CITY OF DANA POINT

I. INTRODUCTION

Project Title: Municipal Code Amendment to Prohibit the Distribution of Expanded Polystyrene (Styrofoam) Food Service Ware at Local Food Vendors, City Facilities and City-Sponsored Events. The City of Dana Point proposes to adopt an ordinance to prohibit Expanded Polystyrene (EPS, commonly known as Styrofoam) disposable food containers.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM

- 2. Lead Agency Name and Address: City of Dana Point, Community Development Department, 33282 Golden Lantern, Suite 212, Dana Point, CA 92629
- 3. Contact Person and Phone Number: Christy Teague, Economic Development Manager (949) 248-3519
- 4. Project Location: Citywide
- 5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address: City of Dana Point, 33282 Golden Lantern #212, Dana Point, CA 92629; (949) 248-3519
- 6. General Plan Designation: Various
- 7. Zoning: All Zoning Districts
- 8. Description of Project: Prohibit the Distribution of Expanded Polystyrene (EPS or Styrofoam) Food Service Ware at Local Food Vendors, City Facilities and City-Sponsored Events.

<u>Objectives</u>

The environmental analysis has been conducted in the attached initial study for a proposed ordinance to prohibit the distribution of expanded polystyrene (EPS, commonly known as Styrofoam) disposable food containers in the City of Dana Point. EPS is a significant component of litter in the environment, is not biodegradable, and remains indefinitely in the environment. EPS commonly breaks up into small pieces that disperse widely, are difficult to clean up, and can be ingested by marine animals, birds and other wildlife that mistake pieces of EPS for food. Studies have shown that EPS does not biodegrade, has adverse effects on marine wildlife and the marine environment, and can cause death to marine animals and birds. Not all EPS litter found in Dana Point and its nearby marine environment originates in the City; however, the proposed project would decrease EPS debris generated in the City. The ordinance would prohibit food vendors from selling or providing prepared food to customers in EPS food service containers and would prohibit use of EPS at City facilities and City-sponsored events. The goal of the project is to reduce the amount of persistent litter

entering the environment. The environmental analysis is required prior to adoption of the Municipal Code Amendment by the City of Dana Point.

9. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting (Briefly describe the project's surroundings):

Environmental Setting

The City of Dana Point is located in south Orange County, California and is bounded by the City of Laguna Beach to the west, the City of Laguna Niguel to the north, the City of San Juan Capistrano and San Clemente and to the east, and by the Pacific Ocean to west and south. Dana Point encompasses a total area of 6.5 square miles and is approximately 90 percent developed. The topography of Dana Point consists of rolling terrain with an elevation variation from approximately 400 feet above sea level to sea level at the ocean.

- 10. Approvals required: Ordinance Approval by the City of Dana Point City Council
- 11. Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required: None

II. ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

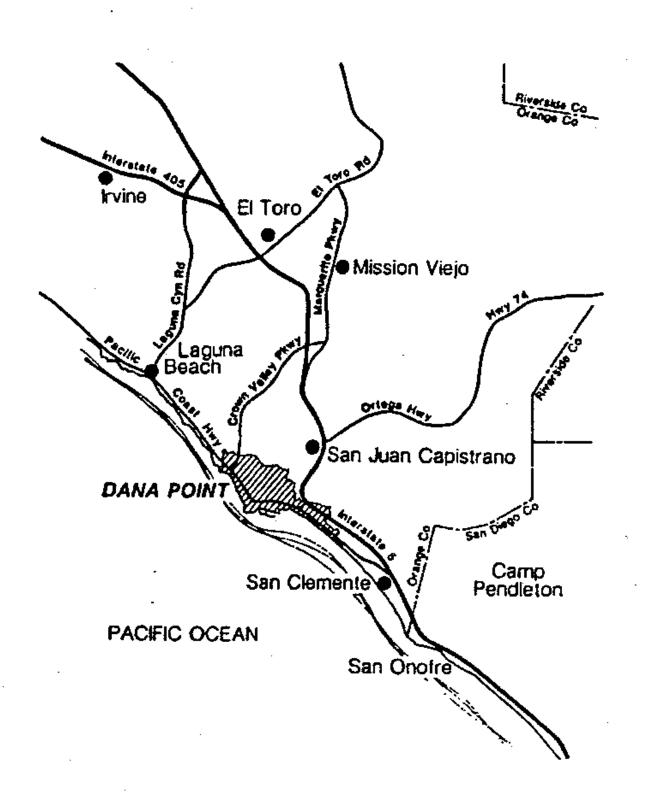
The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

