IN THE FAR EAST.

Here's a copy of comments from: <https://www.plasticplace.com/blog/biodegradable-plastic-bags-what-you-need-to-know>

"—— there are several ways that bioplastics can make a positive impact on the planet. — Many bioplastics made from materials such as cornstarch also require much less energy and carbon output to manufacture, and when they do break down under the right circumstances, they may give out up to 70% less greenhouse gas. Truly compostable bags can also make a big difference. If your city offers a commercial composting facility, using these bags for your food and yard waste is a great option which may encourage more composting: a pure win for the environment. For do-it-yourselfers with a backyard compost bin, some bags are also suitable for home-composting, but check the label carefully.

SO - A BETTER SOLUTION: Rather than banning plastic or paper bags, a better solution could be to require merchants to use certifiably biodegradable plastic bags. And since paper is already readily biodegradable, why is our City wasting time on this without a scientifically quantifiable reason. Calling it "green" is not quantifiable - nor is it a valid "reason", even though it sounds good! And 10¢ per bag is unreasonable, hurtful and totally unnecessary. Veto it.

Cordially,

Herb Hardin

Jan Brending

From: Michael Peterson
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 8:40 AM
To: JanB@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Bag Ordinance

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Jan,

I am in favor of a plastic bag ban in White Salmon.

Sincerely,

Michael Peterson
White Salmon, WA

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 1:06 PM
To: Chris Stafford; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: Checkout Bag Ordinance

Flag Status: Flagged

I support the ban on plastic bags, I'm against charging for the bags. Hood River has a very successful plastic bag ban and they do not charge for bags

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Mon, Oct 7, 2019 at 8:56 AM Chris Stafford <ccstaffo@gmail.com> wrote:

To the White Salmon Council,

I am writing this because I will be unable to attend the Oct 16 meeting. It is my hope that the Checkout Bag Ordinance passes for ALL the obvious reasons. Our environment depends on each and every one of us do do our part and cut back on single use plastic whatever way possible. Reports show that in the communities where a \$ charge is made, the outcome is more effective. A fee results in people be more diligent in bringing their own bags which results in less use of the paper bag or so called 'sustainable' plastic bag. Obviously the 'silent majority' is actually a minority and this bill need to be passed ASAP!

Christina Stafford

Jan Brending

From: lydie@gorge.net
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 9:45 AM
To: Jan
Subject: Single-Use Plastic Bag Ordinance

Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Jan,

I, Lydie Boyer, am a NIMBY, and White Salmon is my backyard – as is my state, as is my country, as is my planet. They compose all of our back yards and each of us has a choice to make a difference to ensure their protection.

28 businesses in White Salmon choose to make a difference, as did the entire assembly of socially and environmentally conscious attendees at the Oct 2nd Council meeting. Not a single opposing view was heard though the opportunity and platform were fully available. Their silence was deafening. That so called ‘silent majority’ who opposes a 10 cent charge to be placed on single-use plastic (**not paper**) bags, simply does not exist.

Perhaps the most significant support for the fee came from Harvest Market who, more than any other local establishment because of the volume used, recognizes the serious problem plastic bags contribute to the degradation and fouling of our countrysides, landfills, rivers, lakes, and oceans, as well as the creatures that dwell within - ourselves included. Reducing such bags will not only benefit our community but our environment. To believe otherwise is to deny scientific data; to ignore the problem is unconscionable.

A 10 cent charge on single-use plastic bags holds no one hostage. It merely allows a user to make a conscious, free decision to either pay the minuscule fee or bring their own bag. The decision is not complex; the decision is not convoluted. The choice is simple, the choice is straight forward, and the choice is consensual.

Having everyone become NIMBYs is what may very well help save our planet from the escalating and devastating effects non-biodegradable plastics pose. The ecological damage they have done, and continue to do, affects us all – from the air we breathe, to the water we drink, to the food we eat. There is no escaping the plastic particulates we continually and unwittingly ingest on a daily basis. Addressing and rectifying the issue comes from people and their communities who, thankfully, are now stepping up their efforts to stem the tide of the burgeoning problem.

It is heartening to know that our community – both residents AND businesses alike – recognize the importance of change and are eager to confront the issue of plastic bags by asking the City Council to institute a 10 cent charge on each. A “narrow, special interest group” it is not/we are not, as support is *overwhelming* - and it is *undeniable*.

May you and each of your fellow Council members recognize the importance of eliminating single-use plastic bags. As you are well aware, Oct 1st Bingen unanimously adopted the fee ordinance to do just that. Other communities throughout our country have done the same. You now have the opportunity to follow suit. By addressing the growing problem these bags pose, you have a choice to be part of the

problem, or part of the solution. I hope you choose the latter, for, after all, White Salmon is your backyard too.

Sincerely,

Lydie Boyer
163 SE Oak St
White Salmon
509-493-2223

Jan Brending

From: Sasha Bentley
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 10:49 AM
To: David Poucher
Cc: Jan Brending
Subject: Re: Checkout Bag Ordinance

Flag Status: Flagged

Hood River will charge a fee and remain successful. As will White Salmon.

As for freebies, that's all in your opinion. As a small business owner I consider it a freebie that shouldn't be in 2019.

Thanks for your response. I hope you reconsider your veto.

Sasha

On Mon, Oct 7, 2019 at 10:47 AM David Poucher <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us> wrote:

Thank you for your comments. Hood Rivers plastic bag ban is very successful and they do not charge a fee. The citizens of the Gorge are very environmentally concerned and I believe they will do the right thing. Business's that offer a 5 cent incentive to customers that bring their own bags has proven to be very successful. The bags provided now are not freebies the cost just like electricity, labor, bathrooms are all included in their operating cost.

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Mon, Oct 7, 2019 at 10:06 AM Sasha Bentley <sasha.r.bentley@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello city councillors and Mayor Poucher,

I wanted to write, again, to make sure you record my support for the checkout bag ordinance. I also wanted to be clear I support the 10 cent charge, as do many other members of the community and 28 White Salmon businesses.

Also, Mayor, I want to discourage the use of the term "special interest group" when referring to your constituents and community members who are clearly and transparently trying to make real change happen locally, and have done it in a smart and inclusive way.

To be clear myself about the item in question, the 10 cent charge, this charge is a proven, effective way to encourage customers to bring their own bags, and it's absolutely critical to encourage reuse. Without it, the environmental burden is simply transferred to paper or thicker plastic.

I would also argue that all businesses would welcome a push to not provide freebies. These bags are a cost to our small business owners and should be transferred to the customer to encourage smart use while also lessening the burden on our small businesses.

Lastly, Mayor, if you're comparing to Hood River you should note that Oregon State will be implementing this charge very soon. Washington State will not be far behind, I expect it to come to a vote next legislative session. Something Community Upcycle has also kept in mind during their community work.

Please keep with your vote and Mayor, please reconsider a veto.

Thank you all for your service,
Sasha Bentley
White Salmon, WA

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 1:04 PM
To: Katie Corson; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: PLEASE pass the plastic and paper bag ordinance!

Flag Status: Flagged

I support the ban on plastic bags, I'm against charging for the bags. Hood River has a very successful plastic bag ban and they do not charge for bags

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Mon, Oct 7, 2019 at 10:52 AM Katie Corson <ktcors@gmail.com> wrote:
Dear Mayor Poucher and Councilors,

I am writing to implore you to pass the proposed ordinance to attempt to eliminate the use of thin plastic bags and limit the use of other "throw away" bags. Given what is happening to our lands and seas, and how much garbage I see on the sides of roads like 141, I see this as a safety measure for our community and planet.

I'm not going to repeat the data on the success of similar programs. The numbers are clear. What is troubling is Mayor Poucher's specific request those who want a veto to reach out. As the political head of our community, I would hope that your decisions are more reliably data-driven than calling out to those on one side to speak up.

Here's why we need to put a price tag on bags: Currently, stores such as Thriftway provide clean paper bags or cloth bags in a bin by the front door, so it is incredibly easy for people who do not have or forget to bring their bags to avoid using plastic bags. If people can remember their wallets and purses, so they can remember a bag. And yet I stand in line behind people asking for plastic and walking out with up to 8 plastic bags. I've watched kids purchase a soda, ask for a plastic bag, and then throw it out as they leave the store. It's clear that there we must take action to get folks on board. Just like the seat belt laws that came into play in my teen years, at first people will be irritated and disagree and forget to buckle up, but to avoid a ticket they will gradually start buckling up. Many people were fined, because they refused or forget a simple task: Click it! The police regularly have campaigns where they target those who fail to buckle up. I would say that now, the benefits of seat belts is obvious to (almost) everyone. It takes time, and it took the threat of money. It's pretty clear that when money becomes involved, people will change their behavior. The data show that even 10 cents will do it.

Thanks for listening,

Katie Corson
509 493 0319
White Salmon, WA

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 1:01 PM
To: Michelle Mayfield; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: Plastic bag ban

Flag Status: Flagged

Hood River has a very successful plastic bag ban and they do not charge for bags.

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Mon, Oct 7, 2019 at 12:06 PM Michelle Mayfield <mmayfield@gorge.net> wrote:
To the city councilors, mayor and city staff,

I am writing to voice my support for the Checkout Bag Ordinance in White Salmon, **including** the 10¢ charge. The charge is a proven, effective way to encourage customers to bring their own bags, and is absolutely critical to **encourage reuse**. Without it, the environmental burden is simply transferred to paper or thicker plastic.

Thank you for your service to White Salmon. I hope you listen to the citizens who speak up, take part and actively work toward making our town a better place for all.

Sincerely,
Michelle Mayfield

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 12:58 PM
To: Robert Gilchrist; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: Support for banning single use plastic bags and the 10c charge

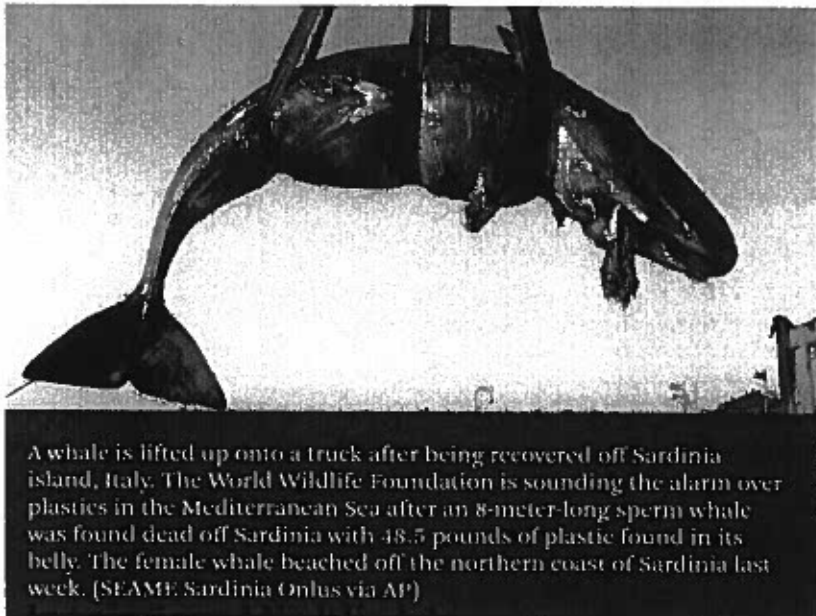
Flag Status: Flagged

. I am very much in favor of the plastic bag ban. I am against the City dictating the minimum price. Hood River has a very successful bag ban and they do not charge.

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

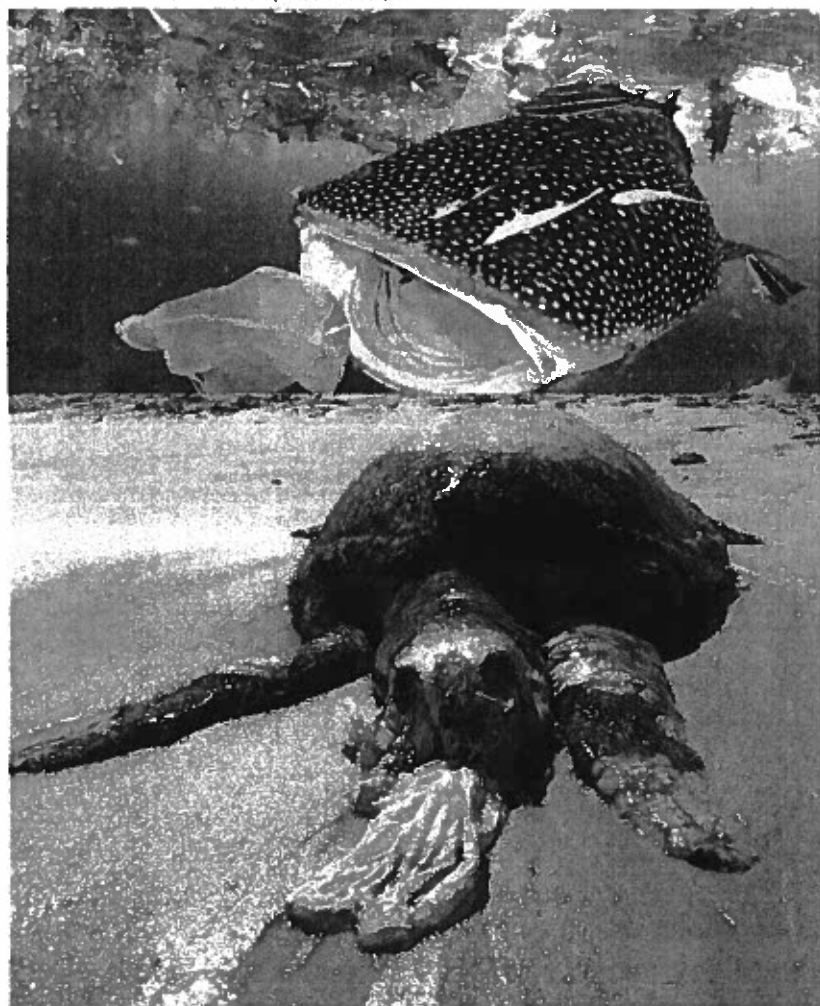
On Mon, Oct 7, 2019 at 11:17 AM Robert Gilchrist <rtgilchrist@gmail.com> wrote:
Mayor Poucher,

Have you checked on plastic bags with this silent majority?





Researchers pulled nearly 90 pounds of plastic waste out of the stomach of a young cuvier beaked whale that died in the Davao Gulf of the Philippines on Saturday, March 16. The whale starved to death because of the plastic in its belly.





I think not...the silent majority you represent mostly live in Goldendale and are are are disciples of this illegitimate game show host:



They are not a majority in White Salmon, Washington State or the USA.

If they don't want to pay 10-cents for a bag they should bring their own.

Robert

Robert Gilchrist
White salmon

Jan Brending

From: Jennifer Hull
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 2:09 PM
To: David Poucher
Cc: Jan Brending
Subject: Re: Letter of support for the Checkout Bag Ordinance in White Salmon, including the 10¢ charge.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mayor Poucher and Council Members:

Thank you for taking the time to reply to my email.

While I appreciate your position on the proposed 10 cent paper bag fee, I also think it's important to keep in mind that 8 cents of the 10 cent fee would be an additional expense store owners would have in order to offer paper, rather than the current plastic bags to customers who don't bring a reusable bag from home.

If shoppers who fail to bring a reusable shopping bag are not required to cover this cost, owners will need to find an alternative means. Owners would either be required to cover the expense out-of-pocket, or, more likely, would incorporate that increased expense into the price of their products.

If the latter were the case, it would mean every customer would be impacted rather than limiting that cost to those individuals who fail to carry a reusable shopping bag.

Thank you again for your consideration.

Respectively,
Jennifer Hull
White Salmon

On Tue, Oct 8, 2019 at 11:11 AM David Poucher <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us> wrote:

thanks for your email. The positive point with the plastic bag ban is I believe 90+% of us agree, it's on the imposition of the mandatory 10 cents charge. I think our community is different than a large metropolitan area. We know our neighbors, and they are concerned with the environment. In this instance I believe we will reduce the total number of single use bags with out the mandatory fee. I wish there was a way we could try the zero fee and see if it worked. If not come back and require the fee. David

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Mon, Oct 7, 2019 at 4:59 PM Jennifer Hull <jhull1914@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mayor Poucher and Council Members:

I support the Checkout Bag Ordinance in White Salmon, **including** the 10¢ charge. The charge is a proven, effective way to encourage customers to bring their own bags, and it's absolutely critical to **encourage reuse**. Without it, the environmental burden is simply transferred to paper or thicker plastic.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: Use any or all to supplement your note of support.

- Portland tried a ban without a charge in 2012: Reusable checkout bag use increased over 300%, which is great, but the *use of paper checkout bags increased almost 500%*. ([Promoting Reusable Checkout Bags in Portland One-Year Report](#), October 3, 2012, Portland Bureau of Planning & Sustainability.)
- By contrast, California's statewide ordinance (ban plus a 10¢ charge) resulted in customers *bringing their own bags for 84% of transactions. Paper bag use dropped 61%*. ([SB 270 Report to the Legislature: CalRecycle \[2019\]](#))
- This model is supported by the WA Food Industry Assoc. (which represents WA coffee shops and small grocers, including Harvest Market and Rosauers). [WFIA 2019 Priority Issues](#).
- 33 WA municipalities ban plastic bags; 75% of those mandate a fee on recycled paper/reusable plastic bags.
- Bag credits alone don't work. Studies of a bag fee vs. bag credit show the credit has virtually no effect while fees decreased demand for disposable bags by over 50%. ([Can Small Incentives Have Large Effects? The Impact of Taxes versus Bonuses on Disposable Bag Use](#). American Economic Journal: Economic Policy 2018, 10(4): 1–35.)
- By setting a minimum charge for these bags, the ordinance encourages reusable bag use, sets a level playing field among retailers, and still allows retailer discretion to charge more.
- **The 10¢ Charge Is Not a Tax.** Customers who choose to purchase a carryout bag pay the retailer 10¢ for the bag. The retailer keeps the money to help compensate for the cost of the bag. Standard retail sales tax applies to the transaction, which amounts to ¾ of a cent per bag. Sales using a voucher or electronic benefits card are excluded from the charge.
- Mayor Poucher seems to think the charge only applies to paper bags. As written, the ordinance set minimum standards for paper and plastic bags. Paper bags must be 40% post consumer recycled content and also recyclable/compostable. Plastic bags must meet criteria for reusability which includes a 2.25mil thickness, which means the traditional bags aren't permitted. The second part of the ordinance is a 10¢ charge on BOTH paper and plastic bags.
- From the Washington Food Industry Association on Plastic Bag Bans:
WFIA POSITION: WFIA supports a statewide plastic bag ban as long as there is a pass-through charge of \$0.10 per paper bag and an option for a 2.25 mil bag. Additionally, the technical specifications of the bags must be industry standards.
BACKGROUND: Single-use plastic bags emerged as a popular bag choice in the 1970s. The popularity of single-use bags can be traced to their convenience, lightweight construction, affordability, and opportunity for reuse, among other reasons. However, concerns have been raised about the environmental consequences they pose. In response, many local city or county governments throughout Washington State have chosen to ban single-use plastic bags, which includes pass-through charges on single-use paper bags to encourage the use of reusable bags. The grocery and convenience store industry has worked with these governments and proponents of the bag bans to ensure these methods, and requirements to accommodate the bag bans, are consistent. A pass-through charge of \$0.10 is needed to help supplement the cost difference between plastic film bags and paper or 2.25 mil plastic reusable bags. Currently, paper bags cost around \$0.10 to \$0.12 to buy from manufacturers, while plastic film bags cost \$0.02 to buy from manufacturers.

