ORDINANCE NO. 828, S-2021

AN ORDINANCE ALLOWING THE USE OF BIODEGRADABLE PLASTIC BAGS IN THE CITY OF MANDALUYONG, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 2 AND 4 OF ORDINANCE NO. 523, S-2013, BY EXCLUDING FROM THE DEFINITION OF PLASTIC BAG, BIODEGRADABLE PLASTIC BAG

WHEREAS, on November 21, 2013, Ordinance No. 523, S-2013 otherwise known as the “Ordinance Regulating the Use of Plastic Bags and Styrophors in All Commercial and Business Establishments in the City of Mandaluyong and Prescribing Penalties Thereof” was approved into law, providing a phase-out schedule for the use of plastic bags and styrophors;

WHEREAS, though they were already made known to the public during the committee hearings, the novelty of the technology of biodegradable plastic bags left many questions on its effects to the environment. Hence, it was decided to still include it in the definition of plastic bag regulated by the Ordinance;

WHEREAS, through these years, advancement of technology on the manufacture and development of plastic products has paved way for the global acceptance of the use of biodegradable plastics;

WHEREAS, biodegradable plastics are those that can decompose naturally in the environment. Although generally made from traditional petrochemicals, they are designed to break down faster. They have additives that speed up their rate of decay or breakdown in the presence of oxygen and light. The presence of moisture also accelerates the breakdown process. The makeup structure of biodegradable plastics makes them easily break down by natural microorganisms, giving an end product that is less harmful to the environment. As such, biodegradable plastics are perceived to be more eco-friendly due to their environmental benefits, which are hard to deny compared to ordinary plastics;

WHEREAS, there is a need to reconsider the definition of plastic bags and exclude biodegradable plastic bags from the coverage of Ordinance No. 523, S-2013.

BE IT ENACTED by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Mandaluyong in session assembled:
Section 1. Upon the effectivity of this Ordinance, the use of biodegradable plastic bags shall be allowed in the City of Mandaluyong.

Section 2. Section 2 of Ordinance No. 523, S-2013 is hereby amended to read:

"SECTION 2. DEFINITION OF TERMS. For purposes of this Ordinance, the following shall be understood, as follows:

a. Plastic Bags - refer to "carry all bag" such as but not limited to plastic labo, sando bags, basura bags and handled plastic bags used by merchants in all business and commercial establishments. It excludes biodegradable plastic bags.

a-1. Biodegradable plastic bags - refer to those plastic bags that duly have procured Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) from the Department of Science and Technology (DOST). These biodegradable plastic bags must have printed/embossed labels with the following information: ETV registration number, name of bag manufacturer, and the date of manufacture.

All commercial and business establishments that wish to use biodegradable plastic bags shall communicate in writing their intention to the Business Permit and Licensing Department (BPLD) of Mandaluyong City; submit proof of biodegradability of the plastic bags, and execute and sign any document deemed necessary for the purpose.

Section 3. Section 4 of Ordinance No. 523, S-2013 is hereby amended to read:

"SECTION 4. PENALTY. Any person found utilizing materials as provided in Section 2, or in violation of this Ordinance, EXCEPT for Biodegradable plastic bags shall be penalized in the following manner:"

Section 4. EFFECTIVITY. This Ordinance shall take effect upon approval and after publication in a newspaper of general circulation in Metro Manila.
ENACTED on this 17th day of May, 2021 in the City of Mandaluyong.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE WAS ENACTED AND APPROVED BY THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD OF MANDALUYONG IN A REGULAR SESSION HELD ON THE DATE AND PLACE FIRST ABOVE GIVEN.

MA. TERESA S. MIRANDA
Sanggunian Secretary

ATTESTED BY:

ANTONIO DLS. SÜVA
City Vice Mayor &
Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

CARMELITA A. ABALOS
City Mayor

Date: MAY 2 0 2021

MA. TERESA S. MIRANDA
Sanggunian Secretary