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Aesthetics	Agricultural Resources		Air Quality
Biological Resources	Cultural Resources		Geology/Soils
Hazards & Hazardous Materials	Hydrology/Water Quality		Land Use/Planning
Mineral Resources	Noise		Population/Housing
Public Services	Recreation		Transportation/Traffic
Utilities/Service Systems	Mandatory Findings of Significar	nce	

	ETERMINATION : (To be completed by e basis of this initial evaluation:	the Lead Agency.)
	I find that the proposed project COULD environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLAR	NOT have a significant effect on the ARATION will be prepared.
	I find that although the proposed project environment, there will not be a significant the project have been made by or agree MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION	cant effect in this case because revisions in sed to be the project proponent. A
	I find that the proposed project MAY had an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT R	ave a significant effect on the environment EPORT is required.
	"potentially significant unless mitigated one effect 1) has been adequately an applicable legal standards, and 2) has based on the earlier analysis as	have a "potentially significant impact" of d" impact on the environment, but at least alyzed in an earlier document pursuant to been addressed by mitigation measures described on attached sheets. Ar is required, but it must analyze only the
	environment, because all potentially sadequately in an earlier EIR or NEO applicable standards, and (b) have be earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLAR	ject could have a significant effect on the significant effects (a) have been analyzed SATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to the een avoided or mitigated pursuant to that ATION , including revisions or mitigation the proposed project, nothing further is
Nove	mber 10, 2011	/s/ Kyle Butterwick
Date		Signature
		City of Dana Point For
		Kyle Butterwick Director of Community Development City of Dana Point 33282 Golden Lantern Dana Point, CA 92629 (949) 248-3563

FIGURE 1: REGIONAL LOCATION MAP



EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

- A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- 4) "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from Section XVII, "Earlier Analysis," may be cross-referenced).
- Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063 (c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
 - a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
 - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
- 7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
- 8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
- 9) The explanation of each issue should identify:
 - a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
 - b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

1.	AESTHETICS – Would the pro	ject:	Potentially		
		Potentially Significant Impact	Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?				
b)	Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic building within a state scenic highway?				
c)	Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?				
d)	Create a new source of substantial light or glare, which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?				
Ex	planation of Checklist Judgments:				
. (a-d). No Impact : Expanded Polystrene (EPS) is a signific Often, EPS is white or brightly colored, creating a significan is currently aesthetically detrimental. Even when they have easily break down into smaller pieces, which are so light the wind, creating a significant eyesore throughout the condetrimental. Adoption of a prohibition of EPS food ware thereby decreasing the amount of EPS that become litter a would not adversely affect any scenic vistas, damage is character, and will not create a source of substantial light of and no further investigation is required.	t eyesore the been disp at they float mmunity, v would pround improvirescenic resc	nroughout the cosed of propert in water and which is curbibit EPS day visual aest purces, degrees.	e commur perly, EPS d get carr rrently ae istribution sthetics. T ade existi	nity, which or products ied by the sthetically Citywide, he project ing visual
2.	AGRICULTURE RESOURCES - In determining whether significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the Califormodel to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmla	the Califor ornia Dept.	rnia Agricultu of Conserva	ıral Land E	Evaluation
a)	Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				•
b)	Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	r 🔲			
c)	Involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?				

carrying the heavier, bulkier paper products.

foo Fai	a-c). No Impact: The proposed project involves the adopted ware distribution Citywide, and will have no impact on largermland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, or land within pact is anticipated and no further investigation is required.	nd designa	ted as Prime	e Farmlan	d, Unique		
3.	by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make						
	the following determinations. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact		
a)	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?						
b)	Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?						
c)	Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?			•			
d)	Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?						
e)	Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?						
Poi	3 (c). Less Than Significant Impact: There is a potential that the banning of EPS in the City of Dana Point may result in an increase in alternative paper product usage. The manufacture and distribution of paper products may consume more energy than for EPS products. This increased use of energy could have an impact on the environment by increasing emissions from power plants and possibility from trucks						

The population of Dana Point, however, is only 33,351 according to the 2010 Census. There are approximately 108 restaurant and food service businesses within the City which might use EPS. The City conducted a comprehensive survey of restaurants and food service businesses in June 2009, and found

38% of restaurants do not use any EPS products. The most common form of EPS product used is Expanded Polystyrene cups, which at the time of the survey was used in 43.5% of restaurants and food service businesses.

