



Fulton County Board of Commissioners
Agenda Item Summary

19-0322

BOC Meeting Date
 4/17/19

Requesting Agency
 Commissioners (Pitts)

Commission Districts Affected
 All Districts

APPROVAL
Presentation of Proclamations and Certificates.

Requirement for Board Action *(Cite specific Board policy, statute or code requirement)*

Is this Item related to a Strategic Priority Area? *(If yes, note strategic priority area below)*

Is this a purchasing item?
 No

Summary & Background *(First sentence includes Agency recommendation. Provide an executive summary of the action that gives an overview of the relevant details for the item.)*

REQUEST APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION ELIMINATING THE USE OF SINGLE-USE PLASTIC PRODUCTS IN FULTON COUNTY OWNED, OPERATED, AND LEASED BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Contract & Compliance Information *(Provide Contractor and Subcontractor details.)*

Agency Director Approval		County Manager's Approval
Typed Name and Title	Phone	
Signature	Date	

Revised 03/12/09 (Previous versions are obsolete)

Agency Director Approval		County Manager's Approval
Typed Name and Title	Phone	
Signature	Date	

Revised 03/12/09 (Previous versions are obsolete)

Solicitation Information	NON-MFBE	MBE	FBE	TOTAL
No. Bid Notices Sent:				
No. Bids Received:				

Total Contract Value	.
Total M/FBE Values	.
Total Prime Value	.

Fiscal Impact / Funding Source *(Include projected cost, approved budget amount and account number, source of funds, and any future funding requirements.)*

.

Exhibits Attached *(Provide copies of originals, number exhibits consecutively, and label all exhibits in the upper right corner.)*

Source of Additional Information *(Type Name, Title, Agency and Phone)*

Agency Director Approval		County Manager's Approval
Typed Name and Title	Phone	
Signature	Date	

Revised 03/12/09 (Previous versions are obsolete)

Procurement

Contract Attached: .		Previous Contracts: .	
Solicitation Number: .	Submitting Agency: .	Staff Contact: .	Contact Phone: .

Description:.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Total Contract Value:		MBE/FBE Participation:	
Original Approved Amount: .		Amount: .	%. .
Previous Adjustments: .		Amount: .	%. .
This Request: .		Amount: .	%. .
TOTAL: .		Amount: .	%. .

Grant Information Summary:

Amount Requested: .	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cash
Match Required: .	<input type="checkbox"/>	In-Kind
Start Date: .	<input type="checkbox"/>	Approval to Award
End Date: .	<input type="checkbox"/>	Apply & Accept
Match Account \$: .		

Funding Line 1: .	Funding Line 2: .	Funding Line 3: .	Funding Line 4: .
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KEY CONTRACT TERMS

Start Date: .	End Date: .
Cost Adjustment: .	Renewal/Extension Terms: .

ROUTING & APPROVALS
(Do not edit below this line)

.	Originating Department:	.	Date: .
.	County Attorney:	.	Date: .
.	Purchasing/Contract Compliance:	.	Date: .
.	Finance/Budget Analyst/Grants Admin:	.	Date: .
.	Grants Management:	.	Date: .
.	County Manager:	.	Date: .

1 **A RESOLUTION ELIMINATING THE USE OF SINGLE-USE PLASTIC PRODUCTS IN**
2 **FULTON COUNTY OWNED, OPERATED, AND LEASED BUILDINGS AND**
3 **FACILITIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**
4

5 **WHEREAS**, according to the Earth Day Network, Americans use more than 100
6 billion plastic shopping bags and 25 billion styrofoam cups every year, in addition to 500
7 million plastic straws every day; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the United Nations white paper entitled “Single-Use Plastics A
9 Roadmap for Sustainability” found that while certain plastics can be recycled, the vast
10 majority of single-use plastics, such as to-go food containers and cutlery, drinking
11 straws, plastic bags, and drink containers, are rarely recycled, and are instead
12 discarded into solid waste, landfill and litter; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Jenna Jambeck, of the University of Georgia, writes in her April
14 2018 paper for the Smithsonian Institution that single-use plastic items often end up in
15 waterways and in the ocean, where they will remain in most cases for hundreds of years
16 or break down into smaller, microscopic pieces where they are ingested by marine life;
17 and

