

**Gautho, Julia**

---

**From:** Megan Siegel <megan.siegel13@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2025 12:17 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Ban filtered cigarettes

Dear Mayor Clarke, Vice Mayor Morgan, and Council Members Westman, Orbach and Jensen,

We need your support to ban the sale of filtered cigarettes that are polluting the beaches of the California Coast.

I grew up in Capitola and swam at the beaches all along the Santa Cruz County coast. A persistent memory is walking along the sand and finding cigarette butts that would end up in the water and ultimately in the bodies of sea creatures.

Cigarette butts are highly toxic. Smokers ingest more toxins from the filters themselves than if they did not use them at all. No one needs cigarette filters.

Please make Capitola a leader in environmental protection by banning the sale of filtered cigarettes.

Thank you,

Megan Siegel

*I am writing to you in support of the adoption of a policy that bans the sale of filtered, pre-rolled tobacco products including cigarettes, cigarillos, and little cigars, in the City of Capitola. This policy is critical to address one of the most persistent litter items in Capitola, the county of Santa Cruz and across the globe: cigarette butts.*