
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

November 26, 2019

Ald. Cavalier Johnson
(414) 286-3777

Ban on single-use plastic straws approved by Common Council

The full Common Council today (Tuesday, November 26) recommended for approval an ordinance that would prohibit Milwaukee food establishments and alcohol beverage establishments from providing single-use, plastic beverage straws to customers.

The legislation – authored by **Alderman Cavalier Johnson** – is similar to legislation adopted in other cities and municipalities across the U.S. meant to substantially reduce the number of single-use plastic straws that too often end up as litter in public spaces and have a negative impact on the environment.

“By design these plastic straws are meant to be used and thrown away after just one use, and too often they become litter and have a negative impact on our streets, waterways and other areas of our communities,” Alderman Johnson said.

“This is one of the next logical steps in regards to environmental stewardship,” he continued. “These products are detrimental to the long term health of the environment as has been seen locally and globally. We need to continue looking at solutions to support the environment, and the passage of this legislation is a step forward.”

The ordinance provides a grace period for food and beverage establishments to adjust their practices and educate customers. The single-use plastic straw ban will go into effect on April 14, 2020. Certain exemptions would be permitted.

The ordinance (file #190942) is co-sponsored by Alderman Robert Bauman, Alderman Nik Kovac, Alderman Russell W. Stamper, II, Alderman José G. Pérez, Alderwoman Chantia Lewis, Alderman Khalif J. Rainey and Alderwoman Nikiya Dodd.

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