Few Complain to City about Bag Ban

Posted by Josh Koehn on Friday, March 16, 2012 Comments (15)

In the first two months of implementation, the city's plastic bag ban yielded positive environmental results and few complaints, according to a memo sent out Friday by Kerrie Romanow, acting director of the Environmental Services Department.

"GreenWaste Recovery, a residential solid waste and recycling collection hauler for the city, has already reported a 10 percent reduction in film plastic being processed at their Materials Recovery Facility," Romanow writes in a memo. "This amounts to an immediate reduction of approximately 1,380 pounds per day of film plastics since the start of the city's ordinance."

City officials expect to have another snapshot of progress this month during the Great American Litter Pick-up event, which occurs annually every spring and fall.

So far, the ESD has received 25 calls from the public expressing concerns or "an unfavorable comment" about the ordinance between October 2011 and February 2012, Romanow writes.

Meanwhile, there have been 27 formal complaints with businesses through the first two months of the year. For now, the city is working with these businesses rather than levying fines.

TAGGED: environmental services, kerrie romanow, plastic bag ban