Terminating Temporary Public Health Emergency Order No. 5

April 6, 2020

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Initial Action

- Retailer request for temporary suspension of plastic bag ban
 - Chapter 9.25 SMC Retail Carryout Bag Regulations
- Research via local jurisdictions and the Urban Sustainability Directors Network



Public Health Research

- No specific studies regarding reusable bags and COVID-19
- County and State Health
 Department guidance does not restrict the use of reusable bags



Actions by Other Jurisdictions

- Temporary suspensions of:
 - Existing bans and/or enforcement of bans
 - Pass-through charges for paper bags
- Delayed implementation of new legislation



Action: March 31, 2020

 Temporary Public Health Emergency Order No. 5 suspends the prohibition on carryout plastic bags at retail establishments set forth in SMC 9.25.030(A) and the accompanying penalty in SMC 9.25.040 through May 31, 2020.



Discussion and Recommendation

- Based on the request of Councilmember Roberts, the Council needs to consider if the City Manager's Temporary Emergency Order No. 5 should be terminated.
- Staff does not recommend that the City Council terminate Temporary Public Health Emergency Order No. 5.



Questions?



Proposed Motion Language

I move to terminate Temporary Public Health Emergency Order No. 5 issued by the City Manager on March 31, 2020, that suspended certain provisions of Chapter 9.25 of the Shoreline Municipal Code related to plastic retail carryout bags due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

