

LARA WEISIGER

From: Rachel Campos <ratcampos@gmail.com> on behalf of Rachel Campos de Ivanov <rcampos@alumni.haas.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 18, 2017 11:52 PM
To: Trish Spencer; Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft; Malia Vella; Frank Matarrese; Jim Oddie
Cc: LARA WEISIGER
Subject: Support for Straws on Request

Mayor Spencer & members of Council,

I had every intention of attending this evenings council meeting to support but as the last item on the agenda on a packed calendar alas it will be too late for me.

I have worked with our public works teams to organize multiple coastal cleanups including the annual MLK weekend cleanup along the Oakland estuary. Additionally, my husband and I have picked up hundreds of pounds of litter from our streets on our daily dog walks around Alameda Point. The vast majority of what we collect is related to food and beverage including at least 7 straws picked up just today from DePave Park.

It's heartbreaking that we need an army of hands to clean our shorelines. It's even more disheartening that the next day, when the tides come in, we are right back where we started. We can host coastal cleanups every day but the only way to solve the problem is to cut the issue off at the source. Alameda is taking an amazing step, one we as a community should be quite proud of, to move away from one source of plastic litter that ends up in our waterways and clogging the waste stream.

I applaud the leadership position you have taken thus far and hope you will move forward with the amended ordinance.

Rachel Campos de Ivanov & Yulian Ivanov