



**PLASTIC  
STRAWS  
SUCK**

# ACTIVIST TOOLKIT



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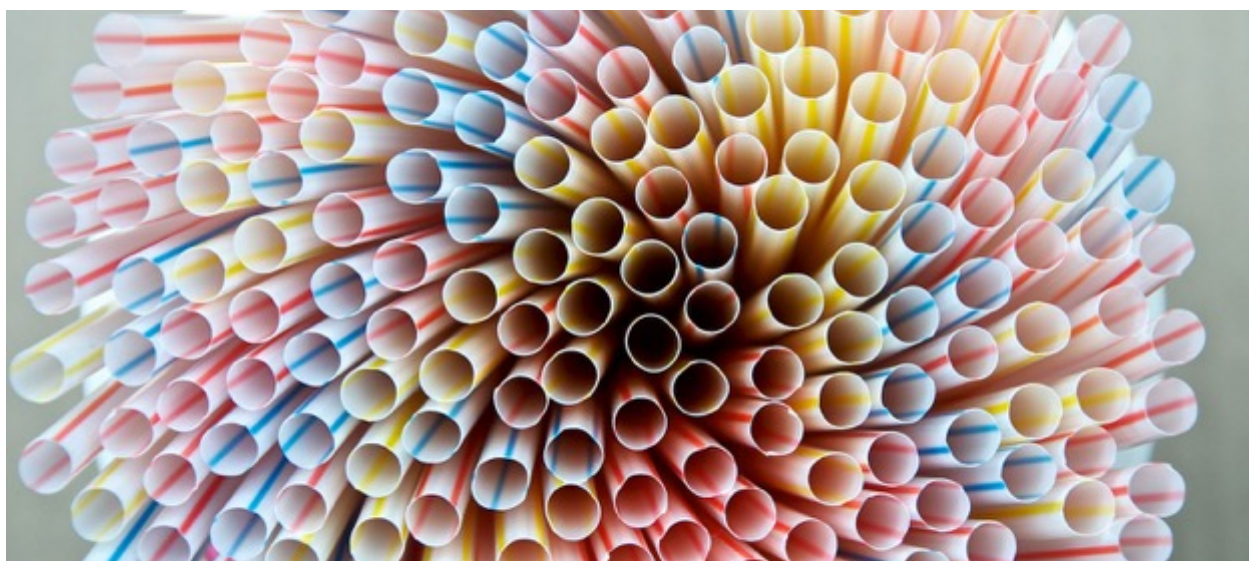


# HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This toolkit was created to provide resources, strategies, and examples for Surfrider chapters and clubs to start or move forward with a straw program in their community. A straw program can be as simple as getting restaurants to go straw free for a month and can be as bold as a passing legislation that restricts the use of plastic straws. Whatever strategy you choose, your program should aim to advance a campaign. This document gives helpful suggestions and connects you to resources that will help propel your efforts forward! As with every burgeoning effort and particularly if you plan to advocate for legislation or need help developing your strategy, please reach out to your regional manager for help! S/he has the expertise required to help you out and to help create a winning strategy.

In this guide, you will find a process to achieve straw reduction goals that is based on the work that many chapters have started to carry out across the country. With all of this collective knowledge, you should have the tools at hand to get out on the street and stop the straw epidemic!

Take what you find relevant and useful from this document, roll up your sleeves, and put plastic straws in the dustbin of history where they belong and out of our oceans once and for all.



# WHY STRAWS SUCK

The Surfrider Foundation is committed to advancing programmatic education and effecting policy and legislation at the local, state and federal level that mitigates instances of such pollution while also shifting the consumer paradigm away from a single-use mentality.

While our primary objective is to **stopping plastic pollution at the source to protect** the marine environment, we aspire to effect change in a way **that does not shift the pollution problem from plastic to paper or any other material manufactured for single-use**, by steadfastly and concurrently working toward promoting the waste stream hierarchy of refuse first, then reduce, re-use, and finally recycle, ushering forth the consumer paradigm shift from single-use items to sustainable re-use.

In recent years, Surfrider Foundation has had incredible success working with other organizations, businesses, and government agencies to reduce single-use plastic use through education, advocacy, and policy. The passage of Prop 67 to ban plastic bags across California in 2016 was a huge step in reducing the amount of plastic bags that end up in our waterways and oceans. The Federal Microbeads Act has eliminated those pesky and needless microplastics from getting to the sea, and our Ocean Friendly Restaurants program continues to promote the great work restaurants are taking to reduce their plastic footprint.

It is time now to focus on a plastic item that has been highly overlooked, the plastic straw. Made of polystyrene, polypropylene, and polyethylene, straws contribute greatly to the epidemic of plastic pollution in our oceans.



Most important, it is easier to get rid of straws than any other single-use plastic because they aren't a necessary means to consume a beverage. In fact, most people don't even ask for a straw, and businesses are much more receptive to reducing their use or switching to an alternative than they might be with plastic bottles, to-go containers etc.





## FACTS TO HAVE IN MIND WHILE PLANNING YOUR PROGRAM STRATEGY

- Straws are often littered, or caught by the wind, and washed into storm drains that empty into streams, bays, and other waterways, and otherwise end up in our ocean and beaches. Plastic straws are frequently cited as one of the top ten contributors to marine debris pollution.<sup>1</sup>
- In 2017, straws and stirrers were the 7<sup>th</sup> most commonly found item on beaches worldwide during the International Coastal Cleanup.<sup>2</sup>
- Plastic does not biodegrade, but instead, photodegrades into smaller pieces of plastic causing pollution that is virtually impossible to remediate. When plastic enters our waterways, it adsorbs toxic chemicals such as DDT, PCBs, PAHs, and flame retardants found in our waterways. In 2011, the National Oceanic Atmospheric Association found that plastic debris accumulates pollutants such as PCBs up to 100,000 to 1,000,000 times the levels found in seawater.<sup>3</sup>
- Marine life, including sea turtles, can be harmed by ingesting plastic straws and broken-down plastic polluting our ocean and waterways.<sup>4</sup> For example in 2015, an Olive Ridley sea turtle was found with a four-inch plastic straw lodged in its nasal cavity, inhibiting its breathing and sense of smell, critical in the ability to find food.<sup>5</sup>
- As toxins from marine plastic pollution make their way up the food chain, it poses a dangerous threat to humans and wildlife who consume them, and can lead to health problems including birth defects, cancer, and learning and growth deficits in children. Many plastics contain chemicals that leach out, especially when exposed to weathering, heat, or UV light.<sup>6</sup>
- In April 2012, the City of Miami Beach became the first city to enact a plastic straw ban.<sup>7</sup> Many restaurants across the United States have already voluntarily stopped using plastic straws

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<sup>1</sup> See [https://www3.epa.gov/region9/marine\[debris/pdf/marine\[debris/toolkit\[epar9\[2015.pdf](https://www3.epa.gov/region9/marine[debris/pdf/marine[debris/toolkit[epar9[2015.pdf), and [http://act.oceanconservancy.org/pdf/A\\_Rising\\_Tide\\_full\\_lowres.pdf](http://act.oceanconservancy.org/pdf/A_Rising_Tide_full_lowres.pdf), at p. 8.

<sup>2</sup> See <https://oceanconservancy.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/2017-Ocean-Conservancy-ICC-Report.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> See [http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/sites/default/files/Gen\\_Plastic\[hi\\_9\[20\[11\\_0.pdf](http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/sites/default/files/Gen_Plastic[hi_9[20[11_0.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Id.

<sup>5</sup> See <http://www.plasticpollutioncoalition.org/pft/2015/10/27/the-turtle-that-became-the-anti-plastic-straw-poster-child>

<sup>6</sup> See New York State Attorney General, at 4; *citing* Mason, S., unpublished data, (State University of New York at Fredonia) Alliance for the Great Lakes public presentation April 29, 2014, available at [https://ag.ny.gov/pdfs/Microbeads\\_Report\\_5\\_14\\_14.pdf](https://ag.ny.gov/pdfs/Microbeads_Report_5_14_14.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> See Miami Beach Municipal Code, § 46[92, and [http://big.assets.huffingtonpost.com/20120411titlesagenda\\_0.pdf](http://big.assets.huffingtonpost.com/20120411titlesagenda_0.pdf) 9 See, e.g., [http://thelastplasticstraw.org/restaurant\[directory/](http://thelastplasticstraw.org/restaurant[directory/)



# STRAW PROGRAM STRATEGY



## “GETTING BUSINESSES ON BOARD”

Getting restaurants to voluntarily stop using plastic straws is one of the most effective ways to reduce their prevalence. Not only will it take straws out of the waste stream, but it will help build a constituency of supporters who can share their experience with other restaurants and educate customers on why they are ditching the straw. These restaurants can also become allies when working on local policy solutions to reduce straw use.

### 1. SET GOALS FOR YOUR PROGRAM

There are many ways to carry out a straw program. These may vary depending on your community, the type of restaurants or establishments you are targeting, and the capacity of your chapter. Just as important as it is to set goals for your program with the chapter, it is also imperative to have exactly in mind what you are asking the target restaurants/businesses to do. Below are some sample goals as they relate to businesses.

#### A. SET A TARGET GOAL FOR NUMBER OF RESTAURANTS/BUSINESSES TO CONVERT

Set a realistic and attainable goal for the number of establishments you will engage and successfully convert in a straw reduction program. For a larger city like San Diego, 100 restaurants/businesses might be a good goal, for a smaller town, maybe 50.

#### B. CONVINCE TARGET NUMBER OF RESTAURANTS/BUSINESSES TO COMPLETELY GIVE UP ALL STRAWS

This is the most aggressive tactic, and it requires a very simple message; straws are an unnecessary addition to a drink. You might consider this tactic if the restaurants and businesses you are targeting are likely to get on board with this program or do not currently use many straws.



**C. CONVINCE TARGET NUMBER OF RESTAURANTS/BUSINESSES TO GIVE PLASTIC STRAWS ONLY ON REQUEST**

This is perhaps the easiest option for restaurants to consider as they only need to change the practice of automatically giving straws in their drinks. This method requires that the restaurant/business focus on training their employees rather than change products or stop using straws altogether.

**D. GET TARGET NUMBER OF RESTAURANTS/BUSINESSES TO ELIMINATE PLASTIC STRAWS AND SWITCH TO AN ALTERNATIVE MATERIAL (COMPOSTABLE, REUSABLE)**

This is a great option if a restaurant in your area still wants to use straws, but is open to trying a different option other than plastic. For this route, it will be especially important to have information on the alternatives available as well as price comparisons so you can show the business what it might cost them to switch to a paper, glass, or stainless-steel straw (See Straw Alternatives).

**E. GET TARGET NUMBER OF RESTAURANTS TO SWITCH TO ALTERNATIVE MATERIALS AND ONLY GIVE ON REQUEST**

**This is the most practical option and Surfrider's recommended approach.** This saves the restaurant money from having to buy a large quantity of alternative straws and makes them look super eco-savvy when they are asked to provide one.



**OCEAN FRIENDLY RESTAURANTS:** If you find that a restaurant is totally on board with your straw program, see if they want to go the extra mile and become an Ocean Friendly Restaurant! You can find more information on the program here: [go.surfrider.org/ofr](http://go.surfrider.org/ofr) Check out the chapter toolkit for resources on how to get started on the brand portal.

**A NOTE ON BIOPLASTICS:**

While many companies are coming up with solutions to plastic pollution by introducing "compostable" and "biodegradable" bioplastics, very few if any of these new products actually degrade in the natural environment." **The BAN List 2.0 study tested a bioplastic straw's marine degradability and found that the straw was entirely intact after 2 years in the ocean (Picture Below).** Find a best alternatives list at the end of the toolkit.





## **2. CREATE A TIMELINE FOR YOUR PROGRAM AND RESTAURANT/BUSINESS OUTREACH**

A timeline gives structure and accountability for your program. For example, some effective strategies include a month (No Straw November) or focus on a season that correlates with high tourism and straw use (Strawless Summer).

Another strategy is to not define a time period where there will be no straw use, but make it a full commitment to ditching the straw. Take into consideration your own region and what the business community may be most comfortable with. You can always start with the month-long program strategy, then reassess at the end and see how it worked for the restaurant and whether they would be willing to go cold turkey on the straws.

As an example, the San Diego chapter ran their straw program from February 1 through April 22 Earth Day 2018.

## **3. CREATE A RESTAURANT/BUSINESS TARGET LIST AND GET OUT THERE!**

Utilize personal contacts to find businesses that are most likely to get on board and create a hit list. The low- hanging fruit are the businesses that are most likely to enthusiastically support the initiative and be good supporters as the program progresses.

Divide and conquer. Some chapters have found it very useful to delegate the work by putting a point person in in charge of sub-committees. For example, if the straw committee has 5 members and the goal is 100 businesses, break up your restaurant goal so that that each member is in charge of reaching out to 20 businesses with their team. The structure is up to you but it is important to set expectations and share responsibilities. Create a shared document (such as a google sheet) where the straw committee can see what businesses have been contacted and what the status is.







