



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

NOTE THE MEETING CHANGE

Thursday
June 17, 2021
7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

PURSUANT TO GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 AND THE ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY CONCERNING THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS DISEASE THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD AS A TELECONFERENCE/VIRTUAL MEETING. OBSERVERS MAY VIEW THE MEETING LIVESTREAMED VIA THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE AT:

<https://antiochca.gov/parksandrecreationmeeting>

Notice of Opportunity to Address the Parks and Recreation Commission

There are two ways to submit public comments to the Commission:

Prior to 7:00pm the day of the meeting written comments may be submitted electronically to the Director of Parks and Recreation at the following email address:

bhelfenberger@antiochca.gov. Include your comments in the email communication.

All comments received before 7:00 pm the day of the meeting will be provided to the Parks and Recreation Commissioners at the meeting. **Please indicate the agenda item and title in your email subject line.**

After 7:00 the day of the meeting and during the meeting all comments may be submitted verbally by dialing (925) 779-7078. Call-in comments will be heard by Commissioners during the virtual meeting.

Individuals may view the agenda and related writings on the City of Antioch website: www.antiochca.gov. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and California law, it is the policy of the City of Antioch to offer its public programs, services and meetings in a manner that is readily accessible to everyone, including individuals with disabilities. If you are a person with a disability and require information or materials in an appropriate alternative format; or if you require any other accommodation, please contact the ADA Coordinator at the number or address below at least 72 hours prior to the meeting or when you desire to receive services. Advance notification within this guideline will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility. The City's ADA Coordinator can be reached @ Phone: (925) 779-6950, and e-mail: publicworks@ci.antioch.ca.us.



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

June 17, 2021

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Residents are given the opportunity to address the Commission on Park and Recreation issues not on the regular agenda.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Recommended Action:

1. Motion to approve annotated agenda minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting of May 20, 2021.

VI. BUSINESS

1. Antioch Council of Teens and Youth Tobacco Advocacy Policy Project (YTAPP) Presentation of Recommendations
2. Presentation of Bicycle Concept and Formation of Ad-Hoc Committee
3. Discussion of Antioch Trails
4. Possibility of Adding Pickleball Striping to Certain City Tennis Courts

VII. COMMUNICATIONS (Announcements and Correspondence)

1. Staff Communication
2. Commission Communication

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

NOTE THE MEETING LOCATION CHANGE

**Antioch Community Center
4703 Lone Tree Way
Antioch, CA 94531**

**Thursday
May 20, 2021
7:00 p.m.**

ANNOTTATED AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order by Chair Arce at 7:01 pm

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Arce led the Pledge of Allegiance

III. ROLL CALL

*Commissioners Present: Arce, Belche, Eubanks, Knight, Peckenham
Commissioners Absent: Foster, McClelland,
Staff Present: Brad Helfenberger, Parks and Recreation Director
John Samuelson, Public Works Director
Thomas Lloyd-Smith, City Attorney
Scott Buening, Project Manager*

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Residents are given the opportunity to address the Commission on Park and Recreation issues not on the regular agenda.

There were no public comments

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Recommended Action:

1. Motion to approve annotated agenda minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting of March 18, 2021.

Motion to Approve Minutes for Meeting of March 18, 2021

*Motion: Knight, Second: Arce 5 Yes / 0 No
2 Absent*

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VI. BUSINESS

1. Ratify Lifting of the Ban on Bounce Houses and Inflatables in Parks and Picnic Areas

Director Helfenberger provided background information on the existing ban, explaining that it would be appropriate to lift it effective June 15th when the state is anticipated to lift most restrictions relating to COVID-19.

Motion to Ratify Lifting of the Ban of Bounce Houses and Inflatables in Parks and Picnic Areas.

Motion: Arce, Second: Knight

5 Yes /0 No

2 Absent

2. Draft 2021-2026 Five Year Capital Improvement Program, P.W. 150-21

Project Manager Buening introduced the CIP plan and explained the approval process.

Chair Arce asked if a project for trail improvements. Staff responded that trails were being addressed through regular maintenance, which is included in the CIP. Chair Arce requested an agenda item on the next meeting to discuss possible locations of focus for trail maintenance and improvement.

Motion to Recommend that the City Council Approve the 5 Year Capital Improvement Program.

Motion: Arce, Second: Knight

5 Yes /0 No

2 Absent

VII. COMMUNICATIONS (Announcements and Correspondence)

1. Staff Communication

Director Helfenberger gave an update on reopening plans of the Parks and Recreation Department. The Water Park is schedule to open for general admission on June 21st.

The Senior Center is anticipated to open in early August.

Director Samuelson announced that a new Parks Supervisor, Derek Traya, has been hired. Public Works is focused on improving irrigation in parks.

Director Helfenberger announced that at the June meeting, the Parks and Recreation Commission will have a discussion on installing a "Bicycle Garden" in a park in Antioch.

2. Commission Communication

Commissioner Belche announced he will not be attending the June meeting. Chair Arce announced that the City Council is discussion several items related to youth development. She also attended a Ribbon Cutting ceremony for the Coal Mine Experience at Black Diamond Mines Regional Park. Contra Loma Regional Park is opening May 28th. Commissioner Eubanks noted that the new City Council Chambers look nice.

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VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Arce, Second: Belche

5 Yes /0 No

2 Absent


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STAFF REPORT TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

DATE: Regular Meeting of June 17, 2021

TO: Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission

SUBMITTED BY: Tasha Johnson, Youth Services Network Manager

APPROVED BY: Brad Helfenberger, Parks and Recreation Director 

SUBJECT: Youth Development - Youth Tobacco Advocacy Policy Project (YTAPP) Presentation of Recommendations

RECOMMENDED ACTION

It is recommended that the Parks and Recreation Commission receive the presentation of recommendations from the Youth Tobacco Advocacy Policy Project (YTAPP).

FISCAL IMPACT

This recommended action has no direct fiscal impact at this time.

DISCUSSION

Bay Area Community Resources (BACR) established a Youth Tobacco Advocacy Policy Project (YTAPP) group in 2019 to create change around youth tobacco use in Antioch. Working in partnership with Antioch youth to prohibit the sale of flavored tobacco products, YTAPP priority areas include a Tobacco Retail License (TRL) ordinance in Antioch. An "ABCs of TRL" sheet was created to explain the different components of a potential ordinance. The YTAPP priorities reflect the need to reduce predatory marketing and promotion of products to youth. Below is a list of the issues, in order of importance, included in the TRL:

1. **Prohibiting the sale of flavored tobacco products**, including menthol cigarettes.
2. **Prohibiting the sale of electronic smoking devices.**
3. **Setting a minimum price of \$10** for cigarettes, little cigars and cigars.
4. **Proximity:** New retailers must locate more than 1000 feet away from areas youth frequent, such as parks and schools.
5. **Density:** Set a density cap, restricting the number of retailers (TBD) per city council district.
6. **Setting a minimum pack** size of 20 cigarillos/little cigars and a minimum pack size of 6 cigars.

7. The **TRL will not penalize the purchase, use, or possession** of a tobacco product by any person not engaged in tobacco retail.

Other items to be considered, although it impacts youth less directly, include:

- Requiring on-site sales
- Enacting tobacco-free pharmacies
- Eliminating coupons and discounting

These proposals were presented at the City Council Regular Meeting of May 25th. The Council voted to direct staff to incorporate all of the issues above into city ordinance except #2. The amended ordinances are currently in development.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Resolution of the Antioch Council of Teens
- B. Tobacco Prevention Education Materials
- C. Letters of Support

Tobacco in the Retail Environment

Antioch Survey Highlights

Survey Findings Confirm Tobacco is being Promoted to Youth

Targeting Minority Communities at the Register

For nearly 50 years, tobacco companies have targeted low-income, minority communities, with advertising efforts. Research shows that lower socioeconomic neighborhoods have a greater number of tobacco retailers, widespread tobacco marketing and significantly higher rates of smoking.

