

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING - NOVEMBER 27, 2007
MOTION B.2

2. Eliminating Plastic Bags (VanRIMS No. 13-6000-50)

MOVED by Councillor Stevenson
SECONDED by Councillor Deal

WHEREAS:

1. the City of Vancouver has a duty to protect the natural environment, the economy, and the health of its citizens;
2. plastic grocery bags cannot be composted and are not accepted in Vancouver's curbside recycling program;
3. plastic bags don't biodegrade, they photo-degrade - breaking down into smaller toxic bits that contaminate soil and waterways;
4. plastic bags can take between 15-1,000 years to break down in the environment;
5. In the Mayor's State of the City address, he stated that one of his Five Goals for a Better Vancouver was *"Becoming a world leader in environmental practices and sustainable transportation"*; and
6. the expansive usage of plastic shopping bags and their typical disposal creates an impediment to the GVRD's *Zero Waste* Challenge.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT staff provide a report within 90 days for options on phasing out plastic bags within the City of Vancouver.

Referred

The Chair noted a request to speak on Motion B.2 has been received. Council agreed to refer consideration of the motion to a future Standing Committee meeting in order to hear the speaker.