

From: [Jacobson, Jonathan](#)
To: [Rosenson, Valerie](#)
Cc: [Lee, Benjamin](#)
Subject: Fw: Mil Rate
Date: Monday, January 21, 2019 8:59:02 AM
Attachments: [Screen Shot 2019-01-20 at 9.54.52 AM.png](#)

Valerie,

Good morning, can you please include the below e-mail as part of the record for L&R's MIL thickness item?

Thanks.

Jonathan Jacobson
Stamford Board of Representatives
District 12

From: Jeanine Behr Getz <jeanine@kidsthinkbig.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 20, 2019 10:17 AM
To: Jacobson, Jonathan
Subject: Re: Mil Rate

Jonathan,

Thrilled that Stamford is considering teaming up with Norwalk and other CT Towns to create the strongest reusable checkout bag ordinances in the country.

From previous emails/discussion we have had, you may remember 12mil, at this time, is a magic number.

Plastic Checkout Bags Under 12mil:

- use more natural resources to make
- still are not "recyclable" in blue bins
- still clog drains, enter long island sound and waterways
- still cost municipalities to "manage"
- promote industry "work arounds"/substitutions vs. promote source reduction and BYO reusable
- allows for true reusable bags made from recycled plastic (i.e. like trader joes reusable bag)
- it levels the playing field and ensures all businesses, not just grocery, are positively impacting

source reduction

Recently Honolulu increased their mil thickness from 2.25mil to 10mil -

<https://www.kitv.com/story/35953116/honolulu-mayor-to-sign-latest-plastic-bag-ban-into-law>

Recently Sonoma is reporting on “substitutions” problem

- <https://www.pressdemocrat.com/news/9134734-181/5-years-after-sonoma-county>

+ During greenwich ordinance writing process, I interviewed over 17 cities and in closing always asked them what they would do differently if they could write their ordinance all over again. - Amongst increasing paper bag fee every 2-4 years, the majority stated they would have increased the mil thickness.

+ I interviewed 9 domestic and international plastic bag manufacturers. Not one manufactured a 12mil plastic bag. The thickest one manufactured was 10mil. Another one suggested, “you should just make a reusable if you want that thickness”.

Here is a slide from a presentation I gave to the CT Reusable Bag Alliance:

Why is 12 mil plastic checkout bag thickness important?:

- Because if your ordinance has anything less, your Town/City will be flooded with inferior, yet thicker, plastic checkout bags.
- The plastic bag industry has already figured out ways to get around ordinances with less than 12mil thickness requirements.
- The under 12 mil inferior plastic checkout bags:
 - Defy the "intent" of Town/City ordinances
 - DO NOT SOLVE SOURCE REDUCTION
 - Use more resources to produce, are still not recyclable, still endanger wildlife and human health and still cause municipalities \$\$\$s to manage and clean up the damage they cause.

This reusable bag is made from Low Density Polyethylene with a minimum thickness of 2.25 mil. It is partly made of post-consumer recycled material, at least 80%, it is a reusable bag and is designed for at least 125 uses. Please recycle this bag in participating stores. This product may not be recyclable in your area. This bag is ordinance compliant and does not contain lead, cadmium, or any other metals in toxic amounts. To clean, rinse bag with liquid dish soap on inside of the bag and hang upside down to dry. This bag is Made in France by TTPLAST sas and is distributed in the USA by Mettler Packacking LLC.

EXAMPLE OF INFERIOR UNDER 12mil PLASTIC CHECKOUT BAG FLOODING CALIFORNIA

I am commuting to Boca Raton for work currently and will not be able to attend your L&R meeting this Tuesday night. Hopefully the above information is helpful. BYONorwalk Leader,

Betty Ball, I believe will attend, as well as Jack Egan from Surfrider Foundation CT.

I would be available to Skype and/or call in if necessary.

Thank you again for your consideration.

Best to you,
Jeanine

Jeanine Behr Getz
Kids Think Big LLC
(t) 917.297.4537
(f) 203.552.5334
PO Box 11013
Greenwich, CT 06831
www.kidsthinkbig.com
[instagram](#) [twitter](#) [facebook](#)



On Jan 18, 2019, at 6:26 PM, Tom Livingston <tomlivingston1@gmail.com> wrote:

Jonathan,

Per our conversation today, I spoke to Jeanine and told her you would contact her regarding the mil rate. I've copied her on this email and her phone number 203-869-8346.

Tom

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Thomas P. Livingston
23 Crockett Street
Rowayton, CT 06853

Tel: 203.866.8441

Fax: 203.838.2881

Cell: 203.545.2451

tomlivingston1@gmail.com