Tobacco Stores Near to Antioch Schools

- Antioch has 35 tobacco retailers within 1000 feet of a school or other youth sensitive area in Antioch.
- Citywide, there are 26 schools grades K-12
- 1 store surveyed felt uncomfortable selling tobacco products

Abundance of cheap, sweet-flavored “little cigars” in Antioch

- 93% of stores sell cigarillos/ little cigars in flavors such as blueberry, peach, and cherry delight
- In Antioch, these can be bought for less than \$1.00, cheaper than the price of a candy bar

Menthol Cigarettes Targeted at Youth and African Americans

- 96% of the stores surveyed sold Menthol cigarettes
- Menthol hides the harshness of tobacco and makes it easier to inhale
- Menthol cigarettes are aggressively marketed to African American and Latino youth

E-Cigs –A Growing Trend

- 54% of stores sell E-cigarettes/Vape pens/E-hookah/E-liquid
- The CDC reports a sharp increase of e-cigarette use among middle and high school students between 2017 and 2018
- Many of these products are attractive to youth because they are relatively cheap and come in flavors like Gummy-bear and PearAdise

Heavy Marketing in Stores The tobacco industry spends over \$600 million advertising and promoting tobacco products in California and our kids are paying the price. Tobacco companies today spend more than 90 percent of their total marketing budget to advertise and promote their products in stores. Exposure to tobacco marketing in stores increases tobacco experimentation and use by youth and is more powerful than peer pressure.



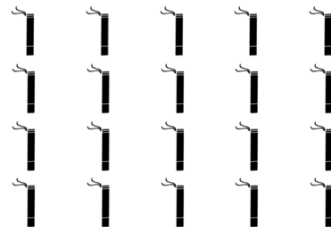
TAKE ACTION: PROTECT YOUTH FROM TOBACCO

The Role of Electronic Smoking Devices & Flavored Tobacco on Youth Tobacco Use in Antioch



Smoking harms nearly every organ in the body. It can cause diseases including cancer, heart disease, stroke, diabetes, & COPD.

Vaping products are electronic and come in many shapes, sizes, and flavors to smoke. **When a person smokes an electronic device, they inhale compounds like acetone, ethanol and formaldehyde, and other harmful chemicals that have been known to cause lung damage.**



12% of Antioch 7th graders report having vaped an electronic cigarette. The wide range of flavors, targeted at youth, combined with the sleek appearance make e-cigarettes more popular than traditional cigarettes.

By 9th grade, 29% of Antioch youth will have vaped.

12%



Despite the state ban on flavors, it will likely be up to voters in the 2022 election. **Local cities can still take action** and pass their own tobacco retail policies to protect youth and families in their community.



Youth Tobacco Advocacy and Policy Project (YTAPP)

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This material was prepared by Bay Area Community Resources.

For more information please contact **Ryan Orihood** at rorihood@bacr.org.



ABCs of TRLs: Basics of a Model Tobacco Retail License for Antioch

Tobacco Retail License (TRL) Structure

What it does: A local license would be required to sell tobacco products in Antioch and would be renewed annually by retailers. It would be revenue neutral, limited to the amount necessary for administration and compliance check expenses.

Why it matters: TRLs provide a framework for all retail-oriented tobacco policy. The fee provides a stable funding source to ensure consistent compliance with the policy, thus helping to keep tobacco products away from underage youth.

Flavor Restriction

What it does: No flavored tobacco products can be sold. In addition to menthol cigarettes, e-liquids and flavored little cigars, this also includes flavored hookah, cigars, and pipe tobacco.

Why it matters: The state ban on the sale of most flavored tobacco products will be subjected to a tobacco industry sponsored referendum in 2022. As of 8/31/20, 81 cities and counties in CA have stopped the sale of all flavored tobacco products.[1] 80% of youth who use tobacco started with a flavored product.[2]

Minimum Pack Size

What it does: Cigarettes, little cigars, and cigarillos must be sold in packs of at least 20. The minimum pack size for cigars is 6.

Why it matters: Federal law requires cigarettes to be sold in packs of 20. Cigarillos are easily available as singles or two packs for under \$1, making them more accessible to youth. Minimum pack requirements can increase the unit price but are more effective when combined with minimum price policies.

Minimum Price

What it does: Cigarettes, little cigars, and cigarillos must cost above \$10 after taxes and fees. Single “premium” cigars cost at least \$12. These prices increase annually with the regional Consumer Price Index to remain a deterrent to price sensitive groups.

Why it matters: The Surgeon General recommends \$10.00 for a pack of cigarettes to make them less accessible to youth.[3] Comparable prices for other tobacco products removes loopholes. Over 100 studies show that increasing tobacco prices reduces tobacco use by underage youth.[4]

Electronic Cigarette Sales

What it does: No electronic smoking devices or products for electronic smoking devices can be sold. This includes disposable e-cigarettes, e-cigarettes with pre-filled or refillable cartridge, tanks, mods, pod-mods and vaporizers and their liquids

Why it matters: Vapes, attractive to young people, often contain high levels of nicotine, addicting teens’ developing brains. The American Medical Association called for a ban on all e-cigarette and vaping products due to the novel lung disease, EVALI.

Tobacco-free Pharmacies

What it does: Pharmacies or larger retailers containing pharmacies, such as Walgreens and Walmart, cannot be issued a TRL or sell tobacco products.

Why it matters: A 2018 study showed 8% of pharmacies sold tobacco to minors.[5] It is ironic that people go to pharmacies to get healthy, and find tobacco on sale, often next to FDA approved smoking cessation products.

Density

What it does: The jurisdiction will only issue a certain number of TRLs, proportional to the population of the area.

Why it matters: Low income and minority communities have larger numbers of tobacco retailers by population, exposing youth in those areas to greater risk of addiction. Retailers in excess of the density cap can be reduced over time through attrition.



Proximity

What it does: Retailers must be >1000 feet away from areas youth frequent, such as parks and schools, and >600 feet from other tobacco retailers or cannabis dispensaries. This applies only to new retailers, who were not in business at ordinance adoption.

Why it matters: Youth tobacco use rates are higher in areas with more tobacco retailers near schools. Tobacco retailers near cannabis dispensaries encourage youth to use both products. Tobacco outlets will be reduced by attrition.

On-site Sales

What it does: All sales of tobacco must be in-person and take place over-the-counter at the licensed location. Other manners of sale, such as over the phone, the internet, mobile app, delivery, and curbside pick-up are not allowed.

Why it matters: Internet sales can be used to circumvent local ordinances designed to stop youth access to tobacco.

Coupon/Discounting

What it does: Tobacco retailers cannot honor coupons, promotions, or any other means of reducing the sale price of tobacco below the list price.

Why it matters: The tobacco industry uses discounts and coupons to blunt the impact of price increases that are intended to keep youth from getting addicted.

Avoiding Purchase/Use/Possession (PUP) Penalties

What it does: Ensures that underage people, who have been targeted for years by big tobacco companies, are not penalized for purchasing, using, or possessing tobacco.

Why it matters: Penalizing youth for possession of tobacco doesn't reduce tobacco use and enforcement of such laws are often inequitable.

Penalty Structure

What it does: Any violation results in suspension of the license, and therefore the ability to sell tobacco. The length of the suspension increases with subsequent violations within a 5-year period. Multiple violations can result in revocation. Fines are paid by the business owner. Sales clerks are not penalized.

Why it matters: The potential of a temporary loss of license acts as a sufficient incentive to retailers to ensure that they require clerks to check I.D. every time. Fines don't have the same impact, and warnings, given the infrequency of youth decoy operations, allow retailers to continue selling to youth for an extended period.

Compliance Checks

What it does: The enforcing agency makes at least 1 visit to each licensee each year to ensure that retailers are compliant and are not selling tobacco to people under 21. Violators should be rechecked within 3 months.

Why it matters: If youth decoy operation compliance checks are not performed at least yearly, retailers are less likely to guard against youth sales. Follow up checks to violators further incentivize changes in behavior.

© 2020 California Department of Public Health. Funded under Contract Number CTCP-17-07. This material was adapted by the Youth Tobacco Advocacy and Policy Project with Bay Area Community Resources, based on local TRLs and other model policies. For more information, please contact Ryan Orihood at rorihood@bacr.org or the YTAPP youth advocacy team at YTAPP@bacr.org.



