

**From:** David Pereira [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** December-16-20 3:09 PM  
**To:** Mayor  
**Cc:** SolidWasteAndRecycling  
**Subject:** Compostable plastic bags sold in Burnaby stores

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Greetings Mayor Hurley and Council,

I wanted to bring to your attention a concern that I have regarding products sold in Burnaby retail stores, and municipal policy against such products.

I serve on the strata of a multifamily residential building in Burnaby, and on several occasions, our complex has been warned or fined for inclusion of plastic bags in our compostable waste bins. I am not opposed to this action, as I fully agree with the policy against plastic in any form in the organic waste stream. Our strata has gone to great lengths to remind residents that compostable bags are not as such, and we always refrain against their use, often pointing residents to the city's information on the matter (<https://www.burnaby.ca/City-Services/Garbage--Recycling/Multi-Family-Collection.html>).

I was therefore quite mystified to notice on a recent shopping trip to a local grocery store, that compostable bags practically have their own subsection on the grocery shelves (image below and attached).



I was considering speaking with the retailer. However, I would suspect that this is not the only retailer in the City that sells these products, and the City would likely be in a better position to educate all retailers that these items are being marketed for a prohibited use.

I hope that Council can consider this matter, to help support stratas and residents to reduce confusion around this issue, and improve our collective efforts to reduce environmental degradation in the region.

Thank you,

David Pereira

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]