

# *City of Brisbane*

## *Agenda Report*

To: City Council via City Manager

From: Stuart Schillinger, Deputy City Manager

Subject: Open Space and Ecology Committee Review of polystyrene container ban

Date: April, 1, 2013

### **Purpose:**

Reduce the amount petroleum based products ending up the landfill.

### **Recommendation:**

Direct the Open Space and Ecology Committee to continue the process of vetting a polystyrene container ban.

### **Background:**

In December of 2012 the Open Space and Ecology Committee reviewed the County's model single use bag ban called the Reusable Bag ordinance. At that time it recommended this ordinance be sent forward to City Council for adoption, which was done on March 18, 2013. At the December meeting this issue of the County's model polystyrene container ban was also briefly discussed. On February 13, 2013 the County made a presentation to the Committee concerning the polystyrene ordinance. The Committee discussed this issue further at their March 13, 2013 meeting.

### **Discussion:**

The Ordinance would prohibit restaurants and other food establishments from using polystyrene based disposable food service ware, and would promote the use of compostable products. .

The Open Space and Ecology Committee would like to pursue this issue further and determine if the County's Ordinance would be right for our City or if there should be any changes made to it prior to bringing it forward to City Council. As part of this review the Committee would like to do further research on this topic including looking at alternative products to polystyrene containers and outreach to members of the business community which would be most effected by this new Ordinance.

This Ordinance could have more of an impact on the City's business community than the single use bag ban ordinance and therefore the Committee felt that before it made contact with the business community it would seek City Council's guidance.

### **Fiscal Impact:**

The impact of this Ordinance is unknown at this time. A number of other cities within San Mateo County (Daly City, Colma, Half Moon Bay, Burlingame, Foster City, Belmont, San Carlos, Redwood

City, Menlo Park, and Portola Valley) have adopted a similar ordinance so there should not be a competitive disadvantage created.

**Measure of Success**

Elimination of another source of non-compostable waste within the City.



Stuart Schillinger  
Administrative Services Director



Clay Holstine  
City Manager