Sources:

1. Bach, L. Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids. States & Localities that have Restricted the Sale of Flavored Tobacco Products. (2020). <https://www.tobaccofreekids.org/assets/factsheets/0398.pdf>
2. Ambrose, B. K., Day, H. R., Rostron, B., Conway, K. P., Borek, N., Hyland, A., & Villanti, A. C. (2015). Flavored Tobacco Product Use Among US Youth Aged 12-17 Years, 2013-2014. JAMA, 314(17), 1871. doi:10.1001/jama.2015.13802
3. HHS, The Health Consequences of Smoking: 50 Years of Progress. A Report of the Surgeon General, Atlanta, GA: HHS, CDC, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, 2014, <http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/50-years-of-progress/index.html>.
4. Chaloupka FJ, Yurekli A, Fong GT. Tobacco taxes as a tobacco control strategy. Tobacco Control 2012;21:172-180. doi:10.1136/tobaccocontrol-2011-050417
5. Lee, J., Schleicher, N. C., Leas, E. C., & Henriksen, L. (2018). US Food and Drug Administration Inspection of Tobacco Sales to Minors at Top Pharmacies, 2012-2017. JAMA pediatrics, 172(11), 1089-1090. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamapediatrics.2018.2150>





Antioch

Tobacco Retailers

Tobacco Retailers	71	
Retailers per 1,000 Population	0.6	
Retailers Within 500' of School	7	9.9 %
Retailers Within 1,000' of School	22	31.0 %

Age

Total Population	111,200	
Under Age 5	6,839	6.2 %
Age 5 - 17	20,791	18.7 %
Under Age 21	31,701	28.5 %

Race / Ethnicity

Total Population	111,200	
White	30,883	27.8 %
Hispanic / Latino	36,902	33.2 %
Asian & Pacific Islander	13,505	12.1 %
Black	23,431	21.1 %
All Other Races	6,479	5.8 %

Earnings and Poverty

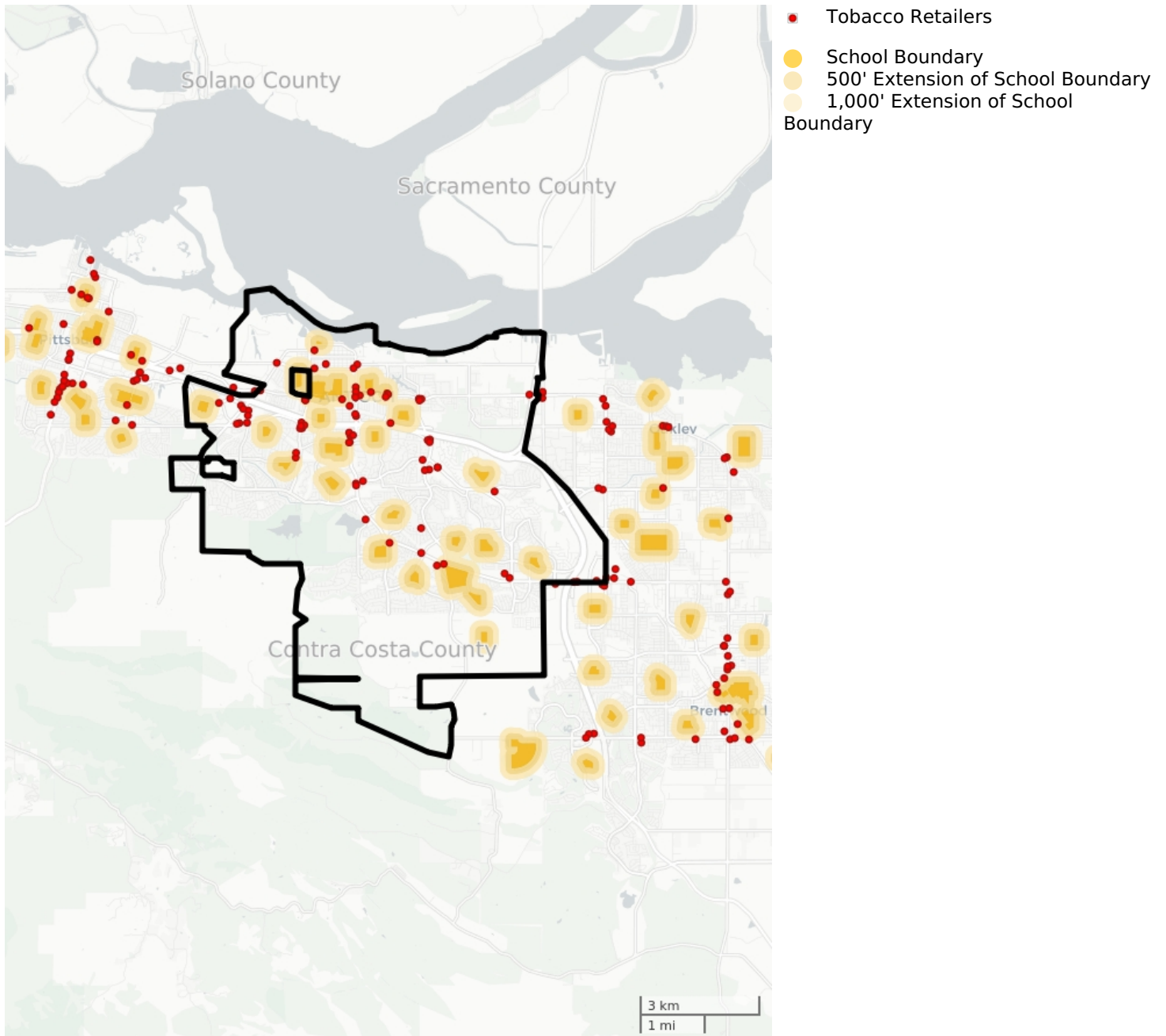
Households	34,028	
Median/Average Household Income	\$ 76601	
Receiving SNAP	4,896	14.4 %

Public Schools

Schools	26	
High	7	26 %
Middle/Junior High	5	53 %
Elementary	14	53 %
Schools Within 500' of Tobacco	7	26 %
Schools Within 1,000' of Tobacco	14	53 %



Antioch



California Tobacco Health Assessment Tool

Sources & Methodologies

Licensed Tobacco Retailers: [California Department of Tax and Fee Administration \(CDTFA\) www.cdtfa.ca.gov/](http://www.cdtfa.ca.gov/). The map includes 30,075 retailers with valid addresses from a list of tobacco retail licenses obtained in 2020.

Adult Smoking Rates: [California Health Interview Survey \(CHIS\)](#). These statistics are point estimates and 95% confidence intervals for adult (18 yrs and older) current (past 30 day) smokers. Estimates are reported by county and statewide. Counties that are small in population size are computed by combining data from multiple counties, but are still reported per county. Grouped Counties:

- Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Inyo, Mariposa, Mono, Tuolumne
- Colusa, Glenn, Tehama
- Del Norte, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Sierra, Siskiyou, Trinity
- Napa, Sonoma
- San Benito, Santa Cruz
- Santa Barbara, Ventura
- The remaining 35 counties estimates are county specific.

School Boundaries, Centroids, University Lands, Community Colleges: [California School Campus Database 2021](#)

Total Retail Licensing (TRL) and Flavor Sales restriction data: California Tobacco Control Program's Policy Evaluation Tracking System, in partnership with Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation, Policy data as of September, 2020 Source: [American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation](#)

School Districts: TIGER 2020 [census.gov/geographies/mapping-files/time-series/geo/tiger-line-file.html](https://www.census.gov/geographies/mapping-files/time-series/geo/tiger-line-file.html)

Demographics: American Community Survey 2015-2019 5-year estimates.
The following fields are used:

- Population: B01001_001E
- Under 5: B01001_003E + B01001_027E
- Age 5 to 17: (B01001_004E to B01001_006E) + (B01001_028E to B01001_030E)
- Age 18 to 19: B01001_007E + B01001_031E
- Under 21 (Age 0 to 20): (B01001_003E to B01001_008E) + (B01001_027E to B01001_032E)
- White, not Hispanic or Latino: B03002_003E
- Hispanic/Latino, of any race: B03002_012E
- Asian/Pacific Islander, not Hispanic or Latino: B03002_006E + B03002_007E
- Black, not Hispanic or Latino: B03002_004E
- All Other Races, not Hispanic or Latino [American Indian, Some other race, Two or more races]: B03002_005E + B03002_008E + B03002_009E
- Households: B19001_001E
- Median Household Income (block group, tract, city/place, county, ZCTA): B19013_001E
- Median Household Income (unincorporated and half mile areas): B19001_001E to B19001_017E
- SNAP Benefits: B22010_001E, B22010_002E, B22010_005E

City, Designated Place, Zip Code Tabulation Area, Tract, Block Group: TIGER 2019

Parks and Open Space: California Protected Areas Database www.calands.org (CPAD 2020b), December 2020

Demographics for counties, cities, designated places, and ZCTAs were extracted from the Census API available from the Census Bureau. Distance measures for proximity of tobacco retailers and schools were calculated using ArcGIS Pro(2.7.2).

