

Edward M. Augustus, Jr.  
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

**ORDER EXTENDING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE BAN ON PLASTIC  
SHOPPING BAGS ORDINANCE  
CHAPTER 8, SECTION 9D  
WORCESTER REVISED ORDINANCES 2008**

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 2020, Governor Charles D. Baker, acting pursuant to the powers provided by Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 and Section 2A of Chapter 17 of the General Laws, declared a state of emergency in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts due to the outbreak of the 2019 novel Coronavirus ("COVID-19"); and

**WHEREAS**, on March 15, 2020, I, Edward M. Augustus, Jr., city manager of the city of Worcester, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the city charter to act as the chief conservator of the peace within the city, and pursuant to Article Seven, Section 8 of the Worcester Revised Ordinances 2015, Part Two, declared that a state of emergency exists in the entire city of Worcester due to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 15, 2019, the Worcester City Council adopted Section 9D of Chapter 8 of the Revised Ordinances of 2018, an ordinance banning the use of certain plastic shopping bags (the "Ordinance"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Ordinance has an effective date of April 1, 2020; and

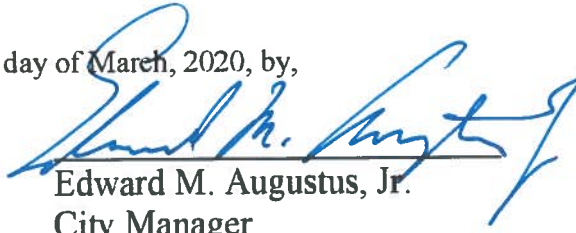
**WHEREAS**, according to the federal Center for Disease Control & Prevention current evidence suggests that novel coronavirus may remain viable for hours to days on surfaces made from a variety of materials; and

**WHEREAS**, there is evidence that viruses and bacteria can survive on reusable bags up to nine days; and

**WHEREAS**, the reports of this research has raised concerns that reusable shopping bags can sustain COVID-19 and contribute to the spread of the coronavirus; **NOW THEREFORE**, I hereby Order the following:

The effective date of the Ordinance is hereby extended to July 1, 2020.

ORDERED at City Hall this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020, by,

  
Edward M. Augustus, Jr.  
City Manager