

✓

**RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT FORM**

Report Title: Holding the Bag  
Report Date: May 8, 2013  
Public Release Date: May 14, 2013  
Response By: Marin County Hazardous and Solid Waste Management Joint Powers Authority

**FINDINGS**

- We agree with the findings numbered: F1, F2, F3 and F4.
- We disagree with wholly or partially with the findings numbered: NONE.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Recommendations numbered: NONE have been implemented.
- Recommendations numbered: NONE have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.
- Recommendations numbered: R1, R2, and R3 require further analysis.  
*See attached explanations.*
- Recommendations numbered: NONE will not be implemented because it is not warranted or are not reasonable.

Date: July 18, 2013 Signed: *Manu Muehle*

Number of pages attached: 2.

STATEMENT REGARDING FINDINGS

No disputes with findings.

EXPLANATIONS REGARDING RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Restatement of Recommendation R1 for Reference:

*"The Marin Hazardous and Solid Waste Joint Powers Authority (JPA) prepare the Model Single-Use Bag Ordinance to implement the strictest rules possible and encourage all agencies to adopt the Ordinance with minimal changes. A ban on single-use plastic carry-out bags should be imposed in all grocery stores, convenience stores, pharmacies and restaurants within the County and apply to all establishments, no matter how large or small."*

- Explanation for Recommendation R1:

The Marin County Hazardous and Solid Waste Management Joint Powers Authority (JPA) is in the process of preparing a Model Ordinance and associated CEQA analysis for use by Marin's Cities and Towns. The CEQA analysis will explore the impacts of ordinances that ban single use plastic bags at restaurants – but cannot guarantee that individual jurisdictions will do so. The JPA desires to promote bag ordinances that are highly beneficial to the environment – but cannot guarantee that ordinances will follow the "strictest rules possible." Timeline: CEQA completion expected October/November 2013.

- Restatement of Recommendation R2 for Reference:

*"Marin County and The Marin Hazardous and Solid Waste Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Members educate the public on the benefits of reusable bags. Marin County and Marin County and The Marin Hazardous and Solid Waste Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Members develop standardized educational guides for all public schools showing the environmental harm done by plastic single-use carry-out bags. Marin County and The Marin Hazardous and Solid Waste Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Members develop educational materials and distribute them at public events such as farmers' markets and street fairs."*

Explanation for Recommendation R2:

The Marin County Hazardous and Solid Waste Management Joint Powers Authority (JPA) will endeavor to facilitate a robust educational campaign (addressing the reduction of single use bag and the benefits of reusable bags) that will involve as many outreach channels as possible including schools, stores, farmers markets and various other public events. The JPA will also work closely with the JPA's membership to also promote single use bag reduction with a cohesive theme that can leverage across City and Town borders since many shoppers do not necessarily buy many or most of their goods in their own community. Timeline: CEQA completion expected October/November 2013 – City and Town adoption and implementation timeline is To Be Determined.

- Restatement of Recommendation R3 for Reference:

*"Marin Towns and Cities adopt an ordinance to ban all single-use plastic carry-out bags using the Model Single-Use Bag Ordinance with minimal, or no, changes, in order to create a true County-wide ordinance."*

Explanation for Recommendation R3:

A main goal of the Marin County Hazardous and Solid Waste Management Joint Powers Authority (JPA) developing a Model Ordinance is to promote consistency; however because each City and Town needs to adopt an ordinance individually – the JPA cannot guarantee there will be absolute consistency between the ordinances. There may be some Cities or Town that desire to have more aggressive ordinances than others. Timeline: CEQA completion expected October/November 2013 – City and Town adoption and implementation timeline is To Be Determined.

# MARIN COUNTY HAZARDOUS AND SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

Belvedere:  
Mary Neilan

July 18, 2013

Corte Madera:  
David Bracken

The Honorable Judge James Ritchie  
Marin County Superior Court  
P.O. Box 4988  
San Rafael, CA 94913-4988

Rich Treadgold, Foreperson  
Marin County Grand Jury  
3501 Civic Center Dr., Rm. 275  
San Rafael, CA 94903

County of Marin:  
Matthew Hymel

Fairfax:  
Garret Toy

SUBJECT: Grand Jury Report – Holding the Bag

Larkspur:  
Dan Schwarz

Dear Judge Ritchie and Foreperson Treadgold:

Mill Valley:  
Jim McCann

Please find enclosed required responses to the Grand Jury Report – "Holding the Bag" from the Marin County Hazardous and Solid Waste Management Joint Powers Authority (JPA).

Novato:  
Michael Frank

This response was reviewed and approved by the JPA's Board of Directors at their public noticed meeting conducted on July 18, 2013.

Ross:  
Rob Braulik

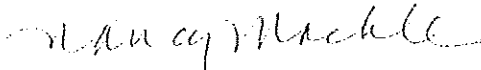
Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this report and should you have any questions, please contact our staff at (415) 473-2711.

San Anselmo:  
Debbie Stutsman

San Rafael:  
Nancy Mackle

Respectfully Submitted,

Sausalito:  
Adam Politzer



Tiburon:  
Margaret Curran

Nancy Mackle  
Board Chair

*I:\waste\grand jury\holding the bag\holding the bag grand jury response jpa.docx*