Demographics for school selections and half-mile buffers, are estimated based on the census block groups intersecting the displayed area. For statistics other than median household income, this is a weighted proportion based on the population of each block group and the area which intersects the block group. The income figure is the median of block groups with their centroid within the buffer. These data should be interpreted with caution.

ZIP Codes are mail routes and do not have an associated polygon geometry. ZCTAs are a generalized representation of service areas. More information and resources are available at: www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/zctas.html ZIP Codes are a trademark of the US Postal Service, ZIP Code Tabulation Areas are a trademark of the United States Census Bureau.

Additional information on analysis, methods, and data processing are available at: <https://cthat.org/#methods>

Developed by the Stanford Prevention Research Center prevention.stanford.edu and **GreenInfo Network** greeninfo.org.

Last updated: April 2021

- Harvard Health Blog - <https://www.health.harvard.edu/blog> -

EVALI: New information on vaping-induced lung injury

Posted By [Molly Wolf, MD](#) & [Laura K. Rock, MD](#) On April 3, 2020 @ 6:30 am In [Addiction, Health, Lung disease, Smoking cessation](#) | [Comments Disabled](#)

E-cigarettes (vapes) first made headlines due to skyrocketing sales and popularity. Then reports of serious illnesses and deaths related to vaping tobacco and other substances began mounting in summer 2019. By mid-February 2020, [the CDC reported](#) more than 2,800 cases of lung injuries requiring hospitalization across all 50 states, and 68 deaths. EVALI, as this illness is now called, continues to generate questions, although emergency department visits related to vaping have been declining.

Why did vaping injuries, and even deaths, seem to occur so suddenly, even though e-cigarettes have been in use for years? Why is EVALI difficult to diagnose? What sort of lung injuries occur and what might be causing them? Why are only some people affected, while others continue to use vape products without apparent illness? And what do we know so far about possible long-term consequences of vaping?

A jump in popularity for vaping

Especially among young adults, e-cigarette use rose quickly in recent years. Among high school seniors, for example, use rates rose from nearly zero in 2011 to almost 29% in 2019, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). An estimated 9% of adults 18 and over use vaping products, according to a 2018 [Gallup poll](#).

What is EVALI?

EVALI (e-cigarette or vaping product use associated lung injury) is an inflammatory response in the lungs triggered by inhaled substances. Given a huge range of products — many illicit or counterfeit — and many different ingredients, it's not surprising that EVALI varies, too. It may occur as pneumonia, damage to tiny air sacs in the lungs (alveoli), or an inflammatory reaction called fibrinous pneumonitis.

Why is EVALI hard to diagnose?

Confirming a diagnosis of EVALI has been difficult because no simple lab test for it is available. Right now, doctors diagnose EVALI based on symptoms, recent use of vaping products, abnormalities found on lung scans, and no evidence of infection. Unfortunately, direct lung examination requires a bronchoscopy, which most patients are too sick to tolerate safely. Data from patients who did undergo bronchoscopy has so far failed to identify the mechanism causing lung injuries.

What do we know about what causes EVALI?

It has been hard to pinpoint the causes of EVALI. There are thousands of vaping products with varying ingredients, including illicit substances. Most likely, more than one specific product or substance is causing severe lung problems. No one knows why some people get EVALI and others do not, but part of this is probably due to the different ingredients they have inhaled.

- The most common brand associated with EVALI is Dank Vape, a brand of products containing THC, the principal psychoactive ingredient in marijuana.
- Exclusively using products with THC increases risk for EVALI. (It's unclear whether people who used nicotine-only vapes also were exposed to vape products with THC, or whether other ingredients caused the lung injury.)
- Vitamin E acetate is strongly associated with EVALI. It is found largely in counterfeit brands (and recently in Juul products from South Korea). Vitamin E is a supplement considered safe when ingested or applied to the skin. Vitamin E acetate is an oil derivative used in vaping products as a thickener. It is found in about half of the products associated with EVALI. A recent small study found vitamin E deposits in the lung tissue of EVALI patients.
- Other chemical components, including triglycerides, plant oils, petroleum distillates, and diluent terpenes have been found in bronchoscopy specimens of EVALI patients. But none are present in all patients.

Potential long-term health concerns related to vaping

Naturally, severe illness and death from vaping-related lung injury has received a lot of attention. But there are other causes for concern about the long-term health effects of inhaled vapors, including humectants, flavorings, the heating process, and metallic coil corrosion.

- **Humectants** are additives used to produce vapor, such as propylene glycol or glycerol. Human respiratory cells exposed to humectants in lab experiments show increased inflammation and decreased survival. This raises concern about lung damage when people inhale humectants.
- Thousands of vape **flavoring products** have been reported. Because these are inhaled, not ingested, they are not regulated by the Flavor and Extract Manufacturers Association (FEMA). Diacetyl, which gives food a buttery or creamy flavor, is one example. Factory workers exposed to high levels of diacetyl in popcorn factories have developed lung injury known as “popcorn lung,” so it is regulated in the workplace by OSHA. Yet diacetyl is used in over 60% of sweet-flavored vapes, and just three to four puffs a day far exceeds exposure limits set by OSHA.
- **Heating ingredients** to create vapor causes their chemical components to decompose, which may also be a health hazard. For example, heating propylene glycol produces aldehydes, which expose users to five to 15 times the levels of formaldehyde vapor — a known carcinogen — found in tobacco cigarettes.
- Additionally, repeated use of refillable cartridges can **cause metal heating coils to decompose**, which could lead to inhaling or ingesting heavy metals. The toxic metals manganese and zinc have been isolated from used vaping devices. These can cause illness when ingested at high levels. There are also case reports of lung injury linked with cobalt in vaping liquid. This has been attributed to coil corrosion.

The bottom line

For now, the CDC and FDA strongly recommend that people avoid use of e-cigarettes or vaping products containing THC, especially from the illicit market. Health care workers must report any suspected cases of EVALI to their state department of health. In Massachusetts, new legislation bans the sale of all flavored tobacco products starting in June 2020, and imposes a tax on nicotine vaping products. The United States House and Senate have passed a bill prohibiting sales of tobacco and e-cigarettes to anyone under 21 years old. While these measures are a start, it’s also necessary to regulate the safety of the ingredients in e-cigarettes.

Related Information: [Quit Smoking for Good](#)

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Decriminalizing Commercial Tobacco

Addressing Systemic Racism in the Enforcement of Commercial Tobacco Control

This joint statement from a consortium of public health organizations sets forth aspirational principles to help local and state health departments, decisionmakers, advocates, and other stakeholders advance equitable enforcementⁱ practices related to the purchase, possession, sale, and distribution of all tobacco products.ⁱⁱ These principles can also help address tobacco addiction and reduce tobacco-related harms while maintaining and improving the efficacy of enforcement of commercial tobacco laws and policies.



ⁱ This document adopts the definition of equitable enforcement set forth in the ChangeLab Solutions resource Equitable Enforcement to Achieve Health Equity: An Introductory Guide for Policymakers and Practitioners:

“Equitable enforcement is a process of ensuring compliance with law and policy that considers and minimizes harms to underserved communities. An equitable enforcement approach means considering equity – both at the level of the public entity’s overall enforcement strategy and at the level of individual enforcement actions. It also means considering equity at all stages of enforcement, from determining when to undertake an enforcement action – and against whom – to deciding which enforcement tools to use.”

ⁱⁱ We recognize the important role of ceremonial and traditional tobacco for many indigenous communities. This document is intended to address commercial tobacco, not the provision, possession, or use of tobacco products as part of an indigenous practice or other recognized religious or spiritual ceremony or practice. All references to tobacco and tobacco products in this document refer to commercial tobacco, including e-cigarettes.