Businesses need to be able to recuperate associated costs. Although it is hopeful that consumers will transition to reusable bags, it is not guaranteed. The pass-through charge will offset the cost increase to retailers, so they do not have to pass the cost on to customers or risk going out of business.

At this point, the paper bag supply cannot meet paper bag demand. The demand for paper bags is so high that many of our stores run out of paper bags. With more bans being implemented throughout the country, it is important that there is an alternative to paper bags for customers to use. The 2.25 mil plastic reusable bag is an acceptable alternative as it is reusable, and it can be recycled unlike the plastic film bags. An alternative to paper bags is needed to meet the demand of consumers.

For more information contact:

Catherine Holm

Legal Counsel/Legislative Director

360-970-9481

Jan Gee

President & CEO

253-209-5079

- Oregon Governor Kate Brown just signed HB 2509, banning single use plastic bags and implementing a minimum 5 cent charge. <https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2019R1/Measures/Overview/HB2509> This means Hood River will have a minimum 5 cent charge when the rule goes into effect January 1, 2020.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Hull

White Salmon, WA

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Tuesday, October 8, 2019 10:41 AM
To: Kristie Strasen; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: Support For Banning Single Use Plastic Bags

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Kristie, thanks for your email. The positive point with the plastic bag ban is I believe 90+% of us agree, it's on the imposition of the mandatory 10 cents charge. I think our community is different than a large metropolitan area. We know our neighbors, and they are concerned with the environment. In this instance I believe we will reduce the total number of single use bags with out the mandatory fee. I wish there was a way we could try the zero fee and see if it worked. If not come back and require the fee. David

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Mon, Oct 7, 2019 at 10:27 PM Kristie Strasen <kstrasen@textilespluscolor.com> wrote:

Dear Mayor Poucher -

Since you have stated your support for the ban of single use plastic bags in White Salmon, I have to assume your objection to the 10cent fee is out of concern for those whom you feel this fee would be onerous. While I understand and appreciate that this fee could be problematic for some members of our community, I do not believe this would ultimately be an issue.

Rather than paying the fee for a bag, the idea is to get people to use reusable bags whenever they go shopping. If other communities are any indication, this habit is learned very quickly. Some municipalities have had events to raise awareness and hand out reusable bags. Grocery stores often sell branded reusable shopping bags as a small source of revenue.

With the excessive use of plastic in our society, any small step we can take is important.

I strongly support this initiative including the 10 cent fee and will be very proud of us as a community if we can adopt this policy.

Respectfully -

Kristie Strasen

Kristie Strasen
Textiles + Color
LittleWeavingsCo
151 Palos Verdes
White Salmon, WA 98672
917-216-0474

www.textilespluscolor.com

On Oct 7, 2019, at 11:16 AM, Robert Gilchrist <rtgilchrist@gmail.com> wrote:

Mayor Poucher,

Have you checked on plastic bags with this silent majority?

<whale.JPG>

<starved whale.JPG>

<whale shark.jpg>

<seaturtle.jpg>

<images.jpg>

I think not...the silent majority you represent mostly live in Goldendale and are are disciples of this illegitimate game show host:

<T.jpg>

They are not a majority in White Salmon, Washington State or the USA.

If they don't want to pay 10-cents for a bag they should bring their own.

Robert

Robert Gilchrist
White salmon

Jan Brending

From: Michael Peterson
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 1:22 PM
To: David Poucher
Cc: AshleyP@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; DonnaH@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; Jason Hartmann; AmyM@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; MarlaK@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; JanB@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Re: Bag Ordinance
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mayor Poucher,

Thank you for responding to my email.

Hood River's ordinance will disappear in January and will be replaced with Oregon state's ordinance which includes fee.

A better example of a sustainable bag ordinance is Portland Oregon's.

Please vote in favor of the current ordinance.

Sincerely,

Michael Peterson
White Salmon, WA

On Oct 7, 2019, at 1:07 PM, David Poucher <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us> wrote:

I support the ban on plastic bags, I'm against charging for the bags. Hood River has a very successful plastic bag ban and they do not charge for bags

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Mon, Oct 7, 2019 at 8:42 AM Michael Peterson <arville@icloud.com> wrote:
Hello Mayor David Poucher,

I am in favor of a plastic bag ban in White Salmon.

I have not found a single person or business that I know opposed to it.

Sincerely,

Michael Peterson
White Salmon, WA

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Tuesday, October 8, 2019 11:15 AM
To: Kara Weld; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: Checkout Bag Ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I too support the plastic bag ban I do not support the City mandated 10 cents charge. The positive point with the plastic bag ban is I believe 90+% of us agree, it's on the imposition of the mandatory 10 cents charge. I think our community is different than a large metropolitan area. We know our neighbors, and they are concerned with the environment. In this instance I believe we will reduce the total number of single use bags with out the mandatory fee. I wish there was a way we could try the zero fee and see if it worked. If not come back and require the fee. David

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Mon, Oct 7, 2019 at 2:50 PM Kara Weld <kara@immersionresearch.com> wrote:
Dear Mayor Poucher and City Council representatives,

Our business, Immersion Research recently opened up a location on Estes Ave in White Salmon. We are very happy and excited to be here!

We've been making gear and apparel for whitewater kayaking 22 years. It's a labor of love designing, producing, selling and repairing very high end technical gear in a niche sport, but it's that sport that has instilled a love of rivers, clean water and the environment in us.

Within our small company, we are constantly striving to reduce, reuse, recycle and generally make as little impact on the planet and her resources as possible. Our three most effective campaigns have been to use recycled materials in our gear, repair our gear to an extreme-- to keep it out of the landfill and merchandise our products in reusable bags.

Our drysuits come in large tote bags made from recycled billboards. Our spray skirts come in shopping bag totes made from fabric scraps and our shorts come in reusable lunch bags also from leftover fabric. We are making every effort to eliminate single use plastic in our business and our lives.

It goes without explaining that our company and Washington resident employees highly support the Checkout Bag Ordinance.

We appreciate your time and consideration to this matter. And we invite you all to stop by anytime. We are happy to give you a shopping bag!

Best regards,
Kara and John Weld, owners
Max Blackburn
Jake Bouchelle
Ian Wingert

--

Kara Weld

Immersion Research

814-395-9191

kara@immersionresearch.com

Jan Brending

From: Joyce FitzSimmons
Sent: Wednesday, October 9, 2019 7:21 PM
To: David Poucher
Cc: Jan Brending
Subject: Re: AshleyP@ci.white-salmon.wa.us, DonnaH@ci.white-salmon.wa.us, JasonH@ci.white-salmon.wa.us, AmyM@ci.white-salmon.wa.us, MarlaK@ci.white-salmon.wa.us, JanB@ci.white-salmon.wa.us

Flag Status: Flagged

Thank you for your response. I appreciate your taking the time.

Joyce

On Wed, Oct 9, 2019 at 12:55 PM David Poucher <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us> wrote:

Joyce. thank you for your email. Again I want to make clear I am not against the plastic bag ban. In reality almost everyone is in agreement with the end result, the elimination and reduction of plastic in our lives. The discussion revolves around the implementation and how do we get to our agreed to goal. You remember when Hood River passed its plastic bag ban, There was no opposition to the ban until the implementation of the 5 cents per bag. Then the public came out in force and the Council was forced to reverse its decision and repeal the charge. I heard that same under current here in White Salmon. Unfortunately my letter was not printed by the Enterprise, and the only exposure will have been by social media by people very much in agreement with the proponents.

White Salmon is not Portland. Our Community is very environmentally aware and I believe we would reach the goal of reducing single use products without the heavy hand of a mandatory 10 cents. At least give it a try. I'm not sure what I am going to do. I have to make my decision by Close of business Friday. David

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Tue, Oct 8, 2019 at 2:30 PM Joyce FitzSimmons <joycefitzsimmons44@gmail.com> wrote:
October 8, 2019

Mayor Dave,

I attended last week's council meeting, though I was late and stayed in the back. The night before I attended the Bingen City Council meeting where the ordinance was passed unanimously after sufficient discussion to make sure that all the tenants of the ordinance were understood and some minor changes in wording were added or dropped. As it was my first time ever to attend any city council meeting you might readily guess that I am in wholehearted support of the ordinance.

It is very hard for me to tell you but I was so disappointed in your emotionally charged reaction and threat to veto if the ordinance was passed. I actually left the meeting in frustration that you could make this threat in the face of such overwhelming support by the community, businesses and your own council. It had just a bit of a temper tantrum feel to it.

When I first learned of the ordinance I had a very hard time understanding how a simple 10c charge could ever change the minds of those who have not long ago made the responsible switch to bringing their own multiple-use bags, but the data does show that it does work. Interestingly, I am currently reading a book called Confessions of a Book Seller by Shaun Bythell of Wigtown, Scotland and just this morning I read his comment that when an ordinance was passed to charge only 5c for a carry out bag he noted an immediate drop of 50% in requests for a bag. A long way from White Salmon, I know, but people are people everywhere.

