



MEMORANDUM

TO: Marc Ott, City Manager

FROM: Greg Canally, Budget Officer

DATE: April 10, 2008

SUBJECT: Use of Plastic Bags

Item # 48 on the April 10, 2008 Council Agenda is to approve a resolution adopting a plan for reducing by fifty percent the number of plastic bags entering the city solid waste stream.

Staff from the Solid Waste Services Department (SWS) will be available to work on this effort utilizing existing staff. The work includes providing a limited analysis of the biannual data submitted by the Texas Retailers Association, specifically the Research and Development group. SWS staff will also make periodic site visits to assess plastic bag use from participating retail stores. It should be noted that no interruptions of current projects are expected for the department.

There is a fiscal impact from conducting the four-month curbside plastic bag pilot. The associated collection cost for this pilot program is estimated to be \$50,300. This includes costs for personnel, printing, transportation and other operational expenses. Additionally, SWS staff will rely on the plastic processing partner responsible for recycling the curbside plastic bags to provide data on volume and quality of material collected from the plastic bag pilot. Upon completion of the pilot study, the details of the study will be reported to Council, including an estimate of the citywide collection costs.