BACKGROUND

Despite an overall decline in the prevalence of tobacco use, not all populations are equally protected by the laws, policies, and resources that are intended to reduce tobacco use and tobacco-related harm. Tobacco industry documents reveal how disparities in the burden of tobacco-related disease and death outcomes among certain communities are no coincidence. On the contrary, the tobacco industry strategically markets and perniciously targets its deadly products in underserved communities.^{1,2} As a result, certain racial and ethnic communities, low-income communities, and LGBTQ+ communities, among others, are exposed to more point-of-sale advertising, live in places with a greater concentration of retailers that sell tobacco products, and have a higher prevalence of tobacco use.

Indeed, tobacco use, particularly menthol cigarettes and flavored little cigars, are a main vector of death and disease in economically disadvantaged Black and Brown communities. Mentholated tobacco products are not only linked to higher rates of tobacco initiation but are also more heavily marketed in areas with greater numbers of low-income and Black residents and cheaper in geographic areas with greater proportions of Black residents.^{3,4,5,6,7} As disparities in tobacco advertising, access, and use persist, so do disparities in the enforcement of commercial tobacco control laws and policies.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the underlying health inequities and systemic racism that have gripped Black and Brown communities for hundreds of years. Law enforcement should not approach, harass, or arrest structurally marginalized communities, especially children of color, because they have a tobacco product in their possession. In fact, it's the exact opposite of what is needed. To save lives, especially Black and Brown lives, local and state tobacco prevention and control partners must address where and how public health laws contribute to systemic racism and discrimination. This includes not only working to eliminate the sale of mentholated tobacco products but also addressing inequities in the enforcement of commercial tobacco control laws and policies.

The outlined values and recommendations are intended to address state and local enforcement practices related to the purchase, possession, sale, and distribution of commercial tobacco products. These values and recommendations may also apply to other tobacco control laws and policies (e.g. smoke-free and tobacco-free places) and public health efforts more broadly. Importantly, efforts to decriminalize the purchase, possession, sale, and distribution of commercial tobacco products and enact broader reforms to enforcement practices must be accompanied by free, accessible, confidential, and culturally appropriate cessation and counseling services.

VALUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

VALUE 1: Commercial tobacco control laws and policies, including regulations on the sale and distribution of commercial tobacco products, are first and foremost public health measures.

I. Vest enforcement authority for commercial tobacco control laws in public health or other non-police officials (e.g. civil code enforcement officers).ⁱⁱⁱ

- Ultimately, states and localities that currently rely on police or other traditional law enforcement entities to enforce commercial tobacco control laws should shift enforcement to public health or other non-police entities. Proactive efforts necessary to facilitate this shift may include amending state and local laws, building capacity, and developing guidance.
- States and localities should appropriate funding to build local government capacity to shift the enforcement of commercial tobacco control laws to entities other than local police officers.
- Stakeholders should develop guidance for local jurisdictions without a viable non-police entity presently able to enforce commercial tobacco control laws.

II. Ensure revenues from commercial tobacco control laws, including tobacco taxes, are used to support public health objectives and advance health equity.

- All funding should be directed to health entities to support:
 - The adoption, implementation, and non-police enforcement of commercial tobacco control laws.
 - Laws, policies, initiatives, and interventions designed to prevent and reduce commercial tobacco use, including those focused on the social and structural determinants of health.
 - Comprehensive tobacco control programs, including the provision of evidence-based counseling and cessation services.
- If legally feasible, states and localities should amend existing measures (e.g. tobacco taxes) to redirect funding to public health entities.

III. Conduct systematic, evidence-based research on the implementation and enforcement of commercial tobacco control laws with a particular focus on how implementation and enforcement practices affect underserved populations in urban, suburban, and rural communities such as youth, persons of color, persons with low-incomes, persons who identify as LGBTQ+, and persons with disabilities.

ⁱⁱⁱ Large-scale tobacco trafficking or tax evasion may necessitate the continued involvement of traditional law enforcement entities such as the state's attorney general. However, states and localities should ensure that the involvement of such entities is limited to the most serious offenses, with public health and/or other non-police officials enforcing the overwhelming majority of commercial tobacco control laws.

VALUE 2: State and local governments should reform or eliminate laws, policies, and enforcement practices that target individuals, especially youth, rather than businesses and industry actors.

I. Eliminate youth purchase, use, and possession penalties (“youth PUP laws”).

- States and localities should abolish laws, policies, and enforcement practices that target persons under twenty-one (21) years old, including laws that impose criminal, civil, administrative, or any other penalties on youth for the purchase, use, or possession of tobacco products.
- States and localities should repeal existing and resist efforts to enact new youth PUP laws.
- If a youth PUP law exists at the state level, localities within the state should:
 - Repeal any local youth PUP laws.
 - Advocate for the repeal of the state youth PUP law.
 - Prohibit local officials, including local law enforcement, from enforcing the state youth PUP law.

II. Eliminate criminal penalties for individuals, including retail clerks, that unlawfully sell, give, barter, distribute, or otherwise exchange tobacco products. State and local laws should focus on holding businesses and industry actors accountable for violations of tobacco control laws.

III. Ensure laws and policies that prohibit students and/or staff from possessing or using commercial tobacco products in school address violations in a manner consistent with restorative justice principles.

- Enforcement of tobacco-free school laws and policies should not involve law enforcement personnel, including school resource officers.
- Student violations should never result in suspension, expulsion, criminal referral, or any other punitive response.
- Students who possess or use commercial tobacco products in school should have the product confiscated and be referred to free, evidence-based education, counseling, and cessation support services. Students who do not engage with education, counseling, and cessation support services should not face additional penalties or disciplinary action.

VALUE 3: Enforcement practices and penalties for violations of commercial tobacco control laws should be proportional to the alleged violation and address health, equity, and social justice considerations.

- I. **Eliminate the use of physical force against people suspected or guilty of violating commercial tobacco control laws.**
- II. **Prohibit enforcement officials from initiating contact with an individual based on the individual's possession of a tobacco product.**
- III. **Ensure that if commercial tobacco control laws are enforced against individuals, as opposed to businesses, they should not include punitive measures such as criminal penalties, fines, or mandatory community service.**
 - If state or local law regulates the possession of tobacco products, violations should result in a referral for evidence-based counseling and cessation support. Individuals who do not engage with the counseling and cessation services should not be subject to any additional penalties.
 - If state or local commercial tobacco control laws do impose punitive measures such as fines or mandatory community service for violations:
 - The amount of the fine should be based on an individual's ability to pay.
 - Individuals who do not pay the fines or complete community service should not be subject to any additional penalties.
 - Fines and mandatory community service should never be imposed on underage youth who violate commercial tobacco control laws.

VALUE 4: State and local governments should adopt legal and policy frameworks that facilitate the effective, equitable enforcement of commercial tobacco control laws by holding businesses and other industry actors accountable for violations.

- I. **Ensure all retailers that sell commercial tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, are required to obtain and maintain a valid tobacco retailer license.**
 - Tobacco retailer licensing is an effective, evidence-based approach to hold businesses accountable for violations of commercial tobacco control laws.
 - Licensing can provide a dedicated funding stream to support the implementation and enforcement of commercial tobacco control laws by public health officials. States and localities should establish tobacco retailer licensing fees sufficient to cover the full cost of implementation and enforcement, including retailer education initiatives and regular compliance checks of all retailers that sell tobacco products.

II. Hold business owners accountable for violations committed by their employees.

- States and localities should hold business owners accountable by imposing penalties for violations of commercial tobacco control laws by the businesses' agents or employees.
- All penalties for violations of laws regulating the sale and distribution of commercial tobacco products should be imposed on business owners and other industry actors.
- If state or local law penalizes retail clerks for violations, business owners must also be penalized for the violation. The penalties applicable to business owners should be substantially greater than those applicable to retail clerks.

III. Establish tiered penalties for businesses that violate commercial tobacco control laws.

- States and localities should suspend or revoke the ability of a business to sell tobacco products if the business violates commercial tobacco control laws. The suspension and/or revocation period should increase based on the number of violations a business has committed within the previous five years.
- Civil and/or administrative fines should increase based on the number of violations a business has committed within the previous five years.
- Criminal penalties should be reserved only for businesses that repeatedly violate commercial tobacco control laws.