You mentioned in your letter that numerous people told you that they opposed the charge, but none of them apparently felt strongly enough about it to show up to the meeting. I also wonder if their responses were affected by the way in which they were asked. Did they even know the specifics of the ordinance or were they simply asked if they wanted to be charged 10c for something that has always been free. We are all capable and guilty of confirmation bias.

It is not an easy thing to speak up and tell you that I am disappointed in you but that is precisely what I am. In the face of overwhelming community and business support AND the profound need for us to do what little we can, you seem to have made this a divisive and emotional issue.

I will be at the next meeting and I will be on time.

With disappointment but respect for all that you have done,

Joyce FitzSimmons

The Book Peddler

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Wednesday, October 9, 2019 1:13 PM
To: Chris Erickson; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: Plastic Bag Ban

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Thank you for your email. I am not against the plastic bag ban. I am against the City setting the minimum price that a merchant must charge for the bag. I believe there is overwhelming support for reducing plastic and single use bags in our community. We should be celebrating that we agree on the end result. What our differences are is in the implementation of that goal. I think the people of White Salmon are very environmentally concerned and we would reduce the use of not only plastic bags but single use paper bags without the mandatory fee. I guess I'm an optimist, I believe the citizens of White Salmon will do the right thing without coercion.

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Wed, Oct 9, 2019 at 9:08 AM Chris Erickson <chris@blowfishdesignco.com> wrote:

I support the Checkout Bag Ordinance in White Salmon, **including** the 10¢ charge. The charge is a proven, effective way to encourage customers to bring their own bags, and it's absolutely critical to **encourage reuse**. Without it, the environmental burden is simply transferred to paper or thicker plastic.

I am not opposed to a grace period where the the 10 cent charge is not implemented until 6 months after approval, but honestly 10 cents is minimal in the whole scheme of things.

Thank you so much for your time

Chris Erickson
Chris Erickson
970.379.0707
www.blowfishdesignco.com
IG: @BlowfishDesigns



Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 12:12 PM
To: Kris Ostness; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: I support the Checkout Bag Ordinance in White Salmon

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Kris. thank you for your email. Again I want to make clear I am not against the plastic bag ban. In reality almost everyone is in agreement with the end result, the elimination and reduction of plastic in our lives. The discussion revolves around the implementation and how do we get to our agreed to goal. You remember when Hood River passed its plastic bag ban, There was no opposition to the ban until the implementation of the 5 cents per bag. Then the public came out in force and the Council was forced to reverse its decision and repeal the charge. I heard that same under current here in White Salmon.

White Salmon is not Portland. Our Community is very environmentally aware and I believe we would reach the goal of reducing single use products without the heavy hand of a mandatory 10 cents. At least give it a try.

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Thu, Oct 10, 2019 at 8:45 AM Kris Ostness <krisostness@mac.com> wrote:

Dear WS City Council,

I support the Checkout Bag Ordinance in White Salmon, **including** the 10¢ charge. The charge is a proven, effective way to encourage customers to bring their own bags, and it's absolutely critical to **encourage reuse**. Without it, the environmental burden is simply transferred to paper or thicker plastic.

Add one small town, to the list of other communities and large cities that are choosing to do the same and you have a movement that is reducing micro-plastics that end up in our environment and eventually back in our bodies through the food the chain.

Sincerely,
Kris Ostness
White Salmon resident

Jan Brending

From: Zac Blodget
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 11:58 AM
To: Janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Keep the Bag Ban

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

We can do better than this! Reusing bags is easy and they've become a huge problem.
The plastic bags are actually better for the environment than the paper bags if you can believe it.
There is a big display right as you walk in the front door of harvest market of bags that are there, free for re-use!! come on, let's not be lazy! The gorge is beautiful, let's keep it that way by getting rid an unnecessary waste stream!

Zac Blodget
ZacBlodget@gmail.com
503 334 1870

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2019 12:20 PM
To: Jennifer Silapie; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: Support for the Bag Ordinance in WS

Flag Status: Flagged

Thank you for your email

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Thu, Oct 10, 2019 at 7:49 PM Jennifer Silapie <jsilapie@gmail.com> wrote:
Dear WS City Council,

10 cents is the cost of the bag. Why should the bags be for free? The truth is the bags have never been free. The cost is part of the overhead of the grocer. The only difference is that by charging per bag, we as the consumer are made aware of the direct cost. I think that is reasonable. If someone is opposed to the charge then they have the option to bring a bag.

I support the Checkout Bag Ordinance in White Salmon, **including** the 10¢ charge. The charge is a proven, effective way to encourage customers to bring their own bags, and it's absolutely critical to **encourage reuse**. Without it, the environmental burden is simply transferred to paper or thicker plastic.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Silapie
White Salmon resident

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2019 12:21 PM
To: Paige Blodget; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: SUPPORT bag ban

Flag Status: Flagged

Thank you for your email.

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Thu, Oct 10, 2019 at 4:39 PM Paige Blodget <paigesp314@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mayor Poucher,

I am writing as a member of this community to tell you of my support of the bag ban. I recognize that most people support this ban in theory, but are having a difficult time with the possibility of a small fee when a paper bag is used. My growing family of four eats a lot of food, and we have a tight food budget. Adding up to ONE DOLLAR a week on to our grocery budget (if I forget bags for the entire week) is such an insignificant amount of money. I can't imagine that even the lowest of budgets could not afford to pay a couple of dimes if a reusable bag is forgotten for store visit. The primary goal of this ban is to make an environmental impact, and I'm so glad that the issue has come before the Mayor and the council. Paying a very small fee or bringing one's own reusable bag to the stores is not a hardship!

Thank you for your consideration,
Paige Pierce

Jan Brending

From: Rita Pinchot
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2019 4:17 PM
To: mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Cc: Ashley Post; Marla Keethler; Jason Hartmann; amym@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; donnah@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Plastic Bag Ban
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mayor Poucher,

I am writing as a resident of White Salmon to say that I support the ban on plastic bags. I hope you will represent us in a positive way by allowing this ban to move forward. This ban clearly has support from businesses, council members, young people and others in our community and I hope you will consider that as a leader and representative of all who live here.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Rita Pinchot

Jan Brending

From: Reyna Pinchot
Sent: Sunday, October 13, 2019 6:04 PM
To: mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; ashleyp@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; marlak@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; jasonh@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; amym@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; donnah@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Plastic Bag Ban
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mayor Poucher,

My name is Reyna Pinchot and I am 11 years old. I am extremely concerned about climate change. Hundreds of lives are in danger from global warming and I want to prevent that loss.

This plastic bag ban is a small step that our own town can take.

This ban seems to have support from businesses, council members, and many people in our community. I hope you consider this as a leader and representative.

Thank you for your time.

Yours Sincerely,
Reyna C. Pinchot

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 11:45 AM
To: Jeremy Denny; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: Plastic bag

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Thank you Jeremy, you are reflecting my opinion on this topic, agree with the ban not the 10 cent fee. David

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Thu, Oct 10, 2019 at 11:15 AM Jeremy Denny <jeremydenny92@gmail.com> wrote:

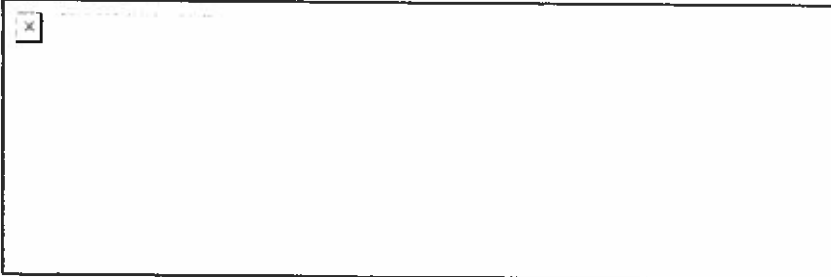
Dave, sorry meant to write you this sooner, I wanted write to tell you I am oppose the ordinance proposed regarding the single use plastic bags, although I am not a White Salmon resident and don't live within the city limits, my business is in town and my shopping is done here is White Salmon. First off I am not opposed to eliminating the use of plastic, I just don't agree with forcing businesses to charge a fee for paper, that should be up to the business to make that decision. I feel that if the owner of Harvest, if in fact they support the ban they should just make the decision to charge, and don't need an ordinance, if they have a social conscience and have those values, they should just do it and that's their choice, Feast has done that from the beginning. I also I see more and more people using reusable bags. So I find myself using them more than before. I think it's in part due to seeing them used more often by others, and I suppose a little bit of unconscious social pressure to. I think it's a better way to get people to genuinely change their habits.

Dave thank you for your time and I also want to thank you for all your service to this community, Mayor is such a thankless job.

Sincerely

Jeremy

--



IMPORTANT NOTICE: Never trust wiring instructions sent via email. Cyber criminals are hacking email accounts and sending emails with fake wiring instructions. These emails are convincing and sophisticated. Always independently confirm wiring instructions in person or via a telephone call to a trusted and verified phone number. Never wire money without double-checking that the wiring instructions are correct.

Jan Brending

From: Herb Hardin
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 2:29 PM
To: Poucher David
Cc: Janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: VETO paper bag charge

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dave - please veto the \$0.10 charge for paper bags.

Questions:

Who gets the money?

If it is the store owner, that's just another profit margin for him - and Thriftway is already pricier than competition in H -R. Hurts our local buyers.

If it's the city, that's just another publicly unvoted tax which again hurts White Salmon residents and local area buyers.

