

August 1, 2019

Dear Fairfax Town Council,

We request your endorsement of an Amazon to Reuse Boxes initiative on behalf of the residents of Fairfax.

We are petitioning Amazon to do a pilot Amazon Pick Up Program in Marin County, in which delivery trucks pick up used Amazon boxes and plastic mailers on subsequent deliveries and return them to Amazon warehouses for reuse.

Hank Cauley, Conservation International, Sr. VP of Environmental Leadership in Business, is advising us. He has directed us to: 1) collect 10,000 signatures to demonstrate that there is sufficient interest among Amazon customers in Marin to offer the program, and 2) garner endorsements from local government in the cities of Marin to elevate the issue inside Amazon.

Hundreds of Fairfax residents have signed the Amazon to Reuse Boxes petition. Throughout Marin more than 5,000 residents have signed the petition and the number of signatures continues to climb. Belvedere, Larkspur, and Muir Beach have already endorsed the initiative.

In its Climate Action Plan, the Town of Fairfax has committed to the reduction of waste through reuse and recycling. The reuse of cardboard boxes is key to this commitment. Reuse eliminates the need to remanufacture boxes. It conserves natural resources (timber, water) and causes no pollution. Ebay sellers and independent mail services have been reusing Amazon boxes for years.

Our goal here is to encourage the reuse of Amazon boxes and mailers as a way of slowing the volume of cardboard and plastic going into Marin's recycling system and landfills.

According to "USA Today" (6/8/18) an average of 25 percent of all cardboard is recycled in the U.S.; 75% goes to the landfill. One hundred million Amazon Prime Members place an estimated 5.2 billion orders a year in the U.S. Based on these numbers, over 3.5 billion Amazon boxes go to the landfill annually.

We need to safeguard the beauty of Marin County. Please: 1) support the Amazon to Reuse Boxes petition, and 2) provide a link on the Town of Fairfax website for residents to read about the initiative.

The link is: <http://chnng.it/cTrbLd4GbZ>

Sincerely,

Jennifer Barry (Fairfax)
Amy Hoffman (Fairfax)
Claire Fitzsimmons (Fairfax)
Terri Rose (Fairfax)
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