## **MAKING CONTACT WITH RESTAURANTS/BUSINESSES**

### **EMAIL**

Compile a list of restaurant email contacts and send out an email describing the program. This is a great way to gauge initial interest from the restaurant/business community.

### **PICK UP THE PHONE**

Call the restaurant during off hours (usually 2-hours before or after lunch or dinner rush) and see if you can set up a meeting with the manager.

### **BEST OF ALL, GO TO THE RESTAURANT!**

Go to the business, enjoy a drink or some food, then ask to see the manager to explain the program.



### **DO YOUR RESEARCH**

Visit the restaurant beforehand and see how many straws they use, what kind of straws, if they serve automatically or on request, etc. Also, if possible, find out who their restaurant supplier is and if they offer paper alternatives.



## SAMPLE CONVERSATION OUTLINE (FROM PACIFIC RIM CHAPTER CANADA)

### INTRODUCTION

Surfrider is a nonprofit organization that dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of our ocean, waves, and beaches. We work both nationally and on the local level with our chapters to advocate for clean water, public beach access, and environmental protections for our coastal environments. This program is focused on decreasing the impacts associated with single-use plastics, like straws, on our ocean and marine life.

### WHY PLASTIC STRAWS?

Make sure to not be too heavy on the statistics, but make sure they are aware of the amount of straws discarded **and if there is local beach cleanup data in your area, share that information** as it relates to straws.

### GIVE SOME POWER FACTS:

- Provide beach cleanup stats from your chapter including how many straws have been found.
- Straws are one of the top ten plastic items found on beaches across the globe.
- Last year during International Coastal Cleanup Day, over 400,000 straws and stirrers were found on beaches.
- Plastic doesn't biodegrade, it photodegrades into smaller and smaller pieces, which get ingested by marine and land animals, and into our food chain.
- Plastic straws cannot be recycled effectively.

**If they are still unconvinced that straws are a problem for our ocean, show them this video:**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=3&v=4MPHbpmP6\\_I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=3&v=4MPHbpmP6_I)

Photo and Video Credit: Christine Figgner

### AMPLIFY THE ISSUE

Highlight the global and national movement to reduce the use of straws

- California has introduced legislation that requires businesses to serve straws only on request
- Cities like Seattle, Malibu, Portland, and Miami Beach have made a commitment to reduce the use of straws
- Example of how many restaurants in your town have stopped using straws
- Show them news articles and media covering straws



### SPEAK FROM THE HEART

Explain why the issue is important to you personally and why the Surfrider chapter has taken this up as a priority program

### ASK GOOD QUESTIONS!

- A. Have you always used straws?
- B. Do customers always ask for them?
- C. Have you considered only serving straws on request and seeing how customers react?

### SHOW ALTERNATIVES

- A. Ask them how much they spend on straws and why they give them away for free
- B. SHOW them the alternatives and what they cost

Example: Aardvark Straws 50% discount for Surfrider Foundation Ocean Friendly Restaurants

1,728 Straws = \$150 with discount

### TALK ABOUT INCENTIVES

- Surfrider chapter meetings at their establishment
- Social media posts and shout outs
- Publicity through social media, logo on a poster describing the program etc.
- Possibility to transition to OFR and get all of the benefits
- Cost. Less straws or no straws means less to buy

## CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT: PORTLAND #DITCHTHESTRAWPDX

The Portland chapter has had great success with their #DitchTheStrawPDX program getting dozens of restaurants to forgo plastic straws and getting a lot of public and media attention.

One method they have used to move the things forward and get the message out to the community is an evening restaurant tour. Going from business to business, the chapter spreads the word about plastic straw pollution, informs the restaurants about the alternatives to plastic straws and how to make the switch, and celebrates those businesses with a fun and positive event!



# STRAW CAMPAIGN “TYING A STRAW PROGRAM TO POLICY GOALS”

Getting businesses to voluntarily move away from plastic straws is great, but Surfrider knows that policy change is where the rubber hits the road. That’s why we are a direct-action organization, driving our mission through campaigns! Tie your program and business approach to the straw policy goals below in a formal campaign to make lasting and substantial change in your community.

Like all Surfrider campaigns, it is best to begin the process with a strategy. More likely than not, your chapter has already carried out some successful campaigns and had some significant victories. Whether it has been securing beach access, banning plastic bags, or getting rid of foam, chapters across the country have engaged in some form of campaign planning. To refresh yourself on campaign strategy, take the course on Chapternet available through Surfrider University and use the Campaign Strategy Worksheet to start your planning process.

<https://chapternet.surfrider.org/resources/learn/courses/campaigns-101/short-course/>



## DECIDE THE POLICY YOU WOULD LIKE TO PURSUE

A plastic straw “ordinance” is a local law made by a municipality or other local authority and a “bill” is a proposed state or federal law. Most likely, an ordinance will be the most effective and feasible method for passing straw legislation for your campaign. As with all legislative efforts,



be sure to work closely with your regional manager to develop your campaign and align it closely with your program.

**OPTIONS:**

A. "STRAWS UPON REQUEST" LEGISLATION (STATE OF CALIFORNIA, CARMEL)

B. "TOTAL BAN ON PLASTIC STRAWS" LEGISLATION (MALIBU, SANTA CRUZ)

C. "STRAWS UPON REQUEST AND NO PLASTIC STRAWS" LEGISLATION

**PREPARE A FACT SHEET AND ONE PAGER**

- Utilize beach cleanup data to know how much straw waste is found on your local beach
- Have a clear understanding of the science on plastics and the harm they cause (Refer to Fact Sheet Above)
- Have knowledge on how many other regions are working on straw legislation in your area



**BUILD SUPPORT**

- Get the restaurants that have pledged in your program to sign a petition expressing support for an ordinance/your campaign.
- Who are other partners in the community who would want to help and activate their network?



## KNOW THE OPPOSITION

- Find out who are the industry groups, public personas, and others that might oppose policy change.
- Find out which city council members are not likely to get on board with straw legislation.

## WORK YOUR CONTACTS

- Find those people in your community that have contacts with city council members and decision makers.
- Work with other local partners who might have other contacts in government and get them on board so you have access to those contacts.
- Don't hesitate to reach out to local leaders who haven't worked with Surfrider before or are typically averse to bans/regulations on single-use plastics. A "straw upon request" policy could have many allies and champions in your local government.
- Build coalitions with other local nonprofits. Many groups are working to reduce plastic straw waste and can lend a helpful hand.

*NOTE: Lawmakers like to see a diverse consortium of organizations who lobby for a bill so especially be on the lookout for organizations that represent public health, the business sector, social justice organizations, school groups, etc.*

## PUSH YOUR POLICY

In the brand portal (<https://brand.surfrider.org/>), you will find a folder with several examples of straw legislation including an ordinance that was crafted by Surfrider Headquarters in collaboration with several other organizations.



