



**NATIONAL  
STEWARDSHIP  
ACTION COUNCIL<sup>SM</sup>**

**ADVOCATING FOR AN EQUITABLE, CIRCULAR ECONOMY**

# **Smoking Waste Pollution: It's Time to End the Scourge**

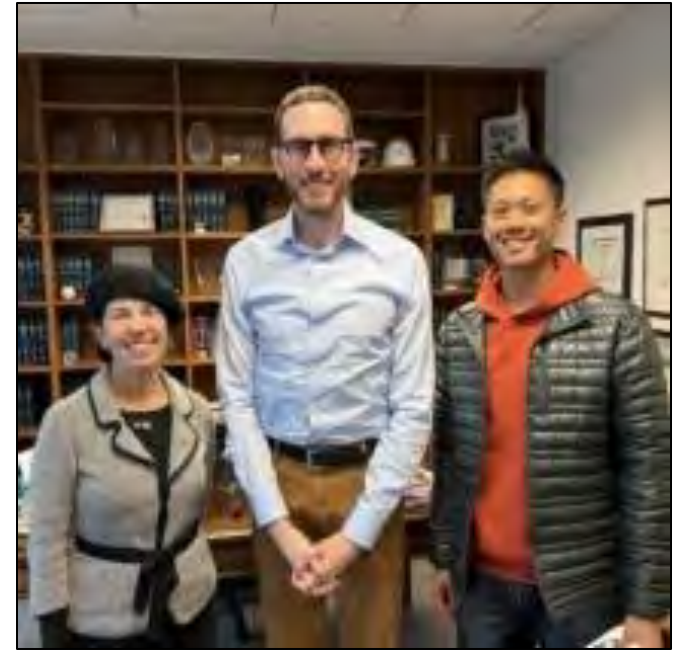
IDCon23  
April 20, 2023

**NSAC'S VISION:** The United States attains an equitable, circular economy.

# Russian Hill Neighbors



- Barbara Bella and Susan Gage: Co-chairs of the Neighborhood Enhancement Committee of Russian Hill Neighbors, (<https://rhnsf.org/>)
- Combined SF residency of over 45 years
- Business owners, community activists, concerned citizens
- Reach us at [cleanupandsmile@rhnsf.org](mailto:cleanupandsmile@rhnsf.org)



*RHN Chair Barbara Bella, Senator Scott Weiner, Vince Yuen*

# NSAC & SAF



The National Stewardship Action Council (NSAC) is a 501(c)4 non-profit organization with the vision that the United States attains an equitable, circular economy. NSAC is a network of committed proponents comprised of governments, non-government organizations, businesses, & consumers who advocate that **producers fairly share responsibility in an equitable, circular economy.**

**Stewardship Action Foundation** is the complimentary 501(c)3 non-profit organization to NSAC focusing on education, facilitation, bridge building & outreach capacity to support NSAC's policy efforts.



*Jordan Wells, Heidi Sanborn, Victoria Reiser*



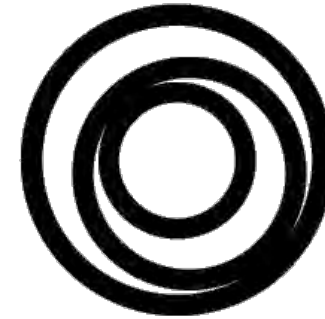
*Some of the NSAC Board of Directors*



# What is a Circular Economy?

It is based on three principles:

1. **Design out waste & pollution**
2. **Keep products & materials in use**
3. **Regenerate natural systems**



**ELLEN  
MACARTHUR  
FOUNDATION**

**Decouples economic activity  
from the consumption of  
finite resources.**





# Why Smoking Waste?

- Smoking-related debris is 1/3 or more of all debris items found on U.S. beaches & in rivers & streams
- Cigarette butts make up 34% of the total litter collected in CA
- The tobacco industry produces about 6 trillion cigarettes/year making cigarette butts the number one most littered item on Earth
- Roughly 4.5 trillion cigarette filters pollute our oceans, rivers, city sidewalks, parks, soil & beaches every year