Comments:

Paper bags may be recycled by the homeowner as fire starters in their own wood stoves - same with newspapers — so shall we ban those too?

Paper bags also wind up in the landfill, decompose and produce methane gas which is collected and sold by our PUD - great recycle, reduces

the amount of free methane - another greenhouse gas - helps our local PUD and local area residents.

The N.W. is a logging area - paper bags help support our timber industry.

Cloth bags are: (a) bulky and awkward; (b) unsanitary in a food store, (c) do not normally get recycled.

And finally, what the heck is government doing dictating such trivia to citizens? Wasting time and energy which should be spent on more important things which ARE the normal responsibilities of government? Where in our Constitution, in Article 1, Section 8 (Commerce clause, or elsewhere)

does it give "government" the right to ban paper (or plastic) bags. Is that really part of "commerce"? If so, why not ban plastic packaging? Plastic wrap?

Plastic bottles? — much of which are NOT biodegradable. OUR PAPER AND PLASTIC BAGS WIND UP IN OUR LANDFILL - MOST ARE BIODEGRADABLE.

WE'RE NOT DUMPING THEM IN THE OCEAN AS IS SO COMMON IN THE FAR EAST.

Here's a copy of comments from: <https://www.plasticplace.com/blog/biodegradable-plastic-bags-what-you-need-to-know>

“— there are several ways that bioplastics can make a positive impact on the planet. — Many bioplastics made from materials such as cornstarch also require much less energy and carbon output to manufacture, and when they do break down under the right circumstances, they may give out up to 70% less greenhouse gas. Truly compostable

bags can also make a big difference. If your city offers a commercial composting facility, using these bags for your food and yard waste is a great option which may encourage more composting: a pure win for the environment. For do-it-yourselfers with a backyard compost bin, some bags are also suitable for home-composting, but check the label carefully.

SO - A BETTER SOLUTION: Rather than banning plastic or paper bags, a better solution could be to require merchants to use certifiably biodegradable plastic bags. And since paper is already readily biodegradable, why is our City wasting time on this without a scientifically quantifiable reason. Calling it “green” is not quantifiable - nor is it a valid “reason”, even though it sounds good! And 10¢ per bag is unreasonable, hurtful and totally unnecessary. Veto it.

Cordially,

Herb Hardin

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 2:39 PM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Bag Ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Stan Horack <nats@gorge.net>
Date: Thu, Oct 10, 2019 at 1:10 PM
Subject: Bag Ordinance
To: <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

I'm not against eliminating plastic bags, but don't think it necessary to charge \$.10 for paper bags. I always recycle paper bags as probably most people do. I carry cloth bags in both cars, but often forget to take them in when getting groceries. Cloth bags may be a slight health hazard because of having meat in them and reusing without laundering. When in Hood River and I forget to take my bags into the grocery store, I usually pay the \$.10 per bag rather than going back out to the car for my cloth bags.

I mostly oppose the fee on paper bags because of the added regulations on business and customers with marginal benefit to the environment. Allowing clothes lines in the city would probably provide more benefit to the environment. The impact would be on people (visual) and be protective of the environment. We presently landfill yard waste and tree limbs. They are not allowed to be burned in the city and the recycling that was formerly available in Bingen was stopped because of problems of people abusing the site. Both could be composted with significantly less environmental detriment. These are more complex issues and require effort on the part of the city and its citizens so we pass a law to minimize paper bags because most of the impact to accomplish it is on others i.e. businesses.

I'm unable to attend council meetings because of a conflict on Wednesday evenings.

Jan Brending

From: magramaryann@gorge.net
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 3:15 PM
To: janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: 10 cent paper bag fee

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I oppose this fee.

Maryann stembridge

Jan Brending

From: Tony Gregg
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2019 10:51 AM
To: Janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Plastic bags

Flag Status: Flagged

I would like to throw my hat into this and say that while I fully support the plastic ban I vehemently do not support the \$.10 per bag "TAX".

Tony Gregg

Jan Brending

From: thenewspaper@gorge.net
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2019 6:24 PM
To: David Poucher
Cc: Jan Brending
Subject: Re[2]: plastic bag ban

Flag Status: Flagged

thank you for this notice.

Unfortunately I can not make the meeting due to a prior work commitment in The Dalles at the same time.

I don't know if my comments can be entered in to the record in my absence, if possible great.

If my appointment gets rescheduled as this one was last week I will attend.

Thank you

Steven Nybroten

----- OriginalMessage -----

From: "David Poucher" <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

To: thenewspaper@gorge.net

CC: "Jan Brending" <janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

Sent: Fri, Oct 11, 2019, 12:15 PM

Subject: Re: plastic bag ban

Thank you. Please be at the Next City Council meeting on Oct. 16 at 6:00 PM at the White Salmon fire hall.

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Thu, Oct 10, 2019 at 9:31 PM <thenewspaper@gorge.net> wrote:

Mayor David Poucher, ,

I have sent a letter to your office regarding my thoughts on the ban. I will reiterate them here in event that the letter does not arrive before your deadline. I do not have any intention of making it appear as two separate letters.

I strongly encourage you to veto/reject the council's decision to enact the existing plastic bag ban.

I do not mind the banning of the bags, although I do not necessarily agree with it. However, I strongly object to the city telling business that they are REQUIRED to charge for a bag and how much. Is that the city's business to tell people what to sell and how much to charge?

The cost of the bag is already "baked" into the price of the goods. It is very unlikely the business will reduce product costs to offset that new charge. Essentially this will be a small profit center for the business; bags do not cost 10 cents each; so why would they object to this? I suspect that in the total, there will also be sales tax on this item? As a small business owner (Postal Annex- Hood River) I understand those line item costs and how that part works.

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Thursday, October 3, 2019 1:00 PM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Plastic bag ban

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: Red Category

Against

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Barb <barbhands@yahoo.com>
Date: Thu, Oct 3, 2019 at 11:32 AM
Subject: Plastic bag ban
To: <Mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

Hi Mr Poucher,

I'm one of your silent constituents and I would like to support you on the veto. I would like Government to stay out of my decisions. If I want to bring my own bag and not pay the .05 that works too. And if I need a plastic bag for I reuse then over and over again let me be able to pay the .05 for it and don't judge me on my decisions. I'm also with the Government should stay out of small business decisions.

Thank you and I support you the Ban is an over reach.

Thanks, Mrs. Cleary

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Thursday, October 3, 2019 1:10 PM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Good job

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

another against

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Hans Hoomans <hansh57@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Oct 3, 2019 at 12:34 PM
Subject: Good job
To: <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

Hello David

Way to stand up for the people who grew up here on your possible veto on the plastic bag law. Personally I think it would be a good thing but in the 12 years I have lived in the area I have realized the people who have suffered the most because people like my self who want to live where we play are the hard working people who grew up here. Everyday another family is forced out because of affordability and that is not a good thing. Keep standing up for them because unfortunately they don't have as much time to play let's change this town. I was not at the meeting because I'm on vacation halfway around the world but I bet over half of them have ordered some bullshit on amazon in the last month without any consideration of the environmental impact. I live in Lyle now and unfortunately the same thing is happening there that happened to white Salmon over the last ten years. Help stop gentrification!

Sincerely
Hans Hoomans

Sent from my iPhone

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Thursday, October 3, 2019 4:13 PM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Plastic bag ban veto :)

another against

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <Dunn@gorge.net>
Date: Thu, Oct 3, 2019 at 3:23 PM
Subject: Plastic bag ban veto :)
To: <Mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

Mayor Poucher,

I saw a post on Facebook about your vow to veto the plastic bag ban and I want to say "Thank You"!! I appreciate that you are willing to take this stand. I use and reuse plastic bags as do many people in the community. Everyone should be able to choose and not be forced by people who think they know best for everyone. The pro ban folks are free to make their choice at the checkstand by not using plastic as I should be able choose. Being forced to pay for grocery bags is ridiculous. Many people struggle to pay for groceries and shouldn't be worrying about buying bags. Many people in our community don't appreciate the struggle to provide food for families when every penny counts. I'm sure you will take heat for this decision, but as I write this, there are many more likes than dislikes on the post. Many people are concerned about expressing their opinions publicly, but there are many, many non vocal community members who support your veto.

Thank you again!

Tricia Dunn

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Friday, October 4, 2019 1:39 PM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Proposed ban cost

Flag Status: Flagged

another against

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Christi Morris <christi.morris01@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Oct 3, 2019 at 4:32 PM
Subject: Proposed ban cost
To: <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

Dear Mayor,

Thank you for looking out for the "silent" majority. Some of us didn't know about the meeting last night. Some of us didn't know that with the ban would be a fee.

I am ok with the ban, I mean I re-use the crap out of plastic bags, but I understand the need. But having us pay for the ban is not ok.

Thank you again for doing an amazing job making sure the city government isn't imposing their will on the whole area. 30-40 people in a populace of 1000's is so not the majority!

And shouldn't this be a voted on item. Voted by the people of this area..not just the city! Because it's not just the city it impacts. It will effect residence of Husuem, BZ, Snowden, Bingen, Pucker Huddle and Underwood. I get it's a city business, but not only city residence buy groceries at Harvest Market, the Feast, Bridgemart..etc

Thank you,

Christi Morris
Resident of the Greater White Salmon Valley

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Tuesday, October 8, 2019 11:15 AM
To: Kara Weld; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: Checkout Bag Ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I too support the plastic bag ban I do not support the City mandated 10 cents charge. The positive point with the plastic bag ban is I believe 90+% of us agree, it's on the imposition of the mandatory 10 cents charge. I think our community is different than a large metropolitan area. We know our neighbors, and they are concerned with the environment. In this instance I believe we will reduce the total number of single use bags with out the mandatory fee. I wish there was a way we could try the zero fee and see if it worked. If not come back and require the fee. David

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Mon, Oct 7, 2019 at 2:50 PM Kara Weld <kara@immersionresearch.com> wrote:

Dear Mayor Poucher and City Council representatives,

Our business, Immersion Research recently opened up a location on Estes Ave in White Salmon. We are very happy and excited to be here!

