



Presenter Biographies



Jennie R. Romer, Esq.



Meri Soll



Lillian Power

Jennie Romer, Esq., founder of PlasticBagLaws.org, is a national expert on carryout bag policy whose knowledge is routinely sought by legislators, community groups, and businesses. Jennie Romer earned her JD from Golden Gate University School of Law and is a member of the state bars of California and New York. She also holds bachelor's degrees in Zoology, Environmental Studies and Black Studies from UC Santa Barbara. Jennie was instrumental in San Francisco expanding its plastic bag ban and intimately involved with designing many local California bag laws. In 2012, Jennie moved to New York City and successfully coordinated a coalition in support of a bag law that passed the NYC City Council in 2016 but was blocked by the state legislature shortly before implementation in 2017. She currently works as an attorney, policy advisor, and sustainability consultant in NYC.

Meri Soll is a Senior Program Manager with StopWaste, the Alameda County Recycling Board and Waste Management Authority. Meri has worked for StopWaste for more than 20 years managing a variety of programs, including the Countywide Reusable Bag Ordinance affecting retail and eating establishments. Additional responsibilities include managing the Agency's construction and demolition debris program as well as the grants program, which distributes



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funding to organizations conducting reuse, waste reduction, compost and recycling projects. Meri holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Massachusetts.

Lillian Power is an Environmental Protection Specialist with the District's Department of Energy and Environment. She is responsible for implementing and enforcing the District's 5 cent bag fee as well as the more recent ban on expanded polystyrene (foam) food service ware. Lillian works to maintain strong enforcement programs by building relationships with the regulated community through compliance assistance and outreach and educating the public about the positive impact these programs have on District waterways and communities. Previous to her current position in government, Lillian worked in both environmental education at a local nonprofit and environmental research at The George Washington University as well as Georgetown University. Lillian received her B.S. in Zoology from the University of California Santa Barbara and her M.S. in Biology from Georgetown University.