

## Santa Cruz considering plastic-bag ban

The Associated Press

Taking a cue from its neighbor to the north, San Francisco, the city of Santa Cruz is considering a ban on non-biodegradable plastic bags used by supermarkets and other retailers.

The petroleum-based sacks have been blamed for littering streets and choking marine life.

The city Public Works Department said a local ordinance has yet to be drafted.

The San Francisco law — passed last month — allows large markets and pharmacies to use biodegradable bags made of corn starch or bags made of recyclable paper.

Mayor Emily Reilly said she has received many e-mails and phone calls from residents who want the San Francisco bag ban extended to Santa Cruz.

“We need to include the community in the conversation and know that there won't be any unintended consequences before we forge ahead,” Reilly said.

<http://thecalifornian.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070418/NEWS01/70418004/1002>