

## ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION REQUEST

Please email requests to the Mayor's Legislative Team

at [MailHighOrdinance@DenverGov.org](mailto:MailHighOrdinance@DenverGov.org) by **9:00am on Friday**. Contact the Mayor's Legislative team with questions

Please mark one: ☒ **Bill Request** or ☐ **Resolution Request** Date of Request: 11/21/2025

### 1. Type of Request:

- ☐ **Contract/Grant Agreement** ☐ **Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA)** ☐ **Rezoning/Text Amendment**  
☐ **Dedication/Vacation** ☐ **Appropriation/Supplemental** ☒ **DRMC Change**  
☐ **Other:**

2. **Title:** A Bill for an Ordinance Amending the Allowable Uses of Revenue from the Disposable Bag Fee.

3. **Requesting Agency:** Office of Climate Action, Sustainability, and Resiliency and the Department of Finance

### 4. Contact Person:

Contact person with knowledge of proposed ordinance/resolution	Contact person to present item at Mayor-Council and Council
Name: Tay Dunklee / Jonathan Wachtel / Justin Sykes	Name: Jonathan Wachtel / Laura Swartz
Email: <a href="mailto:tay.dunklee@denvergov.org">tay.dunklee@denvergov.org</a> <a href="mailto:jonathan.wachtel@denvergov.org">jonathan.wachtel@denvergov.org</a> <a href="mailto:justin.sykes@denvergov.org">justin.sykes@denvergov.org</a>	Email: <a href="mailto:jonathan.wachtel@denvergov.org">jonathan.wachtel@denvergov.org</a> <a href="mailto:laura.swartz@denvergov.org">laura.swartz@denvergov.org</a>

### 5. General description or background of proposed request. Attach executive summary if more space needed:

The Office of Climate Action, Sustainability, and Resiliency (CASR) and the Department of Finance (DOF) propose amending the allowable uses of revenue in the Disposable Bag Fee Special Revenue Fund as outlined in Denver Revised Municipal Code. These changes will support implementation of Denver's Universal Recycling and Composting Ordinance and the previously approved 2025 budget action of transferring \$4.7M to support compost expansion citywide. The proposed updates ensure the Disposable Bag Fee program can continue core outreach and administration functions while also supporting broader waste reduction and diversion priorities. Proposed edits to the D.R.M.C. would be as follows:

#### **Sec. 2-428. Purposes and allowed uses of monies in city disposable bag fee fund.**

Monies from the disposable bag fee shall be used to defray the costs to the city for administering the disposable bag fee program **and related activities**, which may include the following specific uses:

- Administrative costs associated with developing, implementing, and administering the disposable bag fee;
- Costs to provide** reusable carryout bags to residents and visitors;
- Educate** residents, businesses, and visitors about the requirements of the program and impact of disposable bags on the city's environmental health, the importance of reducing the number of disposable plastic bags and other single-use products entering the waste stream, and the expenses associated with mitigating the effects of disposable bags on the city's drainage system, transportation system, wildlife and environment;
- Fund** programs and infrastructure that allow the city to reduce waste associated with disposable bags and other single-use products;
- Purchase and install** equipment designed to minimize bag pollution, including, recycling containers, and waste receptacles associated with disposable bags and other single-use products;
- Fund** community cleanup events and other activities that reduce trash associated with disposable bags and single-use products;

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- g. ~~Mitigate~~**Mitigation for** the effects of disposable bags and single-use products on the city's drainage system, transportation system, wildlife, and environment;
- h. ~~Conduct~~**Studies of disposable bag usage and the impact of the disposable bag fee in Denver;**
- i. **Studies on waste reduction, reuse and recycling systems, material flow, economic and greenhouse gas impacts of circularity, lifecycle assessments, and end markets;**
- j. ~~Maintain~~**Maintenance** of a public website **and educational programs and resources** that educate ~~residents~~**community members** on the progress of waste reduction efforts associated with disposable bags, ~~and~~ single-use products, **circularity, and citywide waste policies;**
- k. ~~Develop a task force to analyze the data and impact, and to recommend improvements.~~
- k. **Programs, policies, events, and infrastructure to advance Denver's circular economy, such as reuse and repair initiatives;**
- l. **Programs, policies, and infrastructure that support local and regional end markets for diverted materials;**
- m. **Education, coordination, resources, and compliance-related support for citywide universal recycling and composting requirements impacting multi-family and commercial properties, permitted events, and construction and demolition projects; and**
- n. **Special or catalytic investments into the city's residential solid waste programs that support citywide waste diversion goals.**

6. City Attorney assigned to this request (if applicable): Kristin Brainerd, [Kristin.Brainerd@denvergov.org](mailto:Kristin.Brainerd@denvergov.org)

7. City Council District: All

8. **\*\*For all contracts, fill out and submit accompanying Key Contract Terms worksheet\*\***

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