

## MOTION

A recent editorial in *The Los Angeles Times* shed light on the impact that plastic beverage straws are having on the environment and the aesthetic quality of our communities. The editorial stated that Americans use – and almost immediately discard – up to a half a billion plastic beverage straws each day.

Discarded beverage straws end up in the landfill where they leach into the soil; or they end up in the street as trash. In the street, they collect along the walkways, stormdrains and parks.

In other cases, the beverage straws end up in local waterbodies and the ocean where they're consumed by marine life; thereby impacting their health and welfare.

To address these issues, some cities have implemented *Straws-On-Request* ordinances which require restaurants to withhold plastic beverage straws unless customers request them. The City of Davis and San Luis Obispo recently passed *Straws-On-Requests* ordinances. Berkeley, and other cities along the coast, are considering similar ordinances.


The City of Los Angeles has historically been on the forefront of instrumental environmental policies and initiatives. The City played a significant role in the regulation and control of plastic bag use, increasing waste diversion and recycling and other efforts. The City should consider adopting a *Straws-On-Request* ordinance; and other related actions that minimize the effect plastic beverage straws have on the environment and the local community.

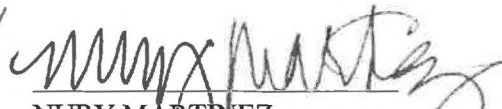
I THEREFORE MOVE that the Bureau of Sanitation (BOS) be instructed to report to the City Council in 60 days on the feasibility of implementing a *Straws-On-Request* ordinance which requires restaurants, and other food-service providers, to withhold plastic beverage straws unless a customer requests them.

I FURTHER MOVE that the BOS report on options that restaurants, and other food-service providers, may use as an alternative to plastic beverage straws such as biodegradable and/or re-usable straws.

I FURTHER MOVE that the BOS report on current and potential legislation that seeks to minimize the harmful effects of plastic beverage straws and whether the City should adopt a position.

PRESENTED BY:

  
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SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

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