We've been making gear and apparel for whitewater kayaking 22 years. It's a labor of love designing, producing, selling and repairing very high end technical gear in a niche sport, but it's that sport that has instilled a love of rivers, clean water and the environment in us.

Within our small company, we are constantly striving to reduce, reuse, recycle and generally make as little impact on the planet and her resources as possible. Our three most effective campaigns have been to use recycled materials in our gear, repair our gear to an extreme-- to keep it out of the landfill and merchandise our products in reusable bags.

Our drysuits come in large tote bags made from recycled billboards. Our spray skirts come in shopping bag totes made from fabric scraps and our shorts come in reusable lunch bags also from leftover fabric. We are making every effort to eliminate single use plastic in our business and our lives.

It goes without explaining that our company and Washington resident employees highly support the Checkout Bag Ordinance.

We appreciate your time and consideration to this matter. And we invite you all to stop by anytime. We are happy to give you a shopping bag!

Best regards,
Kara and John Weld, owners
Max Blackburn
Jake Bouchelle
Ian Wingert

Kara Weld
Immersion Research
814-395-9191
kara@immersionresearch.com

Jan Brending

From: Marisa Bedford
Sent: Tuesday, October 8, 2019 7:08 PM
To: AshleyP@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; DonnaH@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; JasonH@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; AmyM@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; MarlaK@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; JanB@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: In support of WS checkout bag ordinance and 10 cent charge
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Councilors,

I have written to Mayor Poucher to urge him to sign the ordinance, including the ten cents charge. The drafters of the ordinance provided an exception for those to whom such a charge would be a hardship. Far from being a "narrow special interest group" as Mayor Poucher put it, the drafters of the ordinance have worked diligently in all our interest to improve the quality of our environment.

I urge each of you to support the ordinance and to override the Mayor's veto, should that become necessary.

Thank you,

Marisa Bedford
22 Cottontail Ridge Rd
Snowden

Jan Brending

From: Chris Erickson
Sent: Wednesday, October 9, 2019 9:08 AM
To: AshleyP@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; DonnaH@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; JasonH@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; AmyM@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; MarlaK@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; JanB@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; Mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Plastic Bag Ban

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I support the Checkout Bag Ordinance in White Salmon, **including** the 10¢ charge. The charge is a proven, effective way to encourage customers to bring their own bags, and it's absolutely critical to **encourage reuse**. Without it, the environmental burden is simply transferred to paper or thicker plastic.

I am not opposed to a grace period where the the 10 cent charge is not implemented until 6 months after approval, but honestly 10 cents is minimal in the whole scheme of things.

Thank you so much for your time

Chris Erickson

Chris Erickson

970.379.0707

www.blowfishdesignco.com

IG- @BlowfishDesigns



Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Tuesday, October 8, 2019 11:11 AM
To: Jennifer Hull; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: Letter of support for the Checkout Bag Ordinance in White Salmon, including the 10¢ charge.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

thanks for your email. The positive point with the plastic bag ban is I believe 90+% of us agree, it's on the imposition of the mandatory 10 cents charge. I think our community is different than a large metropolitan area. We know our neighbors, and they are concerned with the environment. In this instance I believe we will reduce the total number of single use bags with out the mandatory fee. I wish there was a way we could try the zero fee and see if it worked. If not come back and require the fee. David

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Mon, Oct 7, 2019 at 4:59 PM Jennifer Hull <jhull1914@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mayor Poucher and Council Members:

I support the Checkout Bag Ordinance in White Salmon, **including** the 10¢ charge. The charge is a proven, effective way to encourage customers to bring their own bags, and it's absolutely critical to **encourage reuse**. Without it, the environmental burden is simply transferred to paper or thicker plastic.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: Use any or all to supplement your note of support.

- Portland tried a ban without a charge in 2012: Reusable checkout bag use increased over 300%, which is great, but the *use of paper checkout bags increased almost 500%*. (Promoting Reusable Checkout Bags in Portland One-Year Report, October 3, 2012, Portland Bureau of Planning & Sustainability.)
- By contrast, California's statewide ordinance (ban plus a 10¢ charge) resulted in customers *bringing their own bags for 84% of transactions. Paper bag use dropped 61%*. (SB 270 Report to the Legislature: CalRecycle [2019])
- This model is supported by the WA Food Industry Assoc. (which represents WA coffee shops and small grocers, including Harvest Market and Rosauers). WFIA 2019 Priority Issues.
- 33 WA municipalities ban plastic bags; 75% of those mandate a fee on recycled paper/reusable plastic bags.
- Bag credits alone don't work. Studies of a bag fee vs. bag credit show the credit has virtually no effect while fees decreased demand for disposable bags by over 50%. (Can Small Incentives Have Large Effects? The Impact of Taxes versus Bonuses on Disposable Bag Use. American Economic Journal: Economic Policy 2018, 10(4): 1–35.)
- By setting a minimum charge for these bags, the ordinance encourages reusable bag use, sets a level playing field among retailers, and still allows retailer discretion to charge more.
- **The 10¢ Charge Is Not a Tax.** Customers who choose to purchase a carryout bag pay the retailer 10¢ for the bag. The retailer keeps the money to help compensate for the cost of the

bag. Standard retail sales tax applies to the transaction, which amounts to ¾ of a cent per bag. Sales using a voucher or electronic benefits card are excluded from the charge.

- Mayor Poucher seems to think the charge only applies to paper bags. As written, the ordinance set minimum standards for paper and plastic bags. Paper bags must be 40% post consumer recycled content and also recyclable/compostable. Plastic bags must meet criteria for reusability which includes a 2.25mil thickness, which means the traditional bags aren't permitted. The second part of the ordinance is a 10¢ charge on BOTH paper and plastic bags.
- From the Washington Food Industry Association on Plastic Bag Bans:

WFIA POSITION: WFIA supports a statewide plastic bag ban as long as there is a pass-through charge of \$0.10 per paper bag and an option for a 2.25 mil bag. Additionally, the technical specifications of the bags must be industry standards.

BACKGROUND: Single-use plastic bags emerged as a popular bag choice in the 1970s. The popularity of single-use bags can be traced to their convenience, lightweight construction, affordability, and opportunity for reuse, among other reasons. However, concerns have been raised about the environmental consequences they pose. In response, many local city or county governments throughout Washington State have chosen to ban single-use plastic bags, which includes pass-through charges on single-use paper bags to encourage the use of reusable bags. The grocery and convenience store industry has worked with these governments and proponents of the bag bans to ensure these methods, and requirements to accommodate the bag bans, are consistent. A pass-through charge of \$0.10 is needed to help supplement the cost difference between plastic film bags and paper or 2.25 mil plastic reusable bags. Currently, paper bags cost around \$0.10 to \$0.12 to buy from manufacturers, while plastic film bags cost \$0.02 to buy from manufacturers. Businesses need to be able to recuperate associated costs. Although it is hopeful that consumers will transition to reusable bags, it is not guaranteed. The pass-through charge will offset the cost increase to retailers, so they do not have to pass the cost on to customers or risk going out of business.

At this point, the paper bag supply cannot meet paper bag demand. The demand for paper bags is so high that many of our stores run out of paper bags. With more bans being implemented throughout the country, it is important that there is an alternative to paper bags for customers to use. The 2.25 mil plastic reusable bag is an acceptable alternative as it is reusable, and it can be recycled unlike the plastic film bags. An alternative to paper bags is needed to meet the demand of consumers.

For more information contact:

Catherine Holm

Legal Counsel/Legislative Director

360-970-9481

Jan Gee

President & CEO

253-209-5079

- Oregon Governor Kate Brown just signed HB 2509, banning single use plastic bags and implementing a minimum 5 cent charge. <https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2019R1/Measures/Overview/HB2509> This means Hood River will have a minimum 5 cent charge when the rule goes into effect January 1, 2020.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Hull

White Salmon, WA

Jan Brending

From: April Abernethy
Sent: Sunday, October 6, 2019 4:23 PM
To: AshleyP@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; DonnaH@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; JasonH@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; AmyM@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; MarlaK@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; JanB@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Bag ban
Flag Status: Flagged

Councilors,

As a resident and shopper here in White Salmon I support the plastic bag ban. I appreciate a several month phase out as stores and restaurants use up their supply.

The use of shared bag bins (as Thriftway already does) keeps bags accessible for our lower income residents.

Please support the ban on plastic bags. Mayor Poucher seems to think the charge only applies to paper bags. As written, the ordinance set minimum standards for paper and plastic bags. Paper bags must be 40% post consumer recycled content and also recyclable/compostable. Plastic bags must meet criteria for reusability which includes a 2.25mil thickness, which means the traditional bags aren't permitted.

It is time to step up and protect our environment. It is not like we have so many businesses that the hurdle is insurmountable.

Please encourage the mayor to listen to constituents and vote to ban plastic bags.

Sent from my iPhone
Dr A Susan Abernethy
328 SE Oak St
541-490-5471

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Tuesday, October 8, 2019 11:06 AM
To: Jan Brending
Subject: Fwd: Bag ban

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

----- Forwarded message -----

From: April Abernethy <april.abernethy@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Oct 7, 2019 at 7:14 PM
Subject: Re: Bag ban
To: David Poucher <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>

Thank you for your response. While .10 does add up for some individuals, I work with vulnerable populations, it does often take a nudge to change habits.

