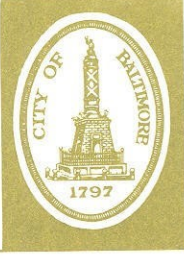


FROM

NAME & TITLE	Alfred H. Foxx, Director
AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Public Works 600 Abel Wolman Municipal Building
SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL 11-0687

CITY of
BALTIMORE
MEMO



DATE: June 6, 2011

TO

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Karen Randle
Room 400 - City Hall

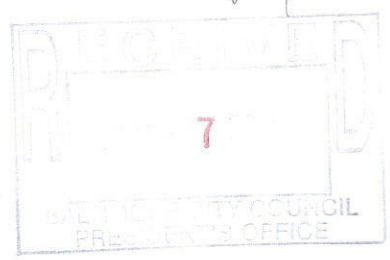
I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 11-0687 introduced by Council Members Cole, Middleton, Curran, Branch, Kraft, D'Adamo, Holton, Stokes, Spector, Welch, Reisinger, Council President Young, Council Members Henry, Conaway, and Clarke.

The purpose of the Bill is to limit the use of bags for yard waste to certain situations; and generally relating to storage receptacles for exterior sanitary maintenance.

Article 23 § 2-3 of the Baltimore City Revised Code allows for unlimited amounts of yard waste to be collected as part of the City's residential curbside collection program. To take advantage of this unlimited service, the materials must be bundled or contained and segregated from mixed refuse. The International Property Maintenance Code is part of the City's Building, Fire, and Related Codes. Section 306.6 of this Code specifies the acceptable types of storage receptacles required for mixed refuse and notes that yard waste may be bagged or bundled for collection.

At issue is citing residents who place their mixed refuse out for collection, or who store their mixed refuse, in plastic bags. Some residents who use opaque plastic bags for containing their yard waste have been cited for failure to use an appropriate mixed refuse receptacle, as the yard waste bags may not be accessible for inspection. The Department of Public Works, Bureau of Solid Waste, urges residents to use clear plastic or paper bags for their yard waste, or clearly mark bags or receptacles as containing yard waste. Labeling of yard waste is listed on the Public Works website, included in seasonal media releases, and is noted in the Public Works calendar. While clear plastic bags make bagged yard waste easily identifiable, plastic bags make it labor intensive to separate the plastic from the compostable material. In our messaging, we encourage the use of paper bags as a means of separating yard waste from mixed refuse. Therefore, the Department recommends the following amendment to this legislation:

F/A



The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
June 6, 2011
Page 2

Amendment

Page 2, lines 21-23, insert the words "*or paper*" between the words "*plastic*" and "*bags*", so that it reads:

'2. Yard waste may be BUNDLED OR bagged [or bundled]. IF BAGGED, HOWEVER, CLEAR PLASTIC OR PAPER BAGS MUST BE USED OR THE BAGS MUST BE MARKED CLEARLY AS "YARD WASTE".'

The Department of Public Works supports passage of City Council Bill 11-0687 as proposed to be amended.



Alfred H. Foxx
Director

AHF/MMC:pat