



CITY OF CONCORD

New Hampshire's Main Street™
General Services Department

REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Earle M. Chesley, P.E., General Services Director
DATE: October 22, 2019
SUBJECT: SWAC Report: Referral on Single-use Plastic

Recommendation

Accept this report from the Solid Waste Advisory Committee relative to a referral from Gail Page dated August 12th, 2019.

Background

The Solid Waste Advisory Committee received a referral regarding an initiative that the Portsmouth City Council has been working on. Essentially, the City of Portsmouth is looking at banning the distribution of single-use plastics at City facilities and City sponsored events.

Discussion

Of the many facets to the issue the committee discussed, materials management and disposal/recycling options as well City purchasing policy were recurring themes. The Committee asked that the General Services Department report back on the costs associated with the transition to non-plastic alternatives for food service items at the Arena. It was discussed that addressing the issue through purchasing may be a good way to get a handle on the issue.

The General Services Department has identified an annual increase in costs of approximately \$300 to make a change to both non-plastic Styrofoam and clamshell packaging for food items served at the Arena snackbar. The Department will propose the change in a PCR to be included in the FY2021 budget.

The committee would also like to refer the issue to the Energy and Environment Committee to take up the issue from that perspective.