## ADVOCATE!

Get out on the street and put the power of the Surfrider network to the test!

# MEDIA

Arguably the most important piece of carrying out a successful straw program and/or campaign is getting good media attention. This will elevate the public conversation, build support, and get a local government much more likely to consider an ordinance.

## EXAMPLES OF GOOD MEDIA FROM CHAPTERS:

San Diego:

<http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/communities/north-county/sd-no-plastic-straws-20171013-story.html>

San Francisco:

<http://www.sfexaminer.com/saying-no-plastic-straws-doesnt-suck-sf-businesses/>

Portland:

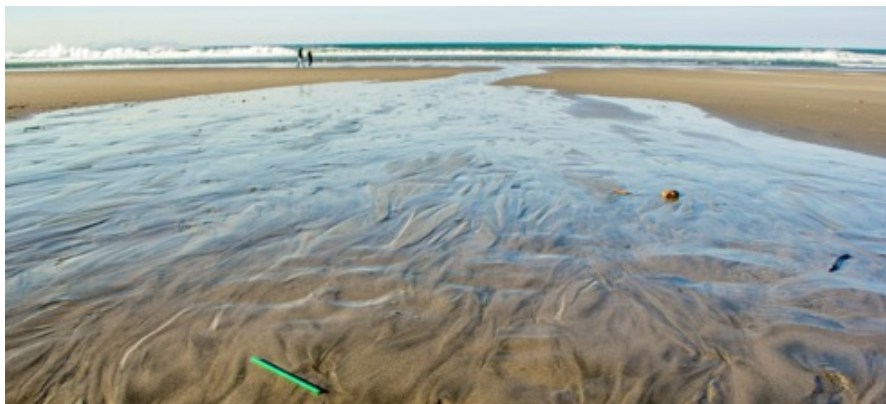
<http://www.kgw.com/article/news/are-you-willing-to-give-up-your-plastic-straws-movement-is-growing-in-portland/283-522696054>

Charleston:

<https://www.charlestoncitypaper.com/charleston/strawless-summer-challenges-bars-and-restaurants-to-give-up-plastic-straws/Content?oid=9025592>

## SIMPLE STEPS TO GET THE MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

1. DRAFT A MEDIA PRESS RELEASE – See example in Resources section under media
2. CREATE A LIST OF PR OPPORTUNITIES – Utilize local contacts in your community to alert them of the effort
3. SHARE LOCAL MEDIA COVERAGE – If something is published, share it with your network, your regional manager, and your personal network to get the word out.





# STRAW ALTERNATIVES

**AARDVARK:** Is the biggest paper distributor of straws and has a longstanding relationship with Surfrider. They have a discount program for restaurants that sign up through a Surfrider program

<https://www.aardvarkstraws.com>

**SIMPLY STRAWS:** Offers glass, paper, and stainless steel straws.

<https://simplystraws.com>

**HARVEST STRAWS:** Straws made from grain!

<http://www.harveststraws.com/>

**KLEAN KANTEEN:** Stainless steel reusable straws

<https://www.kleankanteen.com/collections/accessories>

**KOFFIESTRAW:** Silicone straw which works great for hot beverages

<https://koffiestraw.com/pages/about-us-v2>

Other great resources can be found at The Last Plastic Straw

<https://thelastplasticstraw.org/resources/>





**The Surfrider Foundation  
U.S. Plastic Straw Legislation Memo  
(April 2018)**

**From: The Surfrider Foundation Legal Department  
To: The Surfrider Foundation Chapter Network  
Date: April 6, 2018**

**Introduction and Short Summary**

This document provides a summary of current legislation in the U.S. relating to plastic straws. At the local level, as of April 2018, there are at least eight U.S. cities that explicitly ban plastic straws (some only allow alternative straws upon request), and two cities that only allow plastic straws upon request. Several U.S. cities are currently considering (or have considered) enacting straw legislation.

With respect to the state level, in January 2018, a bill was introduced in California, making it the first statewide legislative proposal to address plastic straws. A bill banning plastic straws was also introduced in Hawaii earlier this year. Although the bill passed the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment, it was unable to pass remaining legislative hurdles.

Outside of the U.S., some countries have indicated a desire to ban plastic straws in the future, including Scotland and Taiwan.<sup>8</sup>

**Local Plastic Straw Legislation**

As of April 2018, there are currently eight U.S. cities that explicitly ban plastic straws.

**Hollywood, Florida**

The City of Hollywood Code of Ordinances §97.05 prohibits restaurants, vendors, grocery stores, and any other person, entity or business engaged in the sale of food products located east of the Intracoastal Waterway from selling or dispensing straws made of plastic.<sup>9</sup>

**Miami Beach, Florida**

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<sup>8</sup> See <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/03/03/climate/plastic-straw-bans.html>

<sup>9</sup> See City of Hollywood Code of Ordinances § 97.05, available at [http://library.amlegal.com/nxt/gateway.dll/Florida/hollywood/cityofhollywoodfloridacodeofordinances?f=t&templates\\$fn=default.htm\\$3.0\\$vid=amlegal:hollywood\\_fl\\_mc\\$anc](http://library.amlegal.com/nxt/gateway.dll/Florida/hollywood/cityofhollywoodfloridacodeofordinances?f=t&templates$fn=default.htm$3.0$vid=amlegal:hollywood_fl_mc$anc)



In March 2012, Miami banned the use of plastic drinking straws by restaurants, beachfront hotels, and other businesses that provide beverage services on the beach. The ban makes it unlawful for “any business to provide plastic straws with the service or delivery of any beverage to patrons on any beach within the city.”<sup>10</sup> Fines for violations are: \$100.00 civil fine for the first offense within a 12-month period; a \$200.00 civil fine for the second offense within a 12-month period; and a \$500.00 civil fine for the third and subsequent offense within a 12-month period.

