

Ladies and gentlemen,

Today, we gather to discuss an important step towards a more sustainable future: the banning of plastic bags. Let's focus on the economic impact of this initiative.

First, consider the cost savings. Municipalities spend millions annually on cleaning up plastic waste, clogging drains, and littering landscapes. By banning plastic bags, these funds could be redirected towards more productive community investments, such as infrastructure and education.

Next, the economic opportunity. A ban on plastic bags fosters innovation and opens markets for sustainable alternatives, like reusable cloth and biodegradable bags. This shift can stimulate local economies, increase demand for eco-friendly products, and create new green jobs.

Moreover, businesses can benefit from a positive public image by aligning with eco-friendly practices. Consumers are increasingly making environmentally-conscious choices and prefer supporting businesses that demonstrate responsibility towards the environment.

Finally, reducing plastic waste helps alleviate long-term environmental costs, helping preserve resources and maintain healthier ecosystems vital for agriculture, fishing, and tourism industries.

Banning plastic bags is not merely an environmental imperative--it is an economic opportunity. By taking decisive action, we can lead the way towards a sustainable and economically robust future.

Thank you.