

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2019 AS “NO STRAW
NOVEMBER” IN THE CITY OF GREENSBORO

WHEREAS, an estimated 500 million straws are used and discarded **every day** in the United States, which is enough to wrap around the Earth two and a half times;

WHEREAS, single-use plastic is a particularly harmful form of pollution. Single-use plastics remain in the environment indefinitely, harming wildlife, impacting water quality, and littering the environment;

WHEREAS plastic does not biodegrade, but instead breaks down into smaller and smaller pieces called microplastics, which are increasingly being found in drinking water and in aquatic animals with potentially dangerous human and environmental health impacts;

WHEREAS, single-use plastic pollution presents a danger to public health by increasing pathogens and chemicals in waterways and lowering water quality;

WHEREAS, the City of Greensboro celebrates America Recycles Day on November 15, 2019 to promote stewardship of natural resources, and plastics such as straws make up a large portion of debris removed;

WHEREAS, the City of Greensboro wants to support local nonprofit groups, schools, and businesses that have pledged a commitment to *No Straw November*. During this November, the City encourages businesses and restaurants to provide straws only upon request and to seek reusable or alternatives to plastic straws. The public is invited to pledge online to refuse plastic straws when they are not desired and encourage local businesses to minimize plastic straw waste;

WHEREAS, the Greensboro City Council’s goal is for Greensboro to become a leading city for sustainable efforts and this commitment to reducing single-use plastics supports those efforts; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENSBORO:

That it hereby recognizes the month of November 2019 as *No Straw November* in the City of Greensboro.