## **Cigarette butts: how the no 1 most littered objects are choking our coasts**



# Filters - Health Protective? Or Not...

## Cigarette filters are the No.1 plastic pollutant ... and don't prevent cancer

- As early as the mid-1960s, the U.S. Surgeon General determined cigarette filters to be useless in reducing harm to the average smoker and may even present new dangers to lung health.
- 2014 Surgeon General's Report on smoking and health concluded that changing cigarette designs have caused an increase in lung adenocarcinomas, implicating tobacco filters as the cause.
- Study published in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute in 2017 states that "the FDA should consider regulating [filters] use, up to and including a ban." Lastly, there is still no compelling evidence that cigarette filters have done anything to mitigate other health hazards of smoking, such as heart disease.

# Policy Options

- [Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act of 2009](#) - limitations on state & local jurisdictions regulatory authority regulating tobacco product standards, labeling, & manufacturing practices.
- Sales Bans
  - Ocean Protection Council's Statewide Microplastics Strategy:  
*“Prohibit the sale and distribution of single-use tobacco products that demonstrably contribute to tobacco product plastic pollution, including but not limited to cigarette filters, electronic cigarettes, plastic cigar tips, and unrecyclable tobacco product packaging by 2022.”*
- Lawsuits/reimbursement of costs
- EPR???
- Cigarette clean-up fee – City of SF: but is it working??

**Tobacco companies to be billed for cleaning up cigarette butts in Spain**

# Many Statewide Attempts

1. 2022: [AB 1690 \(L. Rivas\)](#) *NSAC Sponsored* – cigarettes & single-use vaping devices
2. 2019-20: [SB 424 \(Jackson\)](#) *NSAC Sponsored* – cigarettes & single-use vaping devices
3. 2017-18: [AB 2308 \(Stone\)](#) – Single-use cigarette filters
4. 2015-16: [AB 48 \(Stone\)](#) – Single-use cigarette filters
5. 2013-14: [AB 1504 \(Stone\)](#) – Single-use cigarette filters

No ifs, ands or butts: California bill would ban single-use smoking products like cigarette filters

## Bill Proposed to Cut Toxic Cigarette Waste

Senate Bill 424 Would Ban Filtered Cigarettes

Why a California lawmaker wants to ban cigarette filters and disposable vapes

**Kicking Butts: NY Bill Proposes Banning Filtered Cigarettes**



# Generational Bans

- Brookline, Massachusetts: January 1, 2000
- New Zealand: January 1, 2009
- California - [AB 935 \(Connolly\)](#): January 1, 2007

## 'Long overdue': New Zealand models generational tobacco purchasing ban on a U.S. suburb

In Brookline, Massachusetts, anyone born after Jan. 1, 2000, is barred from buying tobacco products – ever.

Nevada assemblyman pushes to ban tobacco sales by 2030

New Zealand passes world-first tobacco law to ban smoking for next generation

Anyone born after 2006 could never buy tobacco products under new California bill

Hawaii lawmaker wants to ban cigarette sales for anyone under 100 years old

# AB 935 Amended in Assembly Health, 4/13

## Tobacco sales phaseout withers in California without support from anti-tobacco advocates

A bill to phase out all tobacco sales in California has been shelved, and anti-tobacco groups won't say why they didn't offer support. The bill was amended to focus on enforcing an existing ban on flavored tobacco.

None of seven primary sponsors of the flavored tobacco ban — the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, the American Heart Association, the American Lung Association, the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, Common Sense, Lt. Gov. Eleni Kounalakis and state Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond — took a public position on AB 935. Most declined to discuss their reasons with CalMatters.

# Public Support

- According to a 2020 survey by the California Department of Public Health a significant majority of California's adults (67.9%) would support a policy to ban single-use smoking products to reduce waste.

**Most US adults support banning sales of all tobacco products, CDC survey says**

**Survey: A majority of Americans support banning all tobacco products**

# Local Action

- Sales Bans
  - City of Beverly Hills
  - City of Manhattan Beach
- Lawsuits
  - City of Baltimore, MD

Beverly Hills becomes the first U.S. city to end most tobacco sales



**Manhattan Beach moves to ban sale of vaping products and all tobacco**

**City of Baltimore Sues Big Tobacco to Recover Costs of Cigarette Litter Damage**





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