



# CITY OF COLLEGE PARK

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL

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September 27, 2023

Eric C. Olson, Chair  
Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment Committee  
Prince George's County Council

### Sent by Email Only

### Re: CB-79-23 AN ACT CONCERNING BETTER BAG BILL – REVISIONS

Dear Chair Olson and Committee Members:

On behalf of the College Park City Council, I would like to respectfully request that you oppose the proposed revisions to the Better Bag Bill that would make the 10-cent paper bag fee the maximum amount, and not the current minimum amount. The City Council reviewed CB-79-23 and voted to oppose the change to the bag fee.

The City of College Park enacted our "Better Bag Bill" with the same 10-cent minimum fee for a paper bag provided by a retailer. The purpose of the minimum fee is to ensure that the entire cost of the bag is paid by the customer and not the business, and to thereby encourage the use of reusable bags by customers.

Making 10 cents a maximum fee will harm small retailers that will bear much of the cost of the paper bags. This will dis-incentivize retailers from complying with the Better Bag Bill. Customers will not be incentivized to bring their own bag, resulting in lower use and larger environmental impacts. Additionally, the different charges in municipalities and unincorporated parts of the County will make it confusing.

Thank you for considering the City's position on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Fazlul Kabir  
Mayor

CC: Kenneth Battle, Director, Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy, and Environment Committee  
Mayor and Council  
Committee for a Better Environment