



# MEDIA BOROUGH

# PLASTIC BAG AND STRAW ORDINANCE

## FAQ'S FOR BUSINESSES

Ordinance Adopted July, 2022

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### WHAT DOES ORDINANCE BAN?

Single-use plastic shopping bags (including bio-based or compostable plastic) along with plastic straws and drink stirrers will no longer be offered to customers at Media businesses. Plastic straws should be available upon request for persons with disabilities and/or special needs.

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### ARE PAPER BAGS BE ALLOWED?

Businesses can provide paper bags with a minimum 40% recycled paper stock or reusable bags. The goal of the ordinance is to encourage customers to bring their own reusable bags whenever they shop.

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### WHAT IS THE TIMELINE?

The ordinance timeline provides ample time for businesses to use up existing stock and find viable alternatives to single-use plastic (SUP) bags and straws. The ordinance went into effect JANUARY 1, 2023.

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### WHAT ABOUT THE PROPOSED BAG FEE?

Businesses have the option to add a 10-cent fee to a customer's receipt for the use of a paper bag. The purpose of the fee is to help support businesses with the added costs of switching to a paper bag and also to encourage consumers to bring their own bag, which is the goal of this ordinance.

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### WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF MY BUSINESS FAILS TO COMPLY?

Once the enforcement of the ordinance begins, on July 1, 2023, a Commercial Establishment that violates or fails to comply with the ordinance requirements will receive an initial written warning notice. Subsequent violations will be subject to potential fines.