



## ORDINANCE NO. 28664

1 BY REQUEST OF MAYOR WOODARDS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS BEALE  
2 AND THOMS

3 AN ORDINANCE suspending enforcement of Second Substitute Ordinance  
4 No. 28367 and Tacoma Municipal Code 12.09.215, entitled “Bring Your  
5 Own Bag,” passed July 12, 2016, during the declared state of emergency  
6 due to the novel coronavirus COVID-19; and declaring an emergency,  
7 making necessary the passage of this ordinance effective immediately.

8 WHEREAS the City Council approved Second Substitute Ordinance  
9 No. 28367 (“Ordinance”) on July 12, 2016, which amended Chapter 12.09 of the  
10 Tacoma Municipal Code by adding thereto a new Section 12.09.215, entitled  
11 “Bring Your Own Bag,” which prohibited the use of carryout bags except reusable  
12 carryout bags and recycled paper carryout bags, and

13 WHEREAS the Washington State Legislature recently passed SB 5323,  
14 calling for a statewide plastic bag ban at retail establishments and preempting local  
15 laws, including the City’s Ordinance, with an effective date of January 1, 2021, and

16 WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the City Council confirmed the state of  
17 emergency declared in the Mayor’s March 12, 2020, proclamation of emergency  
18 due to the novel coronavirus COVID-19, and

19 WHEREAS, due to the state of emergency, City of Tacoma grocery stores,  
20 and labor representatives of grocery workers, have requested immediate relief  
21 from the City’s Ordinance, and

22 WHEREAS, in order to protect the health and safety of their workers, who  
23 are a critical part of the food supply chain, during this global pandemic, and  
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25 WHEREAS the City affirms its long-term objectives to change  
26 manufacturing and purchasing practices, as well as waste generation behaviors, in



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order to forward the City’s environment and sustainability goal, including the enactment of statewide “Bring Your Own Bag” legislation; however, temporary suspension of the City’s Ordinance is currently in the best interests of the residents of Tacoma and the critical workers in the grocery industry; Now, Therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF TACOMA:

Section 1. That enforcement of Second Substitute Ordinance No. 28367, as codified under Tacoma Municipal Code 12.09.215, entitled “Bring Your Own Bag,” is suspended for the duration of the City of Tacoma’s declared state of emergency, declared in the Mayor’s March 12, 2020, proclamation of emergency and confirmed by the City Council on March 17, 2020, due to the novel coronavirus COVID-19.

Section 2. That, based upon the facts and conclusions as specified herein, an emergency exists, making this ordinance effective upon passage by an affirmative vote of at least six members of the City Council.

Passed \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Attest:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Approved as to form:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney