

March 08, 2019

The Honorable Andrew Cuomo Governor, State of New York Executive Chamber Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo,

Thank you for addressing single-use plastic bag pollution in your FY 2020 Executive Budget. The Village of Scarsdale supports the proposal to ban single-use plastic bags.

However, we believe the following change would be beneficial: Since some municipalities have already adopted additional local restrictions, the statement in the New York State legislation specifying preemption is inappropriate and counter to sustainability principles.

Some municipalities have already enacted single-use plastic bag bans and others have imposed fees on the distribution of such bags. Preemption at the state-level of local sustainability practices that have proven effective undermines progress in achieving urgent local environmental goals.

We appreciate your consideration of our request to modify this already important legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Hochvert

Mayor

P.S.: It would also be helpful if you would consider incorporating a reusable bag definition.

cc: Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins

Assemblywoman Amy Paulin