Based on the foregoing, it appears that any increase in the total use of alternative paper products in Dana Point (and even considering it as a cumulative increase from the bans in other cities) would be relatively small with a minimal or nonexistent increase in energy consumption. Therefore, the project should not conflict with nor obstruct AQMP implementation, and no further investigation is required.

3 (d). No Impact: The project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations or create objectionable odors.

4.	BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES –				
	Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				
b)	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				
c)	Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				
d)	Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?				
e)	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as tree preservation policy or ordinance?				
f)	Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				

4 (a-f). No Impact: The project consists of the adoption of an ordinance which would ban EPS food ware, thereby decreasing the prevalence of EPS litter in the marine environment in and near the City. The proposed project is not expected to result in any impacts to federally protected wetlands. It is not expected to substantially interfere with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or impact any native wildlife nursery sites. The proposed project does not conflict with any adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan or other local or regional conservation plans.

EPS debris is a major pollutant of coastal waters. EPS is a petroleum-based plastic resin which, in its "foamed" or "expanded" state is frequently used for food packaging or containers. EPS is not biodegradable, thus EPS litter remains indefinitely in the environment where it breaks up into small pieces that disperse widely. EPS is difficult to clean up and can be ingested by marine and wildlife that mistake EPS pieces for food. EPS debris poses a risk to the fragile ecological balance because wildlife ingestion of EPS can result in reduced appetite and nutrient absorption and death by starvation. While it may be difficult to ascertain the exact numbers of marine life which perish every year due to ingestion of or choking on EPS debris, there are numerous anecdotal accounts of marine life being discovered with EPS debris in their stomachs. A study of beach debris at 43 sites along Orange County found that EPS was the second-most abundant form of beach debris. While EPS is technically recyclable, there is no meaningful recycling of EPS food containers due to high food contamination rates and a weak market because of the cost to clean, handle, and process EPS material.

Reducing the distribution and use of EPS in Dana Point will have only a modest positive impact on the migration of EPS debris into the ocean. However, as a coastal City, the imposition of the ban is likely to have some modest impact on improving water quality and removing a potential biohazard from the marine environment. The proposed project would not result in substantial adverse effect, directly or through habitat modification on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive or special species. The adoption of the ordinance would not adversely affect riparian habitats or other sensitive natural communities identified in local or regional plans, policies or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services. A prohibition of EPS is anticipated to result in a positive effect on species and habitats. No impacts to listed species or habitat plans are anticipated, and no further investigation is required.

Consequently, no impacts to biological resources are anticipated. No further investigation is required.

5.	Mould the project	CULTURAL RESOURCES -				
a)	Would the project: change in the significance of in § 15064.5?	Cause a substantial adverse a historical resource as defined	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b)	change in the significance of pursuant to § 15064.5?	Cause a substantial adverse an archaeological resource				
c)	unique paleontological resou feature?	Directly or indirectly destroy a rce or site or unique geologic				
d)	including those interred outsi	Disturb any human remains, de of formal cemeteries?				

5 (a-d). No Impact: The proposed project involves the adoption of an ordinance to ban distribution of EPS food ware Citywide and does not include any development or alterations of physical sites or structures. The City's General Plan indicates that previously prepared cultural resources studies for the City have identified archeological sites in Dana Point. The project would not directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site, nor disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries. Consequently, there is no impact and no further research is necessary.

6.	GEOLOGY AND SOILS -				
	Would the project:				
a)	Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
j	Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area of based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.				•
ii	Strong seismic ground shaking?				
iii	Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?				
iv	Landslides?				
b)	Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?				
c)	Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off- site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?				
d)	Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18- 1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?				
e)	Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?				

6 (a-e). No Impact: The project does not include any development; therefore, the project would not expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects involving rupture of a known earthquake fault, strong seismic ground shaking, seismic-related ground failure, liquefaction, landslides, or substantial soil erosion or loss of top soil. A prohibition of distribution of EPS food ware would not result in future development that would be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable, or result in offsite landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse as a result of the project. No further investigation is required.