#### Fort Myers, Florida

In November 2017, Fort Myers adopted an ordinance banning persons, businesses, corporations, nonprofit entities, agencies, and all other organizations from distributing (including the vending, sale, giving, or delivering for any purpose) of plastic straws in the town.<sup>11</sup> The prohibition does not apply to distribution of straws on private property used as a residence, by the County School Board, or with beverages prepared and packaged outside the town, so long as the beverage is not altered, packaged, or repackaged within the town. Violators will receive a \$100 fine for the first offense, a \$200 fine for the second offense, and \$500 fine for the third offense. After a 90 day grace period, the ban is now in effect.<sup>12</sup>

#### Seattle, Washington

Starting July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, plastic straws and utensils will be banned in Seattle.<sup>13</sup> The ordinance requires food service businesses to transition from using disposable food service ware to compostable and recyclable alternatives.<sup>14</sup> Food service businesses include “full-service restaurants, fast food restaurants, cafes, delicatessens, coffee shops, grocery stores, vending trucks or carts, business or institutional cafeterias, and other businesses, selling or providing food within the City of Seattle for consumption on or off the premises.”<sup>15</sup>

Food service ware includes any “non-compostable and non-recyclable containers, plates, ‘clamshells,’ serving trays, meat and vegetable trays, hot and cold beverage cups, wrappers, and utensils that are intended only for one-time use, including so-called biodegradable products

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<sup>10</sup> See Miami Beach Municipal Code § 46-92(c), available at [https://library.municode.com/fl/miami\\_beach/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=SPAGEOR\\_CH46EN\\_ARTII\\_ILI\\_DIV1GE\\_S46-92LIDEPRLIPELICOHAVICOHAREFIREPRSERELIENAPLI](https://library.municode.com/fl/miami_beach/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=SPAGEOR_CH46EN_ARTII_ILI_DIV1GE_S46-92LIDEPRLIPELICOHAVICOHAREFIREPRSERELIENAPLI)

<sup>11</sup> See Ordinance No. 17-13, available at <https://www.fortmyersbeachfl.gov/DocumentCenter/View/12895>

<sup>12</sup> See <https://www.fortmyersbeachfl.gov/DocumentCenter/View/12895>

<sup>13</sup> See Seattle Municipal Code 21.36.086, available at [https://library.municode.com/wa/seattle/codes/municipal\\_code?nodeId=TIT21UT\\_SUBTITLE\\_IISOWA\\_CH2\\_1.36SOWACO\\_SUBCHAPTER\\_IISOWACO\\_21.36.086COREFOSEWARE](https://library.municode.com/wa/seattle/codes/municipal_code?nodeId=TIT21UT_SUBTITLE_IISOWA_CH2_1.36SOWACO_SUBCHAPTER_IISOWACO_21.36.086COREFOSEWARE)

<sup>14</sup> See Ordinance No. 122751, available at <http://clerk.seattle.gov/~scripts/nphbrs.exe?s3=&s4=122751&s5=&s1=&s2=&S6=&Sect4=AND&l=0&Sect2=THESON&Sect3=PLURON&Sect5=CBORY&Sect6=HITOFF&d=ORDF&p=1&u=%2F~public%2Fcbor1.htm&r=1&f=G>

<sup>15</sup> Id.





where any portion is not compostable.”<sup>16</sup> While the text of the ordinance does not explicitly include “straws,” in other documents the City of Seattle makes it clear that straws are included. The Seattle Public Utilities’ website, for example, states that the “City of Seattle requires all food service businesses to find recyclable or compostable packaging and service ware alternatives to all disposable food service items such as...straws, utensils, and other products.”<sup>17</sup>

Plastic straws are not recyclable in Seattle, so single-use plastic straws must be compostable.<sup>18</sup> Seattle Public Utilities describes straws compliant with SMC 21.36.086 as “durable or compostable” including those made of “compostable paper or compostable plastic.”<sup>19</sup> Compostable options that Seattle Public Utilities has approved are available on their website.<sup>20</sup>

"Compostable" means made solely of organic substances that break down into a stable product due to the action of bacteria in a controlled, aerobic commercial process that results in a material safe and desirable as a soil amendment meeting the compost quality standards found under WAC 173-350-220 for metals, physical parameters, pathogens, manufactured inert material and other testing parameters set by the local Health Department and has been found to degrade satisfactorily at the composting facility receiving the material. "Recyclable" means made solely of materials that are capable of being separated from a waste stream by a food service business and made available for collection and delivery to a processor for reuse or remanufacture into the same or other products.<sup>21</sup>

While Seattle implemented the ban on straws beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017, it allowed businesses to apply for waivers to use utensils, straws, small portion cups, and foil-faced, insulated wrap.<sup>22</sup> These waivers will expire June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Only compostable straws will be permitted after this date.<sup>23</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> See Seattle Municipal Code 21.36.086, available at [https://library.municode.com/wa/seattle/codes/municipal\\_code?nodeId=TIT21UT\\_SUBTITLE\\_IISOWA\\_CH2\\_1.36SOWACO\\_SUBCHAPTER\\_IISOWACO\\_21.36.086COREFOSEWARE](https://library.municode.com/wa/seattle/codes/municipal_code?nodeId=TIT21UT_SUBTITLE_IISOWA_CH2_1.36SOWACO_SUBCHAPTER_IISOWACO_21.36.086COREFOSEWARE); see also Seattle Public Utilities Straws and Utensils letter, available at [http://www.seattle.gov/util/cs/groups/public/@spu/@foodyard/documents/webcontent/1\\_072578.pdf](http://www.seattle.gov/util/cs/groups/public/@spu/@foodyard/documents/webcontent/1_072578.pdf)

<sup>17</sup>

<http://www.seattle.gov/util/forbusinesses/solidwaste/foodyardbusinesses/commercial/foodpackagingrequirements/>

<sup>18</sup> [http://www.seattle.gov/util/cs/groups/public/@spu/@foodyard/documents/webcontent/1\\_072578.pdf](http://www.seattle.gov/util/cs/groups/public/@spu/@foodyard/documents/webcontent/1_072578.pdf)

<sup>19</sup> Id.

<sup>20</sup>

<http://www.seattle.gov/util/forbusinesses/solidwaste/foodyardbusinesses/commercial/foodpackagingrequirements/>

<sup>21</sup> See Seattle Municipal Code, § 21.36.086, available at [https://library.municode.com/wa/seattle/codes/municipal\\_code?nodeId=TIT21UT\\_SUBTITLE\\_IISOWA\\_CH2\\_1.36SOWACO\\_SUBCHAPTER\\_IISOWACO\\_21.36.086COREFOSEWARE](https://library.municode.com/wa/seattle/codes/municipal_code?nodeId=TIT21UT_SUBTITLE_IISOWA_CH2_1.36SOWACO_SUBCHAPTER_IISOWACO_21.36.086COREFOSEWARE)

<sup>22</sup> See Seattle Public Utilities Director’s Rule No. SW-500.1 (July 1, 2017), available at [http://www.seattle.gov/util/cs/groups/public/@spuweb/@policy/documents/webcontent/1\\_064356.pdf](http://www.seattle.gov/util/cs/groups/public/@spuweb/@policy/documents/webcontent/1_064356.pdf)

<sup>23</sup> Id.