I would hope we don't lose forward progress. I was actually living in Hood River when that ban passed, shortly after implemented modifications voted in. I encourage you not to throw the baby out with the bath water and perhaps we can implement the ban with the fee and revisit it with the council.

Regardless, I appreciate your reflection on the matter.
Susan

Sent from my iPad
Dr. A S Abernethy
541-490-5471

On Oct 7, 2019, at 1:10 PM, David Poucher <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us> wrote:

I support the ban on plastic bags, I'm against charging for the bags. Hood River has a very successful plastic bag ban and they do not charge for bags

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Sun, Oct 6, 2019 at 4:15 PM April Abernethy <april.abernethy@gmail.com> wrote:

Mayor,

As a resident and shopper here in White Salmon I support the plastic bag ban. I appreciate a several month phase out as stores and restaurants use up their supply.

The use of shared bag bins (as Thriftway already does) keeps bags accessible for our lower income residents.

It is time to step up and protect our environment. It is not like we have so many businesses that the hurdle is insurmountable.

Please listen to your constituents and vote to ban plastic bags.

Sent from my iPhone
Dr A Susan Abernethy
328 SE Oak St.
541-490-5471

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Friday, October 4, 2019 1:40 PM
To: Kathy Godwin; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: Plastic bag ban

Flag Status: Flagged

Thank you for your response.

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Thu, Oct 3, 2019 at 8:20 PM Kathy Godwin <vkgodwin@gmail.com> wrote:

Thank you for your response, and I apologize for misjudging your intentions. I agree with you on the pricing issue.

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 3, 2019, at 3:59 PM, David Poucher <mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us> wrote:

I don't know where you got your information but I am totally supportive of **banning plastic bags**. I am against the city setting a minimum price that a merchant can sell their product for. I like the ordinance that Hood River has and I think our ordinance should copy it.

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Thu, Oct 3, 2019 at 3:13 PM Kathy Godwin <vkgodwin@gmail.com> wrote:

Mayor Poucher, I am very disappointed that you are ignoring the wishes of our community. Your disregard for the science of the harmful effects of plastic to our environment is deplorable. How do you know what the "silent majority" wants? If they are silent, their voices don't count. This is not the way a democracy works. Shame on you!

Sent from my iPad

Jan Brending

From: Lisa Beranek
Sent: Friday, October 4, 2019 9:09 PM
To: Janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Cc: mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Plastic Bag Ban

Flag Status: Flagged

Hi,

I am a Washington resident and shopper at the Harvest Market in White Salmon.

I regularly do my duty to reduce our impact on this planet. One of the many ways I do this is to bring my own reusable grocery bags to the store with me. If I forget a bag, I force myself to carry out my items without a bag. I have done this for years.

I believe that patrons should be charged for a bag when they are shopping. I disagree with including the cost of bags into grocery and other item's price. This measure to ban plastic bags is to create awareness around behavior. Most people learn and become aware when they are forced to make choices based on their pocketbook. So charge the cost of the bag to the patrons that are using the bag.

I was not able to attend the meeting to voice my concern because I am traveling for work.

Sent from my iPhone

Jan Brending

From: Elizabeth See
Sent: Friday, October 4, 2019 9:17 PM
To: Janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Plastic bag ban

Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mayor

I am a member of the silent majority, the hardworking busy individual who does not have time to attend meetings about plastic bag bans. I am here to express my full support for the ban AND the ten cent charge for paper bags. Really, all this fuss is about ten measly cents? Really? If I forget my cloth bag and need a paper bag, ten cents is not going to put me back enough that I would give it a second thought and I am not a wealthy person. Cloth bags are everywhere. I realize that banning plastic bags is just a tiny step in the right direction, but at least it is a step in the right direction.

Thanks

Elizabeth See

Jan Brending

From: Marisa Cieloha
Sent: Friday, October 4, 2019 10:32 PM
To: AmyM@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; AshleyP@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; DonnaH@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; JasonH@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; MarlaK@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; Mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Checkout bag charge support
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I am writing in support of the ten-cent charge for checkout bags.

The 10¢ charge has been proven to be a critical component of this effective approach: it encourages reuse, and avoids the transfer of the environmental burden to paper or thicker plastic.

- Portland tried a ban without a charge in 2012: Reusable checkout bag use increased over 300%, which is great, but the *use of paper checkout bags increased almost 500%*. Promoting Reusable Checkout Bags in Portland One-Year Report, October 3, 2012, Portland Bureau of Planning & Sustainability.
- By contrast, California's statewide ordinance (ban plus a 10¢ charge) resulted in customers *bringing their own bags for 84% of transactions. Paper bag use dropped 61%*. SB 270 Report to the Legislature: CalRecycle (2019)
- This model is supported by the WA Food Industry Assoc. (which represents WA coffee shops and small grocers, including Harvest Market and Rosauers). WFIA 2019 Priority Issues
- 31 WA municipalities ban plastic bags; 75% of those mandate a fee on recycled paper/reusable plastic bags.
- Bag credits alone don't work. Studies of a bag fee vs. bag credit show the credit has virtually no effect while fees decreased demand for disposable bags by over 50%. Can Small Incentives Have Large Effects? The Impact of Taxes versus Bonuses on Disposable Bag Use. American Economic Journal: Economic Policy 2018, 10(4): 1–35.
- By setting a minimum charge for these bags, the ordinance encourages reusable bag use, sets a level playing field among retailers, and still allows retailer discretion to charge more.

Mayor Poucher, you stated that Hood River doesn't require a charge for bags, and that it is "working very well". Governor Kate Brown recently signed a bill to ban plastic bags statewide and require a 5 cent minimum charge per bag. So Hood River will be charging for bags soon.

https://www.eastoregonian.com/news/local/retailers-prepare-to-lose-plastic-bags/article_ac9e9416-9467-11e9-947b-038d95a12fbb.html

Also, as written, the ordinance sets minimum standards for paper and plastic bags. Paper bags must be 40% post consumer recycled content and also recyclable/compostable. Plastic bags must meet criteria for reusability which includes a 2.5mil thickness, which means the traditional bags aren't permitted. The second part of the ordinance is a 10¢ charge on BOTH paper AND thicker plastic bags.

Thank you all for your time.

Thank you Marla, Jason, Amy, and Ashley for supporting this ordinance as written.

Marisa Cieloha

Jan Brending

From: Shelly Peterson
Sent: Saturday, October 5, 2019 12:19 PM
To: AshleyP@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; DonnaH@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; JasonH@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; AmyM@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; MarlaK@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; JanB@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Bag Ban - Letter written to Mayor
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi All:)

Thank you so much for all of your hard work on the Bag Ban issue. I know that the mayor is considering a veto of the ordinance. I wrote a letter to the mayor of support for the ban this morning and wanted you all to have a copy of it as well to let you know of my support.

Thank you again!

Shelly

Dear Mr. Poucher,

First I want to thank you for your service as Mayor of White Salmon. I know that it isn't an easy job and your compensation for your hard work comes mostly from the bonds you make with community members and the satisfaction of a job well done.

I wanted to write to you to ask you to support the Bag Ban that you are considering at this time. I understand that it is a difficult decision for you as you want to do the right thing for the people of our community. I know that the part that you find challenging is the fee portion of the ban as you might find this to be a financial hardship for some. The problem with not charging a fee, is that people will switch to using free paper bags, which doesn't encourage people to use reusable bags, thus reducing waste.

The people who are sponsoring this effort are good hearted people of the community who are trying to preserve the beauty of our incredible environment. They don't want to see people suffer a financial burden as a result of the ban. I know that as a friendly community, we can make reusable bags available to those who need them. As a business owner, I am planning to purchase about 100 of them for this purpose alone. In addition, I know that the members of this community would each donate one or two of their reusable bags toward the effort if asked.

I know that you are a kind person and want to do the best for all of us. This is something we can accomplish together in a caring way.

Sincerely yours,

Shelly Peterson

Shelly Peterson Photography

shellypetersonphotography.com

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 11:48 AM
To: Shelly Peterson; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: Bag Ban

Flag Status: Flagged

Shelly thank you for your note. My only complaint is the City mandating the charge for the bag. Hood Rivers plastic bag ban has been very successful and they do not have a mandatory charge.

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Sat, Oct 5, 2019 at 10:33 AM Shelly Peterson <shellypeterson@icloud.com> wrote:
Dear Mr. Poucher,

First I want to thank you for your service as Mayor of White Salmon. I know that it isn't an easy job and your compensation for your hard work comes mostly from the bonds you make with community members and the satisfaction of a job well done.

I wanted to write to you to ask you to support the Bag Ban that you are considering at this time. I understand that it is a difficult decision for you as you want to do the right thing for the people of our community. I know that the part that you find challenging is the fee portion of the ban as you might find this to be a financial hardship for some. The problem with not charging a fee, is that people will switch to using free paper bags, which doesn't encourage people to use reusable bags, thus reducing waste.

The people who are sponsoring this effort are good hearted people of the community who are trying to preserve the beauty of our incredible environment. They don't want to see people suffer a financial burden as a result of the ban. I know that as a friendly community, we can make reusable bags available to those who need them. As a business owner, I am planning to purchase about 100 of them for this purpose alone. In addition, I know that the members of this community would each donate one or two of their reusable bags toward the effort if asked.

I know that you are a kind person and want to do the best for all of us. This is something we can accomplish together in a caring way.