IV. Ensure that enforcement practices aimed at commercial tobacco retail sales establishments occur in a data-driven, evidence-based, and equitable manner.

- States and localities should conduct at least one unannounced compliance check annually of each business that sells or distributes commercial tobacco products. A business found in violation of commercial tobacco control laws should be subject to an additional compliance check within six months of the violation.
- Collect and evaluate data regarding compliance checks of and enforcement actions against tobacco retail sales establishments to ensure that enforcement practices do not unfairly target underserved communities. If businesses in certain communities have a greater number or rate of violations, public health officials should seek to identify compliance barriers and offer technical assistance to help businesses comply with applicable laws.
- Conduct empirical studies evaluating the adoption and implementation of these recommendations to ensure the recommendations accomplish their intended public health and equity goals. If research identifies any unintended consequences, states and localities should adjust commercial tobacco control laws and policies as necessary to ensure their efficacy and equitableness.

ENDORISING ORGANIZATIONS*

Action on Smoking & Health	IFF Health
African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council	Jump at the Sun Consultants, LLC
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network	Minnesota Public Health Association
American Heart Association	Missouri Eliminate Tobacco Use Initiative
American Lung Association	Missouri Foundation for Health
American Public Health Association	Missouri Public Health Association
Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights	National LGBT Cancer Network
Asian Pacific Islander Coalition Advocating Together for Health	National Network of Public Health Institutes
Asian Pacific Partners for Empowerment, Advocacy and Leadership	Neighborhood House
Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health	New Mexico Allied Council on Tobacco
Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids	New York State Public Health Association
The Center for Black Health & Equity	Ohio Public Health Association
The Center for Tobacco Control Research and Education	Partnership for a Tobacco Free Wisconsin
ChangeLab Solutions	Pennsylvania Public Health Association
ClearWay Minnesota SM	Preventing Tobacco Addiction Foundation
Community Advocates	Public Health Law Center
Counter Tools	SelfMade Health Network
Eta Sigma Gamma, Inc.	Tobacco Control Network
Hawai'i Public Health Association	Truth Initiative
Healthy King County Coalition (WA)	Twin Cities Medical Society
	Washington State Public Health Association
	Wisconsin Public Health Association
	Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards

* **Organizational endorsements received by November 11, 2020.**

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A special thank you to the core team who facilitated the drafting of this document:

Sean J. Haley, PhD, MPH, CUNY Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy

Derek Carr, JD, ChangeLab Solutions

Maria Julian, MPA, Counter Tools

Phillip Gardiner, DrPH, African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council

Josh Prasad, MPH, IIF Health

Ginny Chadwick, MPH, MA, University of Missouri - Columbia

SUGGESTED CITATION

Tobacco Control Enforcement for Racial Equity: Decriminalizing Commercial Tobacco Addressing Systemic Racism in the Enforcement of Commercial Tobacco Control. November 2020.

RESOLUTION OF THE ANTIOCH COUNCIL OF TEENS URGING THE ANTIOCH CITY COUNCIL TO PROHIBIT THE SALE OF FLAVORED TOBACCO PRODUCTS, INCLUDING ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES AND MENTHOL CIGARETTES; TO ESTABLISH A MINIMUM PACK SIZE AND PRICE FOR LITTLE CIGARS AND CIGARILLOS; TO PROHIBIT THE LOCATION OF NEW TOBACCO RETAILERS WITHIN AT LEAST 1,000 FEET OF SCHOOLS AND OTHER YOUTH SENSITIVE AREAS AND WITHIN AT LEAST 600 FEET OF ANOTHER TOBACCO RETAILER; AND TO ENFORCE THESE MEASURES THROUGH TOBACCO RETAILER LICENSING.

WHEREAS, tobacco use is the number one cause of preventable death in the United States. In the U.S., tobacco use kills more than 480,000 people per year — more than AIDS, alcohol, car accidents, illegal drugs, homicide, and suicides combined. In 2012, the tobacco industry spent 1.13 billion dollars on marketing and advertising in California.¹ Nearly 80 percent of all adult smokers begin smoking by age 18.² The Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids estimates that 441,000 youth now under the age of 18 in CA will ultimately die prematurely from smoking.

WHEREAS, a 2015 study of adolescents ages 12 to 17 found that among those who self-reported ever experimenting with tobacco, the majority started with a flavored product. It also found that most current youth tobacco users reported use of flavored products.³

WHEREAS, countywide, two-thirds of all stores in Contra Costa sell e-cigarettes. The number of stores selling e-cigarettes statewide has increased from 46% in 2013 to 57% in 2019.⁴ Many of these products are attractive to youth because they are relatively cheap and come in flavors like cherry lime-ade and mint.

WHEREAS, of stores surveyed in the 2020 Antioch Community Walk Around Store Survey 48% of stores sold e-cigarettes and flavored e-liquid and over 83% of stores sold flavored cigarillos and little cigars in flavors like grape, unicorn milk, and THOT juice.

WHEREAS, cigarillos and little cigars can be purchased for as little as \$1 — less than the price of a candy bar.⁵

WHEREAS, cigarillos such as Swisher Sweets and Black & Mild, often sold in packs of 5 or less, can have up to four times as much nicotine as a cigarette.⁶

WHEREAS, although the sale of flavored and individual cigarettes is banned by federal law, neither federal nor California law restrict the sale of flavored cigar products or the sale of individual cigar products.⁷

¹ Schleicher, Nina C., et al. 2013. "Tobacco Marketing in California's Retail Environment." Final report for the California Tobacco Advertising Survey (2014) Submitted to the California Tobacco Control Program, California Department of Public Health

² Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality. (2015). *Behavioral health trends in the United States: Results from the 2014 National Survey on Drug Use and Health* (HHS Publication No. SMA 15-4927, NSDUH Series H-50).

<http://www.samhsa.gov/data/>[3] Ambrose, B.K., et al., Flavored Tobacco Product Use Among US Youth Aged 12-17 Years, 2013-2014. JAMA, 2015: p. 1-3.

³ Ambrose, B.K., et al., Flavored Tobacco Product Use Among US Youth Aged 12-17 Years, 2013-2014. JAMA, 2015: p. 1-3.

⁴ Healthy Stores for a Healthy Community. 2019. Contra Costa County Local Data.

⁵ Antioch Community Walk Around Survey. 2020. Bay Area Community Resources Data.

⁶ Health Effects and Trends. Smoking and Tobacco Control Monograph No. 9. NIH Pub. No. 98-4302, February 1998. Chapter 3, Table 4a. Available at: http://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/tcrb/monographs/9/m9_3.PDF.

⁷ 21 Code of Federal Regulations § 1140.14(d).

WHEREAS, menthol cigarettes are not safer than regular cigarettes. Menthol cigarettes have been shown to increase youth initiation, inhibit cessation, and promote relapse. Scientific studies have shown that because of its sensory effects and flavor, menthol may enhance the addictiveness of cigarettes.⁸

WHEREAS, 93% of stores surveyed in the 2020 Antioch Community Walk Around survey sold menthol cigarettes.⁹

WHEREAS, reducing tobacco retailer density prevents youth from starting, and helps former smokers stay quit. High density of tobacco retailers has been associated with increased smoking rates, particularly among youth.¹⁰

WHEREAS, the tobacco industry targets low-income communities, and studies show that the number and density of tobacco retailers are disproportionately high in low-income communities.¹¹

WHEREAS, in Contra Costa County, six in 10 stores selling tobacco near schools in Contra Costa are in low income cities and unincorporated communities. People living in low-income areas have high rates of smoking and chronic diseases like heart disease, cancers, and stroke.¹²

WHEREAS, there are 35 Antioch stores selling tobacco within 1,000 feet of Antioch schools.¹³

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Antioch Council on Teens urges the Antioch City Council to:

- 1) prohibit the sale of flavored tobacco products, including menthol, throughout the city;
- 2) establish a minimum pack size and price for little cigars and cigarillos;
- 3) prohibit the location of NEW tobacco retailers within at least 1,000 feet of schools and other youth sensitive areas and within at least 600 feet of another tobacco retailer;
- 4) institute a mechanism through Tobacco Retail Licensing to enforce the new policies in the city.

Printed Name _____ Title _____

Signature _____ this _____ day of _____ 2021.