7. **HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS** – Would the project:

a)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impac
b)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?				
c)	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				
d)	Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				
e)	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				
f)	For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				
g)	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				

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h)	Expose people or structures to				
	a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?				
Ex	planation of Checklist Judgments:				
wai ma City cre ord sigi Poi	a-h). No Impact: The project involves the adoption of an re in the City of Dana Point and does not cause increased terials or create a public or safety hazard or affect existing y is not within an airport land use plan or within two miles of ate or result in a safety hazard for people residing or we linance would not affect emergency procedures or result in inficant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires. The those not contain any major wild land fire or urban fire in posed project would not increase fire hazards in the City.	use, disponence was disposed in the contract of the contract o	esal or disrunces perport and the project as of people people people people.	iption of hallans or roule project wrea. The pror structuindicates the	azardous ites. The rould no proposed res to a nat Dana
8.	HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY – Would the project:				
		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?				
b)	Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?				•
c)	Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner, which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off- site?				
d)	Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner, which would result in flooding on or off site?				
e)	Create or contribute runoff water, which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?				
f)	Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?				

		Potentially Significant Impact	Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
g)	Place housing within a 100- year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate map or other flood hazard delineation map?				
h)	Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures, which would impede or redirect flood flows?				
i)	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				
j)	Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?				
k)	Result in an increase in pollutant discharges to receiving waters? Consider water quality parameters such as temperature, dissolved oxygen, turbidity and other typical stormwater pollutants (e.g. heavy metals, pathogens, petroleum derivatives, synthetic organics, sediment, nutrients, oxygen-demanding substances, and trash)				
1)	Result in significant alteration of receiving water quality during or following construction?				
m)	Could the proposed project result in increased erosion downstream?				
n)	Result in increased impervious surfaces and associated increased runoff?				
o)	Create a significant adverse environmental impact to drainage patterns due to changes in runoff flow rates or volumes?				
p)	Tributary to an already impaired water body, as listed on the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list? If so, can it result in an increase in any pollutant for which the water body is already impaired?				
q)	Tributary to other environmentally sensitive areas? If so, can it exacerbate already existing sensitive conditions?				

		Significant Potentially Significant Impact	Unless Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
r)	Have a potentially significant environmental impact on surface water quality to either marine, fresh, or wetland waters?				
s)	Have a potentially significant adverse impact on groundwater quality?				
t)	Cause or contribute to an exceedance of applicable surface or groundwater receiving water quality objectives or degradation of beneficial uses?				
u)	Impact aquatic, wetland, or riparian habitat?				

8 (a-u). No Impact: The proposed project does not involve any development; therefore, would not violate water quality standards or water discharge requirements. Furthermore, the proposed reduction of EPS distribution and usage would not generate increased use of groundwater, alter existing drainage patterns, increase surface water runoff or degrade water quality. The project does not involve placing structures within a 100-year flood hazard area or impede and redirect flood flow. The project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury of death involving flooding, or inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflow. The proposed project is anticipated to have a positive impact on water quality by reducing the potential for EPS debris entering storm drains and the ocean from the Dana Point area.

The proposed project would not involve routine waste discharges that would be in conflict with water quality standards established by the State Regional Water Quality Control Board. The long-term operation of the proposed project would not have any impacts on groundwater supplies. Additionally, the proposed project would not interfere with ground water recharge. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in adverse impacts to underground water supplies.

Tsunamis are seismically induced sea waves generated by offshore earthquake, submarine landslide, or volcanic activity. The City's General Plan indicates that because the location and orientation of Dana Point the occurrence of life or property-threatening tsunami is not likely. Implementation of the proposed project would not increase the likelihood of a tsunami occurring.

There is a potential that the banning of EPS in the City of Dana Point may result in an increase in alternative paper product usage. The population of Dana Point, however, is only 33,351 according to the 2010 Census. There are only 108 restaurant and food service businesses within the City. The City conducted a comprehensive survey of restaurants and food service businesses in June 2009, and found 38% of restaurants do not use any EPS products. The most common form of EPS product used is Expanded Polystyrene cups, which the survey found was used in 43.5% of restaurants and food service businesses.

EPS debris is a major pollutant of coastal waters. EPS is a petroleum-based plastic resin which, in its "foamed" or "expanded" state is frequently used for food packaging or containers. EPS is not biodegradable, thus EPS litter remains indefinitely in the environment where it breaks up into small pieces that disperse widely. EPS is difficult to clean up and can be ingested by marine and wildlife that mistake EPS pieces for food. EPS debris poses a risk to the fragile ecological balance because wildlife ingestion of

EPS can result in reduced appetite and nutrient absorption and death by starvation. While it may be difficult to ascertain the exact numbers of marine life which perish every year due to ingestion of or choking on EPS debris, there are numerous anecdotal accounts of marine life being discovered with EPS debris in their stomachs. A study of beach debris at 43 sites along the Orange County coast found that EPS was the second-most abundant form of beach debris. While EPS is technically recyclable, there is no meaningful recycling of EPS food containers due to high food contamination rates and a weak market because of the cost to clean, handle, and process EPS material.

