



## NOTICE TO RETAIL STORE OPERATORS MEETING THE AT-STORE, PLASTIC CARRYOUT BAG RECYCLING PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS



### FACT SHEET

**Beginning July 1, 2007 and pursuant to State of California Assembly Bill No. 2449, certain retail store operators are required to establish an at-store recycling program that provides an opportunity for a customer to return to the store clean plastic carryout bags.**

The City of Los Angeles formally invites the stores that meet the AB2449 definition to incorporate the City's promotional message – IT'S OUR LA! KEEP IT CLEAN – as part of their at-store recycling program, wherever feasible. The City will provide a promotional toolkit or the stores can download the materials from the City's website: [www.PLASTICS.lacity.org](http://www.PLASTICS.lacity.org). All stores participating in the City's program will be listed on the website.

The City will also make available advertising opportunities to retail stores as part of its efforts to promote the IT'S OUR LA! KEEP IT CLEAN campaign and to bring awareness to the importance of recycling plastic bags.

#### **Retailers Meeting the AB 2449 Definitions:**

A "retail store" is a retail establishment that provides carryout bags to its customers as a result of the sale of a product and that meets either of the following requirements: a) meets the definition of a "supermarket" as found at the bottom<sup>(1)</sup> of this page or b) has over 10,000 square feet of retail space that generates sales or use tax pursuant to the Bradley-Burns Uniform Local Sales and Use Tax Law (Part 1.5 (commencing with Section 7200) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code) and has a pharmacy licensed pursuant to Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 4000) of Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code.

#### **The state mandated AB2449 at-store recycling program will include the following:**

- a) Plastic carryout bags provided by the store shall have printed or displayed on the bag, in a manner visible to a consumer, the words "PLEASE RETURN TO A PARTICIPATING STORE FOR RECYCLING."
- b) A plastic carryout bag collection bin shall be placed at each store and shall be visible, easily accessible to the consumer, and clearly marked that the collection bin is available for the purpose of collecting and recycling plastic carryout bags.
- c) All plastic bags collected by the store shall be collected, transported, and recycled.
- d) The store shall maintain records describing the collection, transport, and recycling of plastic bags collected for a minimum of three years and shall make the records available to the City, upon request, to demonstrate compliance with this chapter.
- e) The operator of the store shall make reusable bags available to customers within the store, which may be purchased and used in lieu of using a plastic carryout bag or paper bag.

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<sup>(1)</sup> "Supermarket" means a full-line, self-service retail store with gross annual sales of two million dollars (\$2,000,000), or more, and which sells a line of dry grocery, canned goods, or nonfood items and some perishable items.