



Delray Beach Skip the Straw

Ordinance 10-19

City Commission
January 15, 2019





Skip the Straw Delay – Environmental Impacts

- Approximately 500,000,000 straws are used daily in the US, most for less than 20 minutes.
- Plastics never fully degrade, they break down into micro-plastics
- Plastic straws are non-recyclable plastics and a threat to marine life and birds. They are among the top 10 items found during beach cleanups.
- Compostable Straws are virtually the same as plastic straws, since they do not biodegrade in oceans or landfills.

● ● ● Skip the Straw Delray

Major Corporations have joined this campaign:

- Marriott International
- Hyatt
- American Airlines
- Alaskan Airlines
- Bon Appetite
- Disney
- SeaWorld Entertainment
- Royal Caribbean
- Starbucks
- McDonald's (select markets)



- Many national franchises support stores in areas with ordinances by providing alternative sustainable supplies



Skip the Straw Delay- Municipal Precedents

Deerfield Beach

- No distribution, use or sale, City-wide,
- Adopted 9/2018, goes into effect April 2019

Hallendale Beach

- No distribution, use or sale, City-wide
- Adopted 8/2018, goes into effect January 2019

Marco Island

- No distribution or serve, Beach-side establishments
- Adopted 3/2018 , in effect

Ft. Meyer Beach

- No distribution, City-wide
- Adopted 11/2017 , in effect

Miami Beach

- No provision or service, beach area or city property
- Adopted 3/2012 as part of Plastic ban

- **At least 11 cities nationally, including 5 in Florida, have adopted ordinances limiting or prohibiting plastic straws.**



●●● ‘Skip the Straw Delay ’ – Proposed Ordinance

Restrictions

- Ordinance would initially limit distribution of plastic straws to patrons that specifically request them. ***‘On Request Only’***.
- After 18 months, plastic straws, including PLA plastic, would be prohibited. Only reusable or marine-biodegradable straws would be permitted.
- Applied Citywide

Exclusions

- Patrons with medical or other physical disabilities
- Hospitals, homes for the aged, Palm Beach County schools
- Pre-packaged items originating elsewhere
- Can be sold in supermarkets, convenience stores and restaurant supply businesses.

'Skip the Straw Delay' – Proposed Ordinance



Two-phased Ordinance Allows for:

- Consumer preferences to change
- Establishments to gradually change to more sustainable alternatives
- The market to create better products, increase stock of available alternatives, and reduce price point in response to growing demand

Enforcement

- During initial 18-months, primarily warnings and education
- After 18-months-
 - First offense in 12-months \$100,
 - Second offense in 12-months \$200
 - Third offense in 12 months \$500
- Enforcement challenges



... ‘Skip the Straw Delay ’ – Fiscal Impacts

Expenses for food establishments will increase slightly.

- Paper Straws cost approximate 3 cents, versus 1 cent for plastic, so assuming use of 1500 straws weekly, this would be about \$30 weekly.
- However, fewer straws should be distributed, if restaurants “skip the straw” or provide them only on request.

Metal re-useable straws can be \$0.70 but last

‘Skip the Straw Delay’ –Community Engagement & Support



- The initiative originated from GIAB
- At least 19 establishments voluntarily adopted the campaign
- Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce, Policy Advisory Committee has voiced support



●●● Recommendation & Next Steps

- Approve ordinance before the State preemption in upcoming legislative session.
- Written notification to all business with Business Tax Receipts in restaurant/bar category of immediate “straws upon request” requirement
- Distribution of Pledge Skip the Straw – Window Decals to acknowledge campaign
- Develop educational materials for Code Enforcement to distribute and train code officers on topic for future prohibition phase in 18 months



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