18 **WHEREAS**, the research of Dr. Anne Marie Mahon at the Galway-Mayo Institute
19 of Technology indicates that the presence of such particulate plastic, especially nano-
20 plastics, in the ecosystem may cause harm to humans by way of consumption and
21 collateral environmental effects; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the Department of Public Works has found that plastics enter the
23 County’s waterways and wastewater systems, thereby contributing to blockages which
24 are expensive to remediate; and

1 **WHEREAS**, these adverse impacts have led many cities, states, and countries
2 around the world to ban single-use plastics, and numerous local governments in the
3 United States have either adopted or considered legislation designed to ban or
4 otherwise restrict single-use plastics in their jurisdictions (e.g., lightweight plastic bags
5 are banned in Montreal (Canada), California, Hawaii (USA). Single-use Styrofoam
6 products have been banned in New York City, and Costa Rica aims to become the first
7 country in the world to eliminate single-use plastics by 2021; and

8 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Art. 9, § 2, ¶ 1 of the Georgia Constitution the Board of
9 Commissioners has legislative power to adopt clearly reasonable ordinances,
10 resolutions, or regulations relating to its property, affairs, and local government for
11 which no provision has been made by general law and which is not inconsistent with
12 this Constitution or any local law applicable thereto for the protections of its citizens; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners recognizes that many jurisdictions
14 have successfully implemented legislation to regulate and reduce the distribution of
15 single-use plastic items which has led to the development and market availability of
16 many viable alternatives to single-use plastics, such as those which are reusable, or
17 made from biodegradable materials; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners finds that eliminating the use of single-
19 use plastic products in Fulton County owned, operated, and leased buildings and
20 facilities, and instead, requiring the use of viable alternative products, will reduce the
21 amount of total plastic that will end up in Fulton County storm drains and waterways
22 through littering and the circulation of windblown debris; and

1 **WHEREAS**, to the extent not in conflict with the Americans with Disabilities Act
2 (“ADA”), where viable non-plastic alternatives are available, the Board of
3 Commissioners desires that all Fulton County departments phase out of the use of
4 single-use plastics by incrementally substituting such products with viable non-plastic
5 alternatives; and

6 **WHEREAS**, for the purposes of this Resolution, “single-use plastics” shall be
7 defined as those items listed on Fulton County’s webpage by the Fulton County Energy
8 and Sustainability Manager, in consultation with the Chief Financial Officer, as may be
9 reviewed and updated periodically; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the list, as developed by the Fulton County Energy and
11 Sustainability Manager, shall incorporate those items considered by the industry as
12 “single-use plastics” over time; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners finds that it will be in the best interest
14 of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Fulton County for the municipalities
15 located within Fulton County, to adopt policies, ordinances, and legislation to reduce the
16 distribution of single-use plastics throughout Fulton County, Georgia.

17 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Commissioners hereby
18 directs all Fulton County departments to immediately begin to phase-out the use of
19 single-use plastics by incrementally substituting such products with viable non-plastic
20 alternatives with the aim of fully eliminating the usage of all single-use plastic products,
21 within Fulton County owned, operated, and leased buildings and facilities, by January 1,
22 2020.

1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners hereby directs
2 the Fulton County Energy and Sustainability Manager, in consultation with the Chief
3 Financial Officer, to develop and maintain a list of “single-use plastics” on the Fulton
4 County webpage, which shall incorporate those items considered by the industry as
5 “single-use plastics” over time.

6 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners hereby directs
7 the Department of Purchasing and Contract Compliance to include language in all
8 subsequent procurement specifications requiring that viable non-plastic alternatives to
9 single-use plastics be used by prospective vendors in the performance of their
10 contractual obligations to Fulton County.

11 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that efforts shall be made to ensure that the
12 directives of the Board of Commissioners within this Resolution shall not be in conflict
13 with any restrictions provided for by the Americans with Disabilities Act (“ADA”).

14 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners hereby urges
15 municipalities located within Fulton County, Georgia to adopt policies, ordinances, and
16 legislation with the objective and effect of reducing the distribution of single-use plastics
17 throughout Fulton County, Georgia.

18 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Clerk to the Commission is directed to
19 provide a copy of this Resolution to each municipality located within Fulton County,
20 Georgia with the hope that adoption of this Resolution will increase awareness in the
21 community of daily decisions that consumers may make to reduce solid waste and the
22 risk of plastics entering the waste stream, storm drains, or local waterways.

