

CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM
Office of the City Manager

DATE: September 2, 2016

FILE: CM-16-031

TO: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and City Commissioners

VIA: Lorie Mertens-Black, Chief Civic Affairs Officer



FROM: Lindsey Nieratka, Environmental Sustainability Coordinator

SUBJECT: Green Team recommendation that the City Commission advocate for the elimination of the State pre-emption on local regulation of polystyrene, plastic bags, and smoking on public beaches, parks, playgrounds and ball fields.

Issue:

Florida State law currently pre-empts local government from regulating the use of polystyrene, plastic bags, and smoking on public beaches, parks, playgrounds and ball fields.

Explanation:

Cities around the country have enacted bans on materials considered unsustainable and incompatible with those cities' goals of waste reduction, beautification, and environmental quality. The City of San Francisco banned plastic bags, paving the way for a state wide ban. Cities such as Seattle, Washington, D.C., and Minneapolis have banned Styrofoam take out containers.

Similar pre-emptions restrict the ability of the City of Hollywood and other municipalities from choosing to ban other materials or practices deemed unsustainable and potentially harmful to our environment, such as plastic bags and smoking. Litter caused by these materials can be harmful to wildlife, detrimental to safety, and impair the beauty of our beaches and communities.

On August 25, 2016, the Green Team unanimously passed a motion recommending that the City Commission advocate for the elimination of the State pre-emption on local regulation polystyrene, plastics bags, and smoking on public beaches, parks, playgrounds and ball fields.

Recommendation:

For your information.

C: Green Team Advisory Committee
City Manager
Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Director
Public Works Director
CRA Executive Director