

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA TO ENCOURAGE THE REDUCTION OF SINGLE-USE PLASTICS

RESOLUTION 2022-26

WHEREAS, Article 1, Section 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution provides that people have the right to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic, and aesthetic values of the environment; that Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come, and that as a trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania Second Class Township Boards of Supervisors are charged with the responsibility to ensure the sound health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the township. (Article VI, Section 602, Act of May 1, 1933, P.L. 103, No. 69, Second Class Township Code); and

WHEREAS, single-use plastic bags, plastic straws, and polystyrene food containers have the potential to pollute the environment, harm wildlife and natural landscapes in the Township, clog storm drains and drainage systems, and enter the waters of the Commonwealth creating further damage to aquatic life and ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, the plastic film from single-use plastic bags binds and clogs sorting equipment and becomes an operational and financial burden on recycling facilities and polystyrene containers do not biodegrade; and

WHEREAS, reusable bags and containers and straws made from environmentally friendly materials are readily available alternatives to single-use plastic bags, polystyrene food containers, and plastic straws and are both cost-effective and help to preserve the natural environment; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest of the residents of Montgomery Township to reduce the use of single-use plastic bags, plastic straws, and polystyrene food containers to protect the public health and natural environment of the surrounding area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montgomery Township Board of Supervisors encourages businesses, residents, and visitors to voluntarily participate in reducing the distribution of single-use plastic bags, straws, and polystyrene containers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Montgomery Township Board of Supervisors encourages the Montgomery Township Environmental Advisory Committee and other volunteers to educate and inform Township businesses, residents, and visitors about the need for voluntary single-use plastic reduction.

RESOLVED, at the duly convened meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Montgomery Township conducted on this 23rd day of May 2022.

Tanya C. Bamford, Chairwoman

Candyce Fluehr Chimera, Vice-Chairwoman

Annette M. Long, Member

Beth A. Staab, Member

Audrey R. Ware, Member

Attest: Carolyn McCreary, Secretary