⁸ Tobacco Product Scientific Advisory Committee (TPSAC), *Menthol cigarettes and the public health: Review of the scientific evidence and recommendations.*, US Department of Health and Human Services Food and Drug Administration, Editor. 2011: Rockville, MD.

⁹ Antioch Community Walk Around Survey. 2020 Bay Area Community Resources Data.

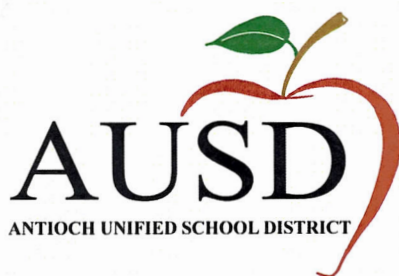
¹⁰ Henriksen L, Feighery EC, Schleicher NC, et al. 2008. "Is Adolescent Smoking Related to Density and Proximity of Tobacco Outlets and Retail Cigarette Advertising Near Schools?" *Preventive Medicine* 47: 210-214.

¹¹ Novak SP, Reardon SF, Raudenbush SW, et al. 2006. "Retail Tobacco Outlet Density and Youth Cigarette Smoking: A Propensity Modeling Approach." *American Journal of Public Health* 96: 670-676.

¹² Chapman R. 2012. *State Health Officer's Report on Tobacco Use and Promotion in California*. California Department of Public Health, California Tobacco Control Program, p. 8,

www.cdph.ca.gov/Documents/EMBARGOED%20State%20Health%20Officers%20Report%20on%20Tobacco.pdf

¹³ Community Walk Around Store List: Antioch. 2019. Contra Costa County Health and Human Services.



Educational Services

Christine Ibarra
Associate Superintendent

Essence J. Phillips
Director, Equity and Social Emotional Support

Preparing Students for Success in College, Career, and Life

May 14, 2021

Dear Members of the Antioch City Council,

The Antioch Unified School District serves over 16,000 students and their families throughout the city of Antioch. Our responsibility is to prepare every student for success in college, career, and life. As a district, we value the history of our schools and community. We support the personal and intellectual growth of each student, and our goal is for our graduates to be productive and well-informed citizens. With these goals in mind, we support the Antioch High youth of the Youth Tobacco Advocacy and Policy Project (YTAPP) in passing a comprehensive tobacco retail license ordinance in the city of Antioch.

Our district strives to optimize our students' success in and out of the classroom. The tobacco industry targets our city's youth with an addictive and deadly product easily accessible to them in stores throughout our city. Citywide there are 69 tobacco retailers, yet there are only 26 schools, and one third of tobacco retailers in Antioch are located within 1000 feet of a school. This means that every day, tobacco is marketed at our students on their way to and from school. According to YTAPP's data, most stores near our schools sell flavored tobacco products in abundance--with names like apple, unicorn mix, grape, and chicken & waffles that are aimed at young people. The proximity of these stores to our schools, and the availability of flavored tobacco products sold within them, increase the odds that an Antioch student will try a tobacco product before they can legally purchase it--and even become addicted or sick with a tobacco related disease. A comprehensive TRL ordinance resolves this issue in several ways: it bans the sale of flavored tobacco products citywide, it requires new retailers to locate at least 1000 feet away from schools, and it sets up a formal structure to hold retailers accountable to these stipulations and prevent the sale of tobacco to underage youth. Combined, these stipulations protect our city's youth and prioritize their wellbeing.

The Antioch Unified School District supports a comprehensive TRL ordinance in the city of Antioch that bans the sale of flavored tobacco products and includes a 1000-foot buffer zone between future tobacco retailers and youth populated areas. Passing this ordinance optimizes our students' success in life and supports their healthy growth and development, which is also our goal for Antioch's youth. Thank you for your attention to this very important matter.

We know you will make the best decision for our youth and city.

Essence J. Phillips

Director of Equity and Social Emotional Support (District TUPE Lead)



The African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council

March 29, 2021

To: Mayor Lamar Thorpe, Mayor Pro Tem Monica E. Wilson, Councilmember Tamisha Torres-Walker, Councilmember Michael Barbanica, and Councilmember Lori Ogorchock

From: The African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council

Re: Prohibit the Sale of Menthol and all Other Flavored Tobacco Products, Including Flavored E-Juices, with no Adult exemptions in Antioch; Especially in the Midst of the COVID-19 Pandemic!

The African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council (AATCLC) strongly encourages the Antioch City Council to prohibit the sale of menthol and all flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-juices, with no adult venue exemptions. We are glad to see that the Council is considering addressing this issue and it couldn't come at a better time. We already know that 80% of youth, 12-17 start smoking using flavored cigarettes (Ambrose et al., 2015). Indeed, in the midst of the COVID 19 pandemic and the Black Lives Matter movement nothing could be more important than getting these products out of our community. If the Council truly wants a healthier Antioch, and we believe that you do, then it is imperative that the sale of menthol and all other flavored tobacco products be prevented and that the predatory marketing of these products be stopped and be recognized as a social injustice issue; an issue that disproportionately impacts poorer communities, marginalized groups, youths and communities of color.

This is no minor matter. Menthol and flavored tobacco products are driving tobacco-related deaths and diseases nation-wide. While the use of non-flavored tobacco cigarettes has been decreasing, the use of menthol cigarettes is on the rise, among youth and adults; among Latinos, Blacks, and Whites (Villanti, 2016). Let's be clear, the majority of women smokers smoke menthol cigarettes; folks from the LGBTQ community disproportionately smoke these products; 47% of Latino smokers prefer menthol cigarettes, with 62% of Puerto Rican smokers using menthol; nearly 80% of Native Hawaiians; a majority of Filipinos; and a majority of smokers with behavioral health issues smoke menthol cigarettes. Frankly, the most marginalized groups disproportionately use these so-called "minty" products (CDC, 2010; Fallin, 2015; Forbes, 2013; Delnevo, 2011; Hawaii State Dept. of Health, 2009; Euromonitor, 2008; Hickman, 2015).

Be appraised that 85% African American adults and 94% of Black youth who smoke are using menthol products (Giovino, 2013). These striking statistics arise from the predatory marketing of

these products in the Black Community, where there are more advertisements, more lucrative promotions, and most disturbing, menthol cigarettes are ***cheaper in the Black Community*** compared to other communities (Henriksen et al., 2011; Seidenberg et al., 2010). These predacious practices for the past 50 years have led to Blacks folks dying disproportionately from heart attacks, lung cancer, strokes and other tobacco related diseases (RSG, 2014).

The Council should be aware that menthol, as if to add insult to injury, masks the harsh taste of tobacco and allows for deeper inhalation of toxins and greater amounts of nicotine. The greater the nicotine intake, the greater the addiction. Hence, it is no surprise menthol cigarette users find it harder to quit than non-menthol cigarette users (Ton et al., 2015; Levy et al., 2011). The “cool refreshing taste of menthol” heralded by the tobacco industry is just a guise; ultimately, menthol and all flavors allows the poisons in cigarettes and cigarillos “to go down easier!”

As we have all become aware, COVID-19 is not an equal opportunity killer: Black and Brown folks are dying disproportionately of this disease all around the country and right here in West Hollywood. We know that smoking weakens the immune system of the lungs, the very site that the coronavirus thrives on. Also, vaping and smoking put young adults at much greater risk for COVID-19, as a new UCSF study points out (Adams et al., 2020). And as if the add insult to injury, an article in the European Respiratory Journal, shows that current smokers and people with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) have more receptor cells in their lungs that attract the coronavirus (https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2020-04/elf-hlo040720.php). And yes, African Americans have disproportionately high rates of COPD! The Council needs to take every step that it can to protect the citizens of Antioch, especially its poor communities of color. By preventing Big Tobacco from targeting and hooking youth and low-income communities on flavored tobacco products, we can also help reduce potential vulnerability of these communities to COVID-19 and improve the health of all communities in Antioch.

We all have been reading in the papers about the surge in e-cigarette use, the so-called “JUUL Explosion”. In reality it is really a **“Flavors Explosion” given the fact that there are now over 15,000 kid friendly flavors available in the marketplace!** (<https://www.flavorshookkids.org/> 2018).

