

PROCLAMATION

CITY OF LIBERTY LAKE, WASHINGTON

WHEREAS, The City of Liberty Lake recognizes that the use of *reusable* bags is an integral part in promoting a sustainable environment that involves all segments of the community – business, environmental groups, local government and consumers – all working cooperatively; and

WHEREAS, In 1999, 14 million trees were harvested to produce 10 billion grocery bags. The production of paper sacks generate 70% more air and 50% more water pollutants than plastic bags; and

WHEREAS, United States uses 100 billion plastic shopping bags annually and an estimated 12 million barrels of oil are necessary to produce bags. Society's consumption rate is estimated at over 500 billion plastic bags annually or almost 1 million per minute. One billion single use bags are given out each day; and


WHEREAS, the annual consumption of disposable bags in the Spokane region is nearly 70 million. A high quality reusable bag has the potential to eliminate over 1,000 plastic bags in its lifetime; and

WHEREAS, The Washington Food Industry is working closely with local grocers to promote the use of reusable shopping bags; and

WHEREAS, The City encourages reusable grocery bag usage in conjunction with City of Liberty Lake outreach programs through Spokane Regional Solid Waste System campaigns and similar outreach promotions. The City of Liberty Lake also encourages reduction of greenhouse gas emissions within the City by using reusable shopping bags; and

WHEREAS, The Washington Food Industry and local grocers are promoting the use of reusable shopping bags through its "*Choose Reusable*" bag campaign; whereby local grocers are taking the lead to promote reusable bag use throughout the Spokane region.

NOW, THEREFORE, I Wendy Van Orman, Mayor of the City of Liberty Lake resolved that the City of Liberty Lake Proclaims November 18, 2008, the First Day of the Reusable Bag Era.


Mayor, Wendy Van Orman