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**Tillamook
Chamber of Commerce**
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January 2, 2019

To Whom it May Concern:

The Chamber recently conducted a membership and downtown business poll that requested input on a ban on single use plastic bags within the City of Tillamook. The survey resulted in 83 responses from all types of organizations and businesses; 50.6% (42) of them providing bags for their customers.

As with many initiatives there is a disconnect between those who support or oppose based on personal impact and this initiative is no different. When looking at the full response (83) a ban is supported by 55.4% of the respondents; however, on those provide bags to their customers, and are therefore directly impacted, that number drops to 47.6%.

Based on the results of our survey, the Tillamook Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors has decided the Chamber will not be advocating in favor or in opposition of any ordinance related to the ban of single use plastic bags pursuant to the cause; but will advocate for direct and proper language with exceptions to be considered should the City of Tillamook move any form of ordinance forward.

We would advocate for any proposed language to include, but not limited to:

- Defining Single-use plastic bags as "carryout bags" and be further defined as point of sale bags (Corvallis, Forest Grove).
- Specific language identifying to address raw food product vending at farmers markets or vendor stands. These vendors point of sale and product are most often at the same location, making it nearly impossible to make a distinct difference.
- Exemption for prepared food and drink establishments. (Corvallis)
- Consideration for social services that distribute food products. (i.e. Food Banks, food pantries, senior center and meals-on-wheels, etc.)
- That any implementation be phased to reasonably allow retailers to utilize their on-hand stock of single-use plastic carryout bags.
- That any monetary decisions regarding paper bags be left to the discretion of the retail establishment.

For further questions or comments please contact us by phone at 503-842-7525 or email at justin@tillamookchamber.org.

Regards,

Justin Aufdermauer
Executive Director