



TOWN OF FAIRFAX
SPECIAL MEETING STAFF REPORT
May 1, 2019

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Michele Gardner, Town Clerk

SUBJECT: Adopt a Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax in Support of Team Marine's Efforts to Eliminate Plastic Straws in the Town for the Protection our Waterways

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the Resolution.

DISCUSSION

Vice Mayor Goddard requested this item be added to the agenda for the Council's consideration.

FISCAL IMPACT

N/A

ATTACHMENT

Resolution

SPECIAL MEETING
AGENDA ITEM # 1

RESOLUTION 19-__

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFAX IN SUPPORT OF TEAM MARINE'S EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE PLASTIC STRAWS IN THE TOWN FOR THE PROTECTION OUR WATERWAYS

WHEREAS, more than 1,100 teams from California entered National Geographic's GeoChallenge, a national competition designed to empower the younger generation to develop a creative solution to a real-world problem; and

WHEREAS, during the challenge, the teams of students used important skills such as teamwork, research, innovation, critical thinking, and persuasive communication and created models and campaigns and communicated their ideas in creative video presentations; and

WHEREAS, 21 students from San Domenico School in San Anselmo, CA were selected to compete among the top 15 teams in the California Regionals; and

WHEREAS, they traveled together to California State University Fresno for the March 29 competition, where San Domenico's 7th grade Team Marine, won first place; and

WHEREAS, they will now be traveling to Washington D.C. for the national competition at the National Geographic Headquarters on May 19-23rd, where the first place team will receive a \$25,000 prize to put toward their campaign, as well as support and guidance to implement their ideas; and

WHEREAS, this year's topic was Tackling Plastic and dealt with the issue of plastic in our oceans; and

WHEREAS, plastic straws are one of the six most common items found on beaches, are ingested by marine wildlife, and pollute our waterways; and

WHEREAS, Team Marine's campaign focuses on eliminating the use of plastic straws in the Town of Fairfax and advocating for policy to prohibit such use; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Fairfax is embarking on discussions around policy to eliminate plastic straws and reduce single use plastic foodware products;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax recognizes and extends its gratitude to Fairfax resident Alexandra Collier Lake, Mill Valley resident Gavin Kennedy, San Anselmo resident Kayla Saxon, and San Rafael resident Hannah Zemke of Team Marine for their initiative and leadership to find a solution to prevent plastics from polluting our waterways;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Fairfax supports Team Marine's efforts and will consider their request to prohibit the use of plastic straws in Fairfax;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town of Fairfax will look for partnership with Team Marine in working with businesses and educating the public about the environmental dangers of disposable plastics;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town of Fairfax wishes Team Marine great success in the National GeoChallenge.

The forgoing Resolution was duly passed and adopted at a special meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax held in said Town on the 1st day of May 2019 by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

BARBARA COLER, Mayor

Attest:

Michele Gardner, Town Clerk