



CITY OF BELLINGHAM
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
DAN PIKE

MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, The City continues to be a leader in sustainability as demonstrated in our Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, It is the City's desire to conserve resources, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, waste, litter and marine pollution and to protect the public health and welfare including wildlife, all of which increase the quality of life for the City's residents; and

WHEREAS, Studies indicate less than 5% of plastic ever gets recycled, while each American is said to contribute some 65 lbs. of plastic into landfills each year; and

WHEREAS, Plastic never bio-degrades, it photo-degrades and can take hundreds of years for plastics to breakdown and when they do it is in tiny toxic bits which seep into the soil, waterways, lakes and bay; and

WHEREAS, The International Coastal Clean Up Report documents that plastic bags are a significant source of marine debris and are hazardous to marine animals and birds which often confuse plastic bags for a source of food. The ingestion of these bags can result in reduced nutrient absorption and death to birds and marine animals; and

WHEREAS, It is estimated that City residents use approximately 22 million plastic carryout bags each year; and

WHEREAS, the intent of the City is to reduce the negative impacts noted above and recognize the severity of the problem with this proclamation.

NOW, THEREFORE, DO I Dan Pike, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, proclaim April, 2011 to be

“PLASTIC POLLUTION REDUCTION MONTH”

in the City of Bellingham, WA and urge all citizens to reduce their plastic consumption and waste.



Signed this 1st Day of April, 2011

Dan Pike, Mayor

City of Bellingham