



10 East Church Street
Bethlehem, Pa. 18018
www.bethlehemeac.org

Bethlehem City Council
City of Bethlehem
10 E. Church Street
Bethlehem, PA 18018

September 13, 2021

Honorable Members of City Council,

The EAC recommended a ban on single use plastic bags in 2019, after which the State of Pennsylvania placed a ban on bans of single use plastics. Beginning December 8, 2021, municipalities will no longer be prohibited from implementing bans on single use plastics. Therefore, we recommend that City Council enact a ban on single use plastic bags. We have a sample ordinance attached for your consideration.

The successful enactment such an ordinance will require engagement, education and support from both the business community and the public. The EAC is willing to assist the City with this outreach campaign. Given the attention needed to form a partnership with businesses and residents, and knowing that restaurants are having many challenges due to the pandemic, we believe it would be advisable to begin with a ban on single use plastic bags at retail establishments and expand to include restaurants and other forms of plastic once this takes hold.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lynn Rothman

Lynn Rothman, Chair

On behalf of the Bethlehem EAC:

Elizabeth Behrend	Ben Guthrie
Elisabeth Cichonski	Brian Nicas
Ben Felzer	Mike Topping

cc: Mayor Donchez