

From: Mary Ann Veira
To: Clerks Richmondhill
Sent: Mon 5/27/2019 12:43 PM
Subject: Councillor West's Motion re: Single Use Plastics - Council Mtg. May 28/19

To: The Clerk & Council Members:

My husband and I are long-time residents of Richmond Hill, and are fully in favour of Councillor West's motion for Richmond Hill staff to prepare and provide a report with a comprehensive strategy for reducing SUP's within our municipality, and in coordination with the regional government.

On our daily walks, we consistently find and pick up litter largely comprised of SUP's. It's disheartening that so soon after our "Clean Up, Green Up" campaign efforts which appear to have been very successful, it takes so little time for the whole problem to resurface.

The convenience of such SUP products has made them ubiquitous in our everyday lives, and we believe that one of the main focuses should be on education. From schoolchildren right through to the general population, the impact of these products on our environment (and our health) must be made crystal clear, so that compliance with any intended remedial measures will be successful. We all need to understand the reasons for the inconvenience that we will no doubt all experience to some degree in finding alternatives to SUPs.

There needs to be a full lifecycle analysis of the main contributors to SUP waste, in order to determine the extent to which each of them is responsible for environmental issues. The manufacturers, distributors and retailers must be held accountable to find alternatives that will lend themselves to adoption by the general public. We recognize that some of these measures are well beyond the scope of our municipality's jurisdiction, but recognizing them is a necessary step in determining what Richmond Hill CAN do.

We trust that this motion will receive unanimous support from our elected officials, since we face a CLIMATE CRISIS that can only worsen if we fail to act decisively.

Respectfully,

Peter & Mary Ann Veira