Here are some facts concerning E-Cigarettes that we should not lose sight of:

1. E-cigarettes are tobacco products that deliver nicotine, an addictive substance that especially in youth can compromise the brains executive functioning (Report of the Surgeon General, 2014).
2. The propylene glycol (PG) and vegetable glycerin (VG) that constitute a large portion of the e-juice and the resulting vapor **are not FDA approved for inhalation.**
3. PG and VG in electronic cigarettes disrupt lung lipid homeostasis and innate immunity independent of nicotine (Madison et al., 2019)
4. The 15,000+ flavors available on the market may be Generally Recognized as Safe (GRAS) for **ingestion**, but they are not GRAS for **inhalation.**
5. There are as many, if not more, metals in the vapor of e-cigarettes than found in cigarette smoke (Williams et al., 2013).

6. Many of the same toxins and carcinogens found in regular cigarettes, like benzene, formaldehyde, and tobacco specific nitrosamines, can be found in e-cigarette vapor (Goniewicz et al., 2013). And yes, these toxins and carcinogens are at lower levels than in a regular cigarette; while these lower levels may be safer, this does not mean that e-cigarettes are **safe**!
7. The vapor from e-cigarettes activates platelet formation just like regular cigarettes; such platelet activity leads to arterial blockages (Hom et al., 2016).
8. E-cigarette aerosol consists of ultrafine particles at levels comparable to or higher than cigarettes. These particles can cause cardiovascular and pulmonary disease. In addition, the particle size in e-cigarettes is often smaller, and thus more dangerous, than those generated by cigarettes (Fuoco FC, Buonanno G, Stabile L, Vigo P. 2014).
9. Kids who start with e-cigarettes are more likely to become regular cigarette users, and unfortunately, in many cases dual users (Piper et al., 2019).
10. Carcinogens have been found in mint and menthol e-cigarettes. The substance, pulegone, which the FDA banned as a food additive in 2018, was found to be 100-1000 times higher in concentrations than what is considered safe for ingestion! (Jabba and Jordt, 2019)
11. Flavors (aldehydes) are respiratory irritants by definition; **Cinnamaldehyde** suppresses bronchial epithelial cell ciliary motility (Clapp et al., 2019)
12. Here is a link to the European Public Health Association: Fact or Fiction on E-cigs:
https://eupha.org/repository/advocacy/EUPHA_facts_and_fiction_on_e-cigs.pdf

The AATCLC is calling upon the Antioch City Council to join a growing number of cities, counties and states around the country that are prohibiting, jurisdiction-wide, the sales of menthol cigarettes and all other flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-juices. In June 2018, San Francisco voters passed the first ever citywide restriction on the sales of all flavored tobacco products, including menthol cigarettes and flavored e-cigarette juices. This “strongest flavor ban law ever” was rapidly replicated in the numerous cities in California and around the Country. Today over 60 municipalities prohibit the sale of all menthol tobacco products including flavored e-juices

<https://no-smoke.org/wp-content/uploads/pdf/flavored-tobacco-product-sales.pdf> Indeed, in June of 2020, the State of Massachusetts became the first State to prohibit the sale of menthol and all flavored tobacco products state-wide and in August of 2020 California followed suit and became the second state to do so. With the tobacco industry forcing a referendum of SB 793, it becomes even more imperative that local jurisdictions take steps to protect their citizenry. We can’t wait on the State, let’s take steps to make Antioch healthier now!

At the federal level, the tobacco industry and its surrogates have lobbied hard in Washington, resulting in half-steps on the part of the FDA to restrict the sale of only some flavored products, but certainly not all. This is the same mistake the Congress made in 2009 when it removed 13 flavors from tobacco products, but exempted menthol. Just as problematic is the FDA’s current half-steps in addressing the menthol and flavors. Heralded 2019 that a full flavor ban was coming, however, subsequently the flavor ban devolved into a series of loopholes that you could

drive a convoy of tractor trailers through. You can still buy e-cigs with all their kid friendly flavors that are refillable, like many tank systems; you can still buy disposable e-cigs, like Puff Bars; and there is the possibility that some products may return to the market, after FDA approval. And to make matters worse, you can still buy menthol and tobacco flavored Juuls and other non-disposable tobacco products. Again, it is imperative that cities like Antioch take the lead and join the growing movement to remove *all* flavored tobacco products, especially menthol cigarettes, flavored little cigars and flavored e-juices, from the marketplace.

We should note that some groups, spurred on and funded by the tobacco industry, have been spreading falsehoods, stating that restricting the sale of menthol and flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-juices will lead to the “criminalization” of particularly young Black men. Nothing could be further from the truth. All ordinances adopted around the country would ***prohibit the sale*** of flavored products, it would ***not prohibit the possession*** of these products. The facts are that the adoption of menthol restrictions will not lead to police having any greater interaction with any youth; it won’t be illegal to possess these products, just retailers cannot sale them. Indeed, when these ordinances were passed in Oakland and San Francisco, the Police Chiefs stood with us and said there would be no arrest for possession of these products.

These same groups rail about “unintended consequences.” We respond: **Look at the intended consequences:** As mentioned before, Black folks die disproportionately from tobacco related diseases of heart disease, lung cancer, and stroke compared to other racial and ethnic groups (RSG, 2014); menthol cigarettes and flavored little cigars are the agents of that destruction. In this regard, the Council should remove all criminal penalties associated with the purchase, use and possession of all commercial tobacco products. Decriminalize tobacco! Hold retail owner responsible, don’t punish kids!

Still other groups funded by the tobacco industry insist that removing menthol cigarettes and flavored little cigars would be taking away “our” cigarette; we’d be discriminatory and racist. This line of argumentation stands history on its head. As was pointed out earlier, it was and is the tobacco industry that predatorially markets these products in the Black Community. The facts are these: there are more advertisements, more lucrative promotions, and menthol cigarettes are ***cheaper in the Black Community*** compared to other communities (Henriksen et al., 2011; Seidenberg et al., 2010). This is how these flavored death sticks became “our” cigarettes, they pushed it down our throats!

Formed in 2008, the African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council is composed of a cadre of dedicated community activists, academics, public health advocates and researchers. Even though based in California, we are national in our scope and reach. We have partnered with community stakeholders, elected officials, and public health agencies, from Chicago, Boston and Minneapolis to Berkeley and San Francisco. Our work has shaped the national discussion and direction of tobacco control policy, practices, and priorities, especially as they affect the lives of Black Americans, African immigrant populations and ultimately all smokers. The AATCLC has been at the forefront in elevating the regulation of mentholated and other flavored tobacco products on the national tobacco control agenda, including testifying at the FDA hearings in 2010 and 2011 when the agency was first considering the removal of menthol cigarettes from the

marketplace. In November of 2019 we testified on Capitol Hill in support of HR 2339 (The Pallone Bill), this bill would prohibit the manufacturing and sale of menthol and all flavored tobacco products throughout the United states. HR2339 passed out of the House of representative in February of 2020. Just this past June the AATCLC along with its partner Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) filed a lawsuit against the FDA for dragging their feet by leaving menthol on the market with overwhelming scientific evidence showing that it should be removed, immediately. Subsequently and importantly the American Medical Association (AMA) and the National Medical Association (NMA) have joined the lawsuit as plaintiffs.

Now is the time to adopt strong tobacco control measures that can protect our families. We already know that menthol and flavors “makes the poison go down easier.” Let’s not now allow menthol to make COVID-19 go down easier too! The Council needs to put the health of Antioch’s residents in the forefront of your thoughts, not the interests and profits of the tobacco industry, the vaping industry and their surrogates. This is not the time for half-steps, like continuing to allow these products to be sold in adult-only venues, rather it is time to take a stand for the public’s health and say: **No Selling of Menthol Cigarettes and All Other Flavored Tobacco Products, including Flavored E-Juices in Antioch!** Say “No” to the continued predatory marketing of menthol flavored tobacco products to our youth and say “Yes” to the health and welfare of our kids, who are the most vulnerable. In fact, say “Yes” to the protection for **all** residents of Antioch.

We are all counting on you!

Sincerely,



Phil

.C www.savingblacklives.org



Carol McGruder, Co-Chair AATCLC



Valerie Yerger, N.D., Co-Chair AATCLC

April 28, 2021

Dear Members of the Antioch City Council,

As a registered nurse with over 34 years of experience in healthcare, including tobacco cessation and prevention work, I support the work of the Youth Tobacco Advocacy and Policy Project to