Reducing the distribution and use of EPS in Dana Point will have only a modest positive impact on the migration of EPS debris into the ocean. However, as a coastal City, the imposition of the ban is likely to have some modest impact on improving water quality and removing a potential biohazard from the marine environment.

Based on the foregoing, it appears that any increase in the use of alternative paper products resulting from the proposed ban on EPS in Dana Point would be relatively small. This is counterbalanced by a modest reduction in EPS refuse generated in a coastal region. Consequently, no impacts to hydrology and water quality are anticipated and no further investigation is required.

9.	LAND USE AND PLANNING - Would the project:				
	- would the project.	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Physically divide an established community?				
b)	Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?				
c)	Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?				

- **9 (a). No Impact**: The proposed project involves the adoption of an ordinance which would ban distribution of EPS Citywide. The project does not physically divide an established community. No further investigation is required.
- **9 (b,c). No Impact**: The proposed ordinance would not conflict with any applicable land use plan and policy or conflict with any habitat or natural community conservation plans. Furthermore, the proposed ordinance would complement the water pollution policies of the City of Dana Point to protect marine resources by decreasing the prevalence of EPS litter. The project would result in beneficial impacts to litter prevention efforts Citywide. No further investigation is required.

10.	Would the project	MINERAL RESOURCES -				
	Would the project:		Potentially Significant Impact	Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	of a known mineral resource region and the residents of the					
b)	of a locally important mineral delineated on a local general land use plan?					
Exp	planation of Checklist Judgr	nents:				
stat Dar are	e, regional, or local mineral na Point that contain Significa	posed project is the adoption of resources. The City's General ant Mineral Aggregate Resources in impact or interference with resources.	Plan identi e Areas. N	fies that the o impacts to	ere are no o mineral r	areas in esources
11.	result in:	NOISE – Would the project				
a)	generation of noise levels in established in the local generapplicable standards of other	al plan or noise ordinance, or				
b)	generation of excessive grou groundborne noise levels?	Exposure of persons to or ndborne vibration or				
c)	increase in ambient noise lev above levels existing without					
d)	periodic increase in ambient vicinity above levels existing					
e)	airport land use plan or, where adopted, within two miles of a airport, would the project exp in the project area to excession	a public airport or public use ose people residing or working				
f)	of a private airstrip, would the residing or working in the pro levels?					

e)

Other public facilities?

- 11 (a-d). No Impact: The project would not expose people to, or generate, noise levels in excess of standards established in the General Plan Noise Element or the Dana Point Noise Ordinance. The proposed ordinance would not expose people to excessive ground vibration or result in a substantial permanent or a temporary increase of ambient noise. No further investigation is required.
- No Impact: The proposed ordinance is effective Citywide, but will not cause any additional exposure to airport noise. According to the City's General Plan, Dana Point is not significantly impacted by aircraft noise. Additionally, there are no private airstrips in the city. Implementation of the proposed project would not expose people residing in or working in Dana Point to excessive aircraft noise impacts. No further investigation is required.

	·				
12.	POPULATION AND HOUSING – Would the project:				
		Significant Potentially Significant Impact	Unless Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				
b)	Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				
c)	Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				
Exp	planation of Checklist Judgments:				
dec	(a-c). No Impact: The proposed project includes the adopticrease, or otherwise affect population or local population or housing would occur as a result of the proposed propos	growth ra	ites. Therefo	ore, no in	pacts to
13.	PUBLIC SERVICES				
phy con	ould the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts all altered governmental facilities, need for new or physication of which could cause significant environmental impacts, response times or other performance objectives for any or	ysically alte acts, in orde	ered governr er to maintair	nental fac	ilities, the
a)	Fire Protection?				
b)	Police Protection?				
c)	Schools?				
d)	Parks?				
e)	Other public facilities?				

13 (a-d). No Impact: The proposed project is the adoption of an ordinance to ban distribution and use of EPS Citywide and does not involve Public Safety, School, or Parks services. No further investigation is required.

13 (e). Less Than Significant Impact: The implementation of the ordinance is anticipated to involve comparable staff resources to similar ordinances previously adopted by the City of Dana Point. Any impacts to government services and facilities are anticipated to be less than significant, and no further investigation is required.

