



**CITY OF LARKSPUR
Staff Report**

May 15, 2019 City Council Meeting

DATE: May 3, 2019
TO: Honorable Mayor Morrison and the Larkspur City Council
FROM: Jamie Kuryllo, City Clerk
SUBJECT: ADOPT A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A PILOT AMAZON PICK UP PROGRAM
IN MARIN COUNTY

ACTION REQUESTED

Adopt attached resolution.

SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND

Marin County residents have petitioned Amazon to do a pilot Amazon Pick Up Program in Marin County, in which delivery trucks will pick up used Amazon boxes on subsequent deliveries and return them to Amazon warehouses for reuse.

The petition has received more than 4,000 signatures of support both online and in-person; Additionally, the City of Belvedere, Muir Beach District, Mill Valley Refuse, Redwood High School Environmental Action Club, Seniors for Peace, 350Marin, Resilient Neighborhoods, San Domenico School Green Team and the Tiburon Mail Service have endorsed the petition. Marin County residents Barbara Winter and Carolyn Lund requested support from the Larkspur City Council and presented on the petition at the April 17, 2019 Council meeting.

In its Climate Action Plan, the City of Larkspur committed to the reduction of waste through reuse and recycling. The reuse of cardboard boxes is key to this goal as it eliminates the environmental and economic costs of curbside handling, long distance trucking, labor intensive sorting, methane gas emissions from decomposing cardboard and re-manufacturing boxes.

The proposed resolution demonstrates the Larkspur City Council's support of the Amazon Pick Up Program.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that Council adopt resolution supporting the pilot Amazon Pick Up Program in Marin County.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Schwarz, City Manager
Jamie Kuryllo, City Clerk

Attachments

1. Resolution
2. Letter Requesting Support

CITY OF LARKSPUR
RESOLUTION 25/19

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LARKSPUR
SUPPORTING A PILOT AMAZON PICK UP PROGRAM IN MARIN COUNTY

WHEREAS, Marin County residents have petitioned Amazon to do a pilot Amazon Pick Up Program in Marin County, in which delivery trucks will pick up used Amazon boxes on subsequent deliveries and return them to Amazon warehouses for reuse;

WHEREAS, the petition has received more than 4,000 signatures of support both online and in-person;

WHEREAS, the City of Belvedere, Muir Beach District, Mill Valley Refuse, Redwood High School Environmental Action Club, Seniors for Peace, 350Marin, Resilient Neighborhoods, San Domenico School Green Team and the Tiburon Mail Service have endorsed the petition;

WHEREAS, in its Climate Action Plan, the City of Larkspur has committed to the reduction of waste through reuse and recycling; and

WHEREAS, the reuse of cardboard boxes is key to this goal as it eliminates the environmental and economic costs of curbside handling, long distance trucking, labor intensive sorting, methane gas emissions from decomposing cardboard and re-manufacturing boxes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Larkspur supports the petition for a pilot Amazon Pick Up Program in Marin County.

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the City Council of the City of Larkspur duly introduced and regularly adopted the foregoing resolution at a regular meeting held on May 15, 2019 by the following vote:

- AYES: COUNCILMEMBER:
- NOES: COUNCILMEMBER:
- ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBER:
- ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBER:

Ann Morrison, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jamie Kuryllo, City Clerk

April 12, 2019

Dear Larkspur City Council,

We request your endorsement of an Amazon to Reuse Boxes initiative, on behalf of the students of Redwood High School and the residents of Larkspur.

We are petitioning Amazon to do a pilot Amazon Pick Up Program in Marin County, in which delivery trucks pick up used Amazon boxes on subsequent deliveries and return them to Amazon warehouses for reuse.

Hank Cauley, Conservation International, Sr. VP of Environmental Leadership in Business, is advising us. He has directed us to: 1) collect 10,000 signatures to demonstrate that there is sufficient interest among Amazon customers in Marin to offer the program, and 2) garner endorsements from local government in the cities of Marin to elevate the issue inside Amazon.

Support for an Amazon Pick up Program is widespread in Marin and signatures have climbed to 4,000 (online and in-person). The City of Belvedere has endorsed the initiative.

In its Climate Action Plan, the City of Larkspur has committed to the reduction of waste through reuse and recycling.

The reuse of cardboard boxes is key to this goal. Reuse eliminates the environmental and economic costs of curbside handling, long distance trucking, labor intensive sorting, and methane gas emissions from decomposing cardboard.

Reuse eliminates the need to re-manufacture boxes. It conserves natural resources (timber, water) and causes no pollution.

According to "USA Today" (6/8/18) an average of 25 percent of all cardboard is recycled in the U.S.; 75% goes to the landfill. One hundred million Amazon Prime Members place an estimated 5.2 billion orders a year, worldwide. Based on these numbers, over 3.5 billion Amazon boxes go to the landfill annually.

We need to safeguard the beauty of Marin County. Please: 1) "support the Amazon to Reuse Boxes petition", and 2) provide a link on the the City of Larkspur website for residents to read about the initiative. The link is: <http://chng.it/cTrbLd4GbZ>

Sincerely,

Lori Gerstenfeld (Redwood HS)
 Chloe Holder (Redwood HS)
 Alison Vela (Redwood HS)
 Gabriel Johnson (Redwood HS)
 Cameron Sam (Redwood HS)
 Kodey Moore (Redwood HS)
 Rebecca Dawson (Redwood HS)
 Skyy Latchford (Redwood HS)
 Taylor Canon (Redwood HS)
 Joe Stewart (Redwood HS Faculty, Environmental Science)

Linda & Michael Frender (Larkspur)
 Barbara & Karl Friday (Larkspur)
 Carol Feagles (Larkspur)
 Jennifer Harrison (Larkspur)
 Leila Lanctot (Larkspur)
 Suzanne Morgan (Belvedere)
 Carolyn Lund (Belvedere)
 Barbara Winter (Belvedere)