

Press



Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Legislator Coker to Hold Public Discussion on Proposal to Ban Distribution of Free Disposable Shopping Bags

Environmental Committee to Weigh Local Law at Meeting on Wednesday, December 10, 2008, 7:30 p.m.

New City, NY (December 8, 2008) – Rockland County Legislator Connie Coker, Chairwoman of the Environmental Committee invites the Rockland public to join in a discussion regarding recommendations for a local law proposed to eliminate free disposable shopping bags and encourage the use of reusable shopping bags. The discussion will take place at the Wednesday, December 10th meeting of the Environmental Committee.

Legislator Coker has been researching environmental issues that are associated with shopping bags for several years. “The effects of the manufacture and disposal of bags on the environment are problematic and long-term,” said Legislator Coker. “Plastic bags litter our environment, harm our wildlife and are costly and difficult to recycle. Paper bags, which may seem much less noxious, are harmful for similar reasons.”

“I welcome comments from the public. I have also invited representatives from retail establishments and the plastic and paper bag manufacturing and recycling industries to speak,” said Legislator Coker. “Collective input will result in a well crafted proposal that will be beneficial to our environment, shoppers and retail establishments.”

Added Coker, “ I am committed to protecting our quality of life and the environment while finding ways to reduce the costs to the taxpayer of recycling and garbage disposal. The current state of our economy has brought economists and environmentalists together to solve the problems of reckless spending and wasteful practices that harm our communities. ”

The Environmental Committee meeting will take place in the Rockland County Legislative Chambers at 11 New Hempstead Rd., New City, NY.

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