### Santa Cruz, California

On September 26, 2017, the city of Santa Cruz banned food providers (vendors, businesses, organizations, entities, groups or individuals, including essentially all establishments that serve food to the public)<sup>24</sup> from using plastic “disposable food service ware” including straws, cutlery, and hot drink lids.<sup>25</sup> Food providers may provide compostable, biodegradable, and recyclable alternatives, but only upon request.<sup>26</sup> However, there is an exception to the requirement to use only compostable, biodegradable, and recyclable alternatives, where there are no “affordable” alternatives that cost no more than 15% higher than non-alternatives.

The City’s recycling program does not collect plastic straws.<sup>27</sup> Both plastic and paper straws are too small to be sorted for recycling, and therefore go to a landfill.<sup>28</sup> Therefore, food providers are limited to biodegradable or compostable alternatives. “Compostable” means all the materials in the product or package will break down, or otherwise become part of usable compost (e.g., soil-conditioning material, mulch) in a safe and timely manner. Compostable disposable food service ware must meet ASTM standards for compostability and any bio-plastic or plastic-like product must be clearly labeled, preferably with a color symbol, to allow proper identification such that the collector and processor can easily distinguish the ASTM standard compostable plastic from non-ASTM standard compostable plastic. “Biodegradable” means the ability of organic matter to break down from a complex to a simpler form through the action of bacteria or to undergo this process. “Recyclable” means any material that is accepted by the city of Santa Cruz recycling program, including, but not limited to, paper, glass, aluminum, cardboard and plastic bottles, jars and tubs.

Restaurants must therefore use compostable or other biodegradable alternatives.

While the ban took effect on November 7th, the City is granting businesses a six-month grace period before it begins enforcing the law.<sup>29</sup> The City will therefore begin issuing citations for violations beginning May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018.<sup>30</sup> The ordinance encourages, but does not require, local businesses to pay their customers a 25-cent credit for bringing their own reusable containers for to go items, while charging customers this same amount for requesting disposable cups, lids, straws, stirrers and/or utensils.<sup>31</sup>

### Santa Cruz County, California

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<sup>24</sup> See Santa Cruz Municipal Code § 6.48.015(h)&(n).

<sup>25</sup> See City of Santa Cruz Municipal Code, Chapter 6.48, available at <http://www.codepublishing.com/CA/SantaCruz/>

<sup>26</sup> See SCMC, Section 6.48.025, see <http://www.codepublishing.com/CA/SantaCruz/>

<sup>27</sup> See the City of Santa Cruz’s Recycling Guide, available at <http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/government/city-departments/public-works/resource-recovery-garbage-recycling-sweeping/recycling-and-waste-reduction>

<sup>28</sup> Id.

<sup>29</sup> <http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/Home/Components/News/News/5669/36>

<sup>30</sup> Id.

<sup>31</sup> Santa Cruz Municipal Code § 6.48.025(c), (d), and (e).



All retail food establishments (including any restaurants, coffee shops, and essentially any place that serves food or beverages to consumers including movie theaters, hotels, and food trucks) may only use compostable, biodegradable, or recyclable straws, unless there is no affordable product available as determined by the County's Director of Public Works.<sup>32</sup> Plastic straws are not recyclable in the county.<sup>33</sup> The Director of Public Works is required to adopt a list of available, suitable, and affordable biodegradable, compostable, or recyclable alternatives, which he or she is required to update regularly. All county departments, county facilities, and county contractors and lessees working under contract with the county, are similarly required to only use compostable, biodegradable, or recyclable straws, unless there are no affordable alternatives.<sup>34</sup> "Affordable" means available at the same cost or less than the non-environmentally friendly alternatives.

A first violation is subject to a written warning; while subsequent violations are subject to the following fines: (1) \$100 for a second offense within 30 days of the first violation; \$200 for a third offense within 60 days of the first violation; and \$500 for a fourth offense within 90 days of the first violation. County vendors or special events lessees will be subject to different fines, based on the number of attendees at the specific event.<sup>35</sup>

Santa Cruz County Recycling and Waste Services operates and administers recycling services and solid waste disposal in the unincorporated area of Santa Cruz County.<sup>36</sup> Alternatives must be certified compostable by the Biodegradable Products Institute ("BPI"), a non-profit organization that maintains a list of certified compostable products.<sup>37</sup> BPI has identified dozens of compostable straw options from a variety of different manufacturers for businesses in Santa Cruz County to choose from.<sup>38</sup>

### Carmel, California

Currently, restaurants in the city may only provide straws upon request.<sup>39</sup> Beginning April 22nd, 2018, in addition to being provided only upon request, restaurants and food vendors (including grocery stores, delis, farmers markets, food trucks, city events, and any other similar business) may only use biodegradable, compostable, or recyclable straws.<sup>40</sup> "Hardship" exemptions may be granted by the City Administrator, Code Enforcement Officer, Environmental Compliance

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<sup>32</sup> See Santa Cruz County Code § 5.46.040(A).

<sup>33</sup> [http://dpw.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/Portals/19/pdfs/RecycleGuide\\_SantaCruzCounty\\_Residential\\_July2011.pdf?ver=2016-08-29-172501-447](http://dpw.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/Portals/19/pdfs/RecycleGuide_SantaCruzCounty_Residential_July2011.pdf?ver=2016-08-29-172501-447)

<sup>34</sup> See Santa Cruz County Code § 5.46.040(B), (C).

<sup>35</sup> See Santa Cruz County Code § 5.46.080.

<sup>36</sup> <http://dpw.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/Home/RecyclingSolidWaste.aspx>

<sup>37</sup> <http://www.dpw.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/Portals/19/pdfs/Flyer.pdf?ver=2016-08-30-103427-393>; see also <https://bpiworld.org/>

<sup>38</sup> <http://products.bpiworld.org/?s=1&search=straw&type=1>

<sup>39</sup> Carmel by the Sea Municipal Code § 8.68.041, available at <http://www.codepublishing.com/CA/CarmelbytheSea/>

<sup>40</sup> Carmel by the Sea Municipal Code § 8.68.042.



