



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Dated: _____

RESOLUTION

- WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the Board of Aldermen that many Somerville residents have unwittingly become subscribed to weekly direct advertising circulars from Globe Direct; and
- WHEREAS: The City of Somerville enacted a plastic bag ordinance on or about November 25, 2015, in which retail establishments are prohibited from providing disposable plastic shopping bags to customers for the purpose of enabling the customer to carry away goods from the point of sale.
- WHEREAS: The plastic bag ordinance was enacted in part to protect the marine environment, advance solid waste reduction, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and protect waterways by reducing the number of plastic bags that are being used, discarded and littered.
- WHEREAS: The advertising circulars are typically delivered in plastic bags, which frustrates one of the goals of the plastic bag ordinance in Somerville; and
- WHEREAS: Many residents have repeatedly tried to opt out of the Globe Direct circulars yet continue to receive the circulars on a weekly basis; and
- WHEREAS: In some cases, the circular is delivered even when a written notice is posted in front of the dwelling to indicate that the resident does not want to receive it; and
- WHEREAS: Residents also complain that the plastic bags are often found on the sidewalks, in yards, and, in some cases, in the middle of the street; and
- WHEREAS: Continued delivery of unwanted circulars does not promote the City of Somerville's expressed goal of environmental sustainability or the goals of the plastic bag ordinance in Somerville;



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NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

That the Mayor be and hereby is requested to confer with all relevant city departments and engage with the leadership of Globe Direct to ensure the concerns referenced above are addressed and report back to the Board of Aldermen; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward suitably engrossed copies of this order to the president and distribution managers of Globe Direct on behalf of the entire Board of Aldermen.

President
Board of Aldermen