



Councilmember Ben Bartlett
City of Berkeley, District 3

CONSENT CALENDAR

July 11, 2017

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Ben Bartlett, Councilmember Kate Harrison

Subject: Referral to the Community Environmental Advisory Commission and the City Manager: Cigarette Butt Pollution Prevention Program in South Berkeley

RECOMMENDATION:

Refer to the Community Environmental Commission (CEAC) to consider developing a Cigarette Butt Pollution Prevention Program for South Berkeley. Explore the following items:

- a) **Location.** Work with the local business associations, business owners, as well as other neighborhood and community organizations to identify key locations for cigarette butt receptacles.
- b) **Operation.** Work with local businesses to develop a system for cleanup and disposal of the contents of the receptacles.
- c) **Cost.** Identify any one-time costs associated with the program, including purchasing and installation of the receptacles. Identify any costs that should be set aside for maintenance. There should not be regular ongoing costs. CEAC should work with the businesses and neighborhoods to develop a community-based system to facilitate daily operations.

SUMMARY:

According to the Public Health Law Center, in sheer numbers, cigarette butts constitute the most common type of litter today, with approximately 4.95 trillion cigarette butts thrown away annually. An estimated 30 percent of the total waste (by count) on U.S. shorelines, waterways and land is cigarette waste. This creates significant public health risks. Cigarette butts contain many toxins which can negatively impact the health of humans and animals. The toxins leach into the storm drains, groundwater, recreational bodies of water, and other environments.

On March 28, 2017, a cigarette butt pollution pilot program was established for Downtown Berkeley. South Berkeley community members have requested a similar program for their neighborhoods.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Staff time.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

This is in line with the City's environmental goals.

CONTACT PERSON

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