Manager, or her/his designated representative, upon a showing that using a biodegradable, compostable, or recyclable alternative would increase costs by more than 20%.<sup>41</sup>

“Biodegradable” means the entire product or package will completely break down and decompose into elements found in nature within a year after customary disposal. “Compostable” means all the materials in the product or package will break down, or otherwise become part of usable compost (e.g., soil-conditioning material, mulch) in a safe manner and in approximately the same time as the materials with which it is composted. Compostable disposable food service ware must meet ASTM standards for compostability and any bio-plastic or plastic-like product must be clearly labeled, preferably with a color symbol, to allow proper identification such that the collector and processor can easily distinguish the ASTM standard compostable plastic from non-ASTM standard compostable plastic. “Recyclable” means that a material can be recycled, salvaged, composted, processed or marketed by any means other than landfilling or burning, whether as fuel or otherwise, so that they are returned to use by society. It includes any material that is accepted by the City’s franchise waste hauler for recycling.<sup>42</sup>

#### Malibu, California

Starting in June 2018, restaurants and vendors within the city are prohibited from using, providing, distributing, or selling “plastic beverage straws” and “plastic stirrers.”<sup>43</sup> Plastic beverage straws and plastic stirrers are also prohibited from being used or distributed at city facilities and city sponsored events.<sup>44</sup>

“Plastic beverage straw” means a tube made predominantly of plastic derived from either petroleum or a biologically based polymer, such as corn or other plant sources, for transferring a beverage from its container to the mouth of the drinker. It includes compostable and biodegradable petroleum or biologically based polymer straws, but does not include straws that are made from non-plastic materials such as paper, sugar cane, and bamboo.

Prohibited “plastic stirrers” are defined as devices used to mix beverages, intended for only one-time use, and made predominantly of plastic derived from either petroleum or a biologically based polymer, such as corn or other plant sources. It includes compostable and biodegradable petroleum or a biologically based polymer stirrer, but does not include (and therefore does not prohibit) stirrers made from non-plastic materials such as paper, sugar cane, and bamboo.<sup>45</sup>

Allowable “non-plastic alternatives” may only be provided to customers upon request.<sup>46</sup>

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<sup>41</sup> Carmel by the Sea Municipal Code § 8.68.070.

<sup>42</sup> Carmel by the Sea Municipal Code § 8.68.020.

<sup>43</sup> Malibu Municipal Code § 9.24.045(A); see Ordinance No. 342 at <https://ca-malibu2.civicplus.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Item/3111?fileID=4014>

<sup>44</sup> Malibu Municipal Code § 9.24.045(C)

<sup>45</sup> Malibu Municipal Code § 9.24.010.

<sup>46</sup> Malibu Municipal Code § 9.24.045(B).



### Manhattan Beach, California

Food providers cannot sell or distribute polystyrene straws, along with polystyrene cup lids and utensils, in conjunction with the sale of prepared food within the city.<sup>47</sup> Polystyrene straws may also not be used at city facilities; or at city-sponsored events, city managed concessions, or city meetings open to the public.<sup>48</sup> However, straws are also commonly made from polypropylene and polyethylene.<sup>49</sup> It therefore seems food providers in the city can use straws made from other types of plastic and remain in compliance with the ordinance. Food providers may only distribute disposable food ware, including straws, that exhibits a recycle code other than No. 6 or PS, and maintain documentation about the composition of the disposable food service ware.<sup>50</sup> The City and its departments are prohibited from purchasing or acquiring polystyrene ware including straws.

While Manhattan Beach collects both polypropylene and polyethylene for recycling,<sup>51</sup> when littered these materials do not break down easily and can pollute much the same as other plastics. Further, the law does not prohibit people from bringing polystyrene straws to city properties or facilities, including the beach.<sup>52</sup> There is also an available hardship exemption that may be granted by the City Manager or his or her designee.<sup>53</sup>

### San Louis Obispo, California

On November 7th, 2017, the City Council unanimously voted to implement a “straws upon request” ordinance for all dine-in customers.<sup>54</sup> The law became effective March 1st, 2018. Vendors, which include any business providing food or beverages within the city, are required to ask each dine-in customer if he or she would like a single-use straw before providing one with their order.<sup>55</sup> “Single use” is defined as a product that is designed to be used only one time in its same form by the customer, food vendor or entity.<sup>56</sup> All take-out orders will be exempt, however, meaning these vendors can continue to give straws automatically for take-

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<sup>47</sup> Manhattan Beach Municipal Code § 5.80.030(A), available at [https://library.municode.com/ca/manhattan\\_beach/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=TIT5SAHE\\_CH5.80PRDISACEPOPR](https://library.municode.com/ca/manhattan_beach/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TIT5SAHE_CH5.80PRDISACEPOPR)

<sup>48</sup> Manhattan Beach Municipal Code § 5.80.030(C).

<sup>49</sup> <https://thesoftlanding.com/drinking-straws-getting-to-the-bottom-of-it/>

<sup>50</sup> Manhattan Beach Municipal Code § 5.80.030(B).

<sup>51</sup> <http://www.citymb.info/departments/public-works/environmental-programs/solid-waste-and-recycling-programs/recycling-information>

<sup>52</sup> Manhattan Beach Municipal Code § 5.80.040(A)(3).

<sup>53</sup> Manhattan Beach Municipal Code § 5.80.040(C).

<sup>54</sup> <http://www.sanluisobispo.com/news/local/article180951771.html>

<sup>55</sup> San Luis Obispo Municipal Code §§ 8.09.020, 8.09.010(D), available at <http://www.codepublishing.com/CA/SanLuisObispo/#!/SanLuisObispo08/SanLuisObispo0809.html#8.09.020>

<sup>56</sup> San Luis Obispo Municipal Code § 8.09.010(B).





out orders.<sup>57</sup> “Take-out food orders” are defined as prepared food or beverage that are purchased at an establishment and are intended to be consumed elsewhere.<sup>58</sup>

#### Davis, California

Under Davis’ law, restaurants are required to ask dine-in customers if they would like a single use straw with their beverages before giving them one. The law applies to “restaurants,” defined to include any vendor located or providing food within the city that provides prepared food for public consumption on its premises.<sup>59</sup> However, the law does not apply to take-out food orders or fast-food service. Take out food orders means prepared meals or other food or beverage items that a customer purchases at a restaurant and intends to eat elsewhere. Fast food service means food service establishments that serve food and/or beverages: (1) via a drive-through; (2) in a packaged form for take-out/take-away; or (3) from stands or kiosks which provide no shelter or seating for customers. Therefore, this is a large gap in Davis’ law.

Persons caught violating this ordinance will receive a fine of up to \$100 for the first infraction, up to \$200 for the second infraction within 6 months of the first violation, and up to \$500 for a third infraction within a one-year period.<sup>60</sup>

#### **Exploring a ban**

Several cities within the U.S. have explored or are currently exploring a ban on plastic straws. As of March 2018, these include:

#### Treasure Island, Florida

Treasure Island has not yet passed a ban on plastic straws. Although an ordinance was considered in 2016, the city council thought it would be more beneficial to put a voluntary ban in place.<sup>61</sup> As of March 2018, it does not appear there has been any progress toward a straw ordinance.

#### Berkeley, California

The city of Berkeley is exploring the adoption of an ordinance to prohibit the use of plastic drinking straws within the city by food-service businesses.<sup>62</sup>

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<sup>57</sup> San Luis Obispo Municipal Code § 8.09.030.

