



# GOWANUS CANAL COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG)

*your local voice for Superfund*

For more information: [www.GowanusCAG.org](http://www.GowanusCAG.org)

**The following CAG resolution requests formal consideration by the indicated parties to conduct activities related to the Gowanus Canal Cleanup with regard to the concerns and interests of the Gowanus community.**

**TITLE:** Request for support for NYS Ban on single-use plastic bags (S7760/A9953)

**TO:** NYS Senator Montgomery, Assembly Member Joanne Simon

*NYS Senate Environment Committee:* Sen. Joseph P. Addabbo, Sen. Tony Avella, Sen. Rich Funke, Sen. Brad Hoylman, Sen. Todd Kaminsky, Sen. Brian Kavanagh, Sen. Ken LaValle, Sen. Betty Little, Sen. Carl Marcellino, Sen. Thomas F. O'Mara, Sen. Robert Ortt, Sen. Elaine Phillips, Sen. Jim Tedisco

*NYS Assembly Standing Committee on Environmental Conservation:* Thomas J. Abinanti, Didi Barrett, Marc W. Butler, Robert C. Carroll, William Colton, Marcos A. Crespo, Steven Cymbrowitz, Anthony D'Urso, Patricia Fahy, Andrew R. Garbarino, Deborah J. Glick, Aileen M. Gunther, Ellen Jaffee, Barbara Lifton, Brian D. Miller, Melissa Miller, Daniel J. O'Donnell, Steven Otis, Anthony H. Palumbo, Christine Pellegrino, Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes, Andrew P. Raia, Nily Rozic, Sean Ryan, Dan Stec, Fred W. Thiele, Jr., Matthew Titone, Raymond Walter, Jaime R. Williams

**DATE:** March 27, 2018

Discarded single-use plastic bags pose a considerable problem in our local urban waterways. As we move towards cleanup actions in the Gowanus Canal, we have already noticed the extent of plastic bags included in recent dredging actions. The EPA has made the community aware of the need to bring about a change in community management of surface trash released into the waterway. We realize that the continued use of single-use plastic bags poses risks of recontamination of the Gowanus Canal after Superfund Cleanup measures are complete.

As a means of support on this matter, we are asking that you support the enactment of proposed legislation (S7760/A9953), sponsored by Assemblyman Steve Englebright and State Senators Brad Hoylman and Liz Krueger, which would place a ban on plastic carryout bags. This bill aligns with recommendations made by the NYC DEC Plastic Bag Task Force. We feel enacting this bill is a necessary step to eliminate the environmental harm resulting from these single-use plastic bags, particularly as they affect the public water ways and risk contributing to recontamination of the Gowanus Canal after Superfund Cleanup measures are complete.