Sincerely yours,

Shelly Peterson
Shelly Peterson Photography

Jan Brending

From: Seth Gilchrist
Sent: Saturday, October 5, 2019 9:29 PM
To: JanB@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; Mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; AshleyP@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; DonnaH@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; JasonH@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; AmyM@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; MarlaK@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Cc: Claire Gilchrist; Sally Gilchrist; Robert Gilchrist; Michael Kingen
Subject: Support for banning single use plastic bags and the 10c charge

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello city council and mayor Poucher,
I want to register my support for both a **ban** on plastic bags and **charging** for any single use alternative.

Stopping the production and distribution of single use products of all kinds is imperative due to the environmental impact of both their production and disposal. Replacing one single use item with another simply isn't good enough to manage what is a enormous and growing problem.

To facilitate the behavior change necessary, I believe we must use all the tools at our disposal to expedite the adoption of maintainable and reusable items. Financial incentives are easy to implement, require little enforcement, and are known to be effective; therefore, I fully support charging whatever is needed to make people (including me!) remember to bring their reusable bags with them.

Regards,
Seth Gilchrist
195 NW Cherry St

--
Please excuse the brevity; sent from a mobile device.

Jan Brending

From: Anne Stringer
Sent: Saturday, October 5, 2019 10:40 PM
To: Mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Cc: JanB@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Reflecting on the process...

Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mayor Poucher,

I'm new to this whole world of city council meetings, ordinances, and public speaking, so I'm not sure about how these things are supposed to progress. But I look back on the path to this point, and wonder why there wasn't an opportunity to discuss the issues with you before the controversial public hearing last week.

I didn't work on this ordinance as part of any special interest group, I'm just a member of the community who cares a lot about our environment. I first started talking with others about this idea of a bag ordinance in a workout class at a local church—everyone there was really excited about it and thought it would be great to pursue. I later saw a post from Becky Miles on a friend's FaceBook page (I didn't know Becky before this), and she had similar ideas. And so a small group of people came together around this idea to see if we could craft an ordinance that would work for White Salmon. (The name, Community Upcycle, and the other things we've done all followed after that.)

My first concern was about the impact it might have on businesses after I had heard of the business owners' objections in Hood River, so I spent hours talking with business owners in town here about an ordinance and how/if it would impact them. The idea was met with incredible enthusiasm and support—and that was for the environment, it truly wasn't *at all* about their profit (they aren't going to profit from this). They care about making this change to reduce plastic waste.

Excited by their feedback, we moved ahead and presented to the CC and later attended the Community Development meeting where the ordinance was being discussed. It was during that meeting that I first heard of any opposition to the ordinance from the council or from you, as Jan explained your concern about the charge. I had asked if your resistance to the charge was based on any information in particular, which understandably Jan couldn't answer for you, and so I left the meeting uncertain but optimistic that you might understand the importance of the charge if I spoke to that directly in the public hearing. But that didn't go so well!

So now we're at this point, and I'm dismayed to see that this has blown up into such a divisive issue getting so much attention, and that by following the standard process I had no opportunity to talk with you about it beforehand. You weren't at either of the two meetings that I had previously attended to discuss the ordinance, and outreach to you was never mentioned as part of the process.

So I realize it's a little late, but is there no chance for us to talk about it? I dread having discussions via social media or in these timed one-way presentations to you in a public forum. Neither is conducive to constructive dialog and they're stressful situations where I don't think anyone is at their best for talking or listening. If you're not interested, or it's not appropriate, I understand. As I said, I'm new to this whole process of how our local legislation is made.

In the past, we've had some fun conversations at the coffee shop about baking bread and our labradoodles. Regardless of the outcome of the ordinance, I would hope we could return to that some day when this is behind us.

Best regards,

Jan Brending

From: Sally Gilchrist
Sent: Sunday, October 6, 2019 8:31 AM
To: mayor@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Cc: AmyM@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; AshleyP@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; Claire Gilchrist; DonnaH@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; JanB@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; JasonH@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; MarlaK@ci.white-salmon.wa.us; Robert Gilchrist; Seth Gilchrist
Subject: Support for banning single use plastic bags and the 10c charge
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mayor Poucher ETAL,

I want to register my support for both a **ban** on plastic bags and **charging** for any single use alternative.

Stopping the production and distribution of single use products of all kinds is imperative due to the environmental impact of both their production and disposal.

Replacing one single use item with another simply isn't good enough to manage what is a enormous and growing problem.

If there is no charge for paper bags those who continue to forget will simply never remember.

Having lived in Europe for several years many many years ago we learned that not only do grocery stores NOT PROVIDE BAGS OF ANY KIND, one must also pack their own.

What is the point of banning plastic and simply replacing with paper? I implore you to give White Salmon the chance to grow up and do the right thing, thereby setting another example for a trend that must prevail.

Sincerely,
Sally Gilchrist
199 NW Cherry Street
White Salmon, WA

--

Sally

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 12:38 PM
To: Sarah Lange; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: Community Upcycle Checkout Bag Ordinance

Flag Status: Flagged

I totally support banning plastic bags. Hood River has a very successful plastic bag ban and they do not charge for a paper bag.

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Sun, Oct 6, 2019 at 9:07 AM Sarah Lange <sarah.l.lange@gmail.com> wrote:
Hello,

I am a resident of White Salmon and I am writing in support of the Checkout Bag Ordinance in White Salmon, including the 10¢ charge. The charge is a proven, effective way to encourage customers to bring their own bags, and it's absolutely critical to encourage reuse. I appreciate you collecting feedback and listening to the desires of the town residents in regards to this legislation.

Thank you,
Sarah Lange

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 12:46 PM
To: Brian Healy; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: Single Use Bag Bill

Flag Status: Flagged

I too am in favor of banning plastic bags. I think we should copy Hood River's bag ban which is very successful and does not charge for the bag.

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Sun, Oct 6, 2019 at 11:02 AM Brian Healy <theweirdturnpro1@gmail.com> wrote:

Please do not veto the single use bag bill. I am aware that there will be an additional charge for large paper bags and single use plastic bags. I'm proud of the fact that our community is making an effort to minimize single use bags and hope that one day reusable bags will become the normal operating procedure. Thank you for all the effort you all put into governing our community.

Brian Healy

Sent from my iPhone

Jan Brending

From: David Poucher
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 1:11 PM
To: Lucille Walker; Jan Brending
Subject: Re: Support for Checkout Bag Ordinance in White Salmon

Flag Status: Flagged

I support the ban on plastic bags, I'm against charging for the bags. Hood River has a very successful plastic bag ban and they do not charge for bags

David Poucher, Mayor
City of White Salmon
509-493-1133

On Sun, Oct 6, 2019 at 3:39 PM Lucille Walker <luci_walker@hotmail.com> wrote:

I strongly support the Checkout Bag Ordinance in White Salmon, **including the 10¢ charge**. The charge is a proven, effective way to encourage customers to bring their own bags, and it's absolutely critical to **encourage reuse**. Without it, the environmental burden is simply transferred to paper or thicker plastic.

This model is supported by the WA Food Industry Assoc. (which represents WA coffee shops and small grocers, including Harvest Market and Rosauers). [WFIA 2019 Priority Issues](#). 33 WA municipalities ban plastic bags; 75% of those mandate a fee on recycled paper/reusable plastic bags. Bag credits alone don't work. Studies of a bag fee vs. bag credit show the credit has virtually no effect while fees decreased demand for disposable bags by over 50%.

By setting a minimum charge for these bags, the ordinance encourages reusable bag use, sets a level playing field among retailers, and still allows retailer discretion to charge more. **The 10¢ Charge Is Not a Tax**. Customers who choose to purchase a carryout bag pay the retailer 10¢ for the bag. The retailer keeps the money to help compensate for the cost of the bag. Standard retail sales tax applies to the transaction, which amounts to $\frac{3}{4}$ of a cent per bag. Sales using a voucher or electronic benefits card are excluded from the charge.

My husband and I live in Underwood and we shop at Harvest Market in White Salmon as well as at Rosauers and Safeway in Hood River. We both keep several reusable shopping bags in our vehicles and bring them in every time we shop. We hope that the Checkout Bag Ordinance will encourage many more people to do the same. It's easy, it's responsible, and it's the right thing to do.

Mayor Poucher: please sign this common-sense legislation that is environmentally critical to maintaining this beautiful place that we all call home.

Thank you very much!

Luci Walker

Jan Brending

From: Ellen Thayer
Sent: Sunday, October 6, 2019 9:38 PM
To: Janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us
Subject: Bag fee

Flag Status: Flagged

White Salmon City Council -

We are in favor of charging 10 cents per grocery bag.

We need to do all we can to keep plastics out of our waste stream.

Old habits die hard and a dime is not asking much to save the earth.

Thank you.

Ellen & Wayne Thayer

PO Box 710

White Salmon WA

Jan Brending

From: Dawn McSweyn
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 8:08 AM
To: Dawn McSweyn
Subject: Please BAN Single Use Plastic Bags

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello - I live in Underwood and work in the entire mid-Columbia Gorge. I usually buy my groceries in Bingen, White Salmon, or Hood River and I support the Checkout Bag Ordinance in White Salmon, **including** the 10¢ charge. The charge is a proven, effective way to encourage customers to bring their own bags, and it's absolutely critical to **encourage reuse**. Without it, the environmental burden is simply transferred to paper or thicker plastic.

Please vote to BAN single use plastic.

Dawn McSweyn
Licensed in OR and WA
Windermere Real Estate
- Columbia River Gorge
541.645.0951