<sup>58</sup> San Luis Obispo Municipal Code § 8.09.010(C).

<sup>59</sup> Davis Municipal Code §§ 17.03.010, 17.03.005, available at <https://qcode.us/codes/davis/>

<sup>60</sup> Davis Municipal Code § 17.03.030, available at [https://qcode.us/codes/davis/view.php?topic=17-17\\_03-17\\_03\\_030&frames=on](https://qcode.us/codes/davis/view.php?topic=17-17_03-17_03_030&frames=on)

<sup>61</sup> See [http://www.mytreasureisland.com/document\\_center/2016\\_commission/CWPacket01\\_19\\_2016.pdf](http://www.mytreasureisland.com/document_center/2016_commission/CWPacket01_19_2016.pdf), and <http://www.tampabay.com/news/localgovernment/treasure-island-decides-not-to-ban-plastic-straws-on-beach/2262054>

<sup>62</sup> <https://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/Berkeley-plastic-straw-ban-vote-environment-11183903.php> and <https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Plastic-straws-stir-up-environmental-debate-in-11192651.php>



In May 2017, three members of the city council recommended that the Council refer to the Community Environmental Advisory Commission and the Zero Waste Commission exploring the creation of an ordinance to prohibit the use of plastic straws in bars, restaurants and coffee shops in the city. The recommendation was for the commissions to reach out to business owners and store managers and other stakeholders to get their input on the possibility of providing compostable or reusable alternatives to plastic straws, like paper and bamboo.<sup>63</sup> In May 2017, a recommendation was expected within approximately 9 months (approximately February 2018).<sup>64</sup> However, as of March 2018, it doesn't appear any additional progress has occurred to date.

#### Encinitas, California

In December 2017, the city's Environmental Commission voted to request the City Council to adopt an ordinance that would require restaurants to first ask customers if they would like a straw with their beverage rather than automatically giving them one.<sup>65</sup> The proposal was first considered at the Commission's November 2017 meeting, which drew approximately 25-30 members of the public (according to the staff report, possibly the Commission's largest audience ever). 15 speakers supported a complete ban on plastic straws. No speakers opposed an ordinance. On March 21, the Encinitas City Council unanimously approved the Environmental Commission's recommendation for an ordinance so that straws will be distributed only if a customer requests one.<sup>66</sup> If adopted, Encinitas would be the first city in San Diego County to pass a straw ordinance.

#### Huntington Beach, California

Public support for a ban of single-use plastic straws in Huntington Beach first gained momentum in 2017. Unfortunately, it does not seem the City Council has taken any action thus far in moving towards a plastic straw ban, with at least one council member expressing firm opposition towards such a ban.<sup>67</sup> Some businesses, however, have said they would be willing to voluntarily stop providing straws to customers automatically.<sup>68</sup>

#### States

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<sup>63</sup> See May 30, 2017 Consent Calendar Item, available at [https://www.cityofberkeley.info/uploadedFiles/Council\\_3/Level\\_3\\_-\\_General/2017-05-30%20Item%2036%20A%20Ban%20on%20the%20Use%20of%20Plastic.pdf](https://www.cityofberkeley.info/uploadedFiles/Council_3/Level_3_-_General/2017-05-30%20Item%2036%20A%20Ban%20on%20the%20Use%20of%20Plastic.pdf)

<sup>64</sup> See <https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Plastic-straws-stir-up-environmental-debate-in-11192651.php>

<sup>65</sup> See [http://encinitas.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view\\_id=7&clip\\_id=1640&meta\\_id=81255](http://encinitas.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=7&clip_id=1640&meta_id=81255), and <http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/communities/north-county/sd-no-encinitas-straw-20171215-story.html>

<sup>66</sup> See <http://www.delmartimes.net/encinitas-advocate/news/sd-cm-enc-0330-plastic-straws-20180326-story.html>

<sup>67</sup> <https://www.ocregister.com/2017/03/16/restricting-use-of-plastic-straws-the-latest-trend-to-clean-up-beaches-ocean/>

<sup>68</sup> <http://abc7.com/news/oc-environmental-group-aims-to-reduce-plastic-straw-waste/1811890/>



### California

On January 17, 2018, California Assemblyman Ian Calderon proposed the first statewide plastic straw bill. The bill would prohibit food facilities (including restaurants, mobile food trucks, school cafeterias, and more),<sup>69</sup> where food may be consumed on the premises, from providing single-use plastic straws, unless requested by a consumer.<sup>70</sup> In February, the bill was referred and re-referred to the Natural Resources Committee.<sup>71</sup>

### Hawaii

On January 19, 2018, Senator Karl Rhoads introduced S.B. 2285 which would prohibit any “individual or business” in Hawaii from distributing, selling, or otherwise providing a straw comprised in full or in part of plastic.<sup>72</sup> Although the bill passed the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment, it was unable to pass the legislature in time to become law.<sup>73</sup> However, Rhoads says he may introduce the bill again.<sup>74</sup>

The bill defines “business” as any commercial enterprise or establishment operating in the State, from individual proprietorships to corporations, including non-profits.<sup>75</sup> The law would extend to all “employees of the business or any independent contractors associated with the business.”<sup>76</sup> “Plastic” includes any “material made of polymeric organic compounds and additives that can be shaped by flow.”<sup>77</sup>

Violators would pay a fine no less than \$100, and no more than \$500 for each offense. Further, the bill would require the violator to spend four hours picking up litter or performing other community service in a public place for the first offense. For subsequent violations, the violator would be required to spend eight hours picking up litter or other community service.<sup>78</sup>

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<sup>69</sup> See <http://www.search-california-law.com/research/ca/HSC/113789./Cal-Health--Safety-Code-Section-113789/text.html>

<sup>70</sup> See [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB1884](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB1884)

<sup>71</sup> See [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB1884](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB1884)

<sup>72</sup> See Hawaii S.B. 2285 available at [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2018/bills/SB2285\\_.HTM](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2018/bills/SB2285_.HTM)

<sup>73</sup> <http://www.kitv.com/story/37400783/senate-bill-to-ban-plastic-straws-in-hawaii-passes-committee>; see also <http://www.newsweek.com/hawaii-plastic-straws-ban-hilton-modern-hotel-824725>

<sup>74</sup> <http://www.newsweek.com/hawaii-plastic-straws-ban-hilton-modern-hotel-824725>

<sup>75</sup> See Hawaii S.B. 2285 available at [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2018/bills/SB2285\\_.HTM](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2018/bills/SB2285_.HTM)

<sup>76</sup> Id.

<sup>77</sup> Id.

<sup>78</sup> Id.