14.	RECREATION	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) b)	Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated? Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	e			
Exp	olanation of Checklist Judgments:				
of r	(a-b). No Impact: the proposed project is the adoption of a ecreational facilities. The project does not require the construction of the ecreation of the ecrea	ruction or exp	oansion of red		
15.	TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC – Would the project:				
a)	Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?				
b)	Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion/management agency for designated roads or highways?				
c)	Result in a change in air traffi patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	ic			
d)	Substantially increase hazard due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				
e)	Result in inadequate emergency access?				

			Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	
f)	capacity?	Result in inadequate parking					
g)	plans, or programs supportin (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle ra						
Ex	olanation of Checklist Judgr	ments:					
bar	distribution and use of EPS	at Impact : The proposed project in the proposed project in a contract of service, or air traffic patterns.	ectly affect				
alte	ernative paper product usage	anning of EPS in the City of which has more mass and we hipping paper products to retail	ight per squ	uare foot con			
app con 38% Exp	The population of Dana Point, however, is only 33,351 according to the 2010 Census. There are approximately 108 restaurant and food service businesses within the City which might use EPS. The City conducted a comprehensive survey of restaurants and food service businesses in June 2009, and found 38% of restaurants do not use any EPS products. The most common form of EPS product used is Expanded Polystyrene cups, which at the time of the survey was used in 43.5% of restaurants and food service businesses.						
Poi		irs that any increase in the tota s a cumulative increase from t int increase in truck traffic.					
		ect is the adoption of an ordinar nazards, impacts to emergency					
	(g). No Impact : The project rnative transportation. No furt	ct would not conflict with adop her investigation is required.	ted policies	s, plans, or p	rograms sı	upporting	
16.	UTILITIES AND SERVICE S	YSTEMS – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	
a)	requirements of the applicable Control Board?	Exceed wastewater treatment e Regional Water Quality					
b)		Require or result in the wastewater treatment facilities ties, the construction of which onmental effects?					
c)	construction of new storm wa	Require or result in the ster drainage facilities or					

	expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				
d)	Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?				
e)	Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				
f)	Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?				
g)	Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?				
Ex	planation of Checklist Judgments:				
req wa	(a-e). No Impact: The proposed project involves the adopt of EPS Citywide. The adoption of the proposed ordinanc unirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board or stewater treatment facility or expansion of existing facilities. The supply or wastewater capacity. No further investigation is re-	e would n result in o he project	ot affect wa construction	stewater to	reatment water or
City sub foo pro	(f). Less Than Significant Impact: While the ordinance ywide, it would allow paper products to be used. Substituted postitution of paper products for plastic that does occur, althout compared to EPS, would not significantly impact landfill ducts are more biodegradable than EPS and the City of Daijonal landfill users. No further investigation is required.	paper prod ugh larger capacity s	ucts can also in mass and since a large	become l weight pe or portion	itter. The er square of pape
	(g). No Impact: The proposed ordinance complies with federulations related to solid waste. No further investigation is requ		and local sta	tutes and	
۷.	MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE:				
		Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare of endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?				-

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b)	Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulative considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of				
	other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?				
c)	Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?				

V. (a-c). No Impact: The proposed project involves the adoption of an ordinance to ban distribution of EPS and does not include any development. The proposed ordinance does not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment or substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop, or threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community. The project would not eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. The project would not have environmental effects or substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. Furthermore, the proposed ordinance would decrease the prevalence of EPS litter in the marine environment, which adversely impacts marine wildlife. The proposed ordinance would decrease the prevalence of EPS litter in the City. The local impacts of potentially-increased paper product usage is anticipated to be insignificant because any increase in paper product usage resulting from the ordinance would be uncertain and small due to the small number of restaurants and food service businesses in the City of Dana Point. Furthermore, the impacts of the project in areas outside the City itself are indirect and difficult to predict. The ban would have a small contributive effect on the broad impacts because any increase in paper product production would be insubstantial. Therefore, the cumulative impacts of the proposed ordinance are insignificant given the small numbers of businesses impacted within of the City of Dana Point.

VI. DETERMINATION

Based upon the evidence in light of the whole record documented in the above evaluation and cited references, I find that the proposed project would not have a significant impact on the environment and a Negative Declaration has been prepared.

VII. REFERENCES

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Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution: Plastics in Our Oceans, www.whoi.edu/science/B/people/kamaral/plasticsarticle, 2008.

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Kyle Butterwick, Community Development Director Christy Teague, AICP, Economic Development Manager Document comparison by Workshare Professional on Wednesday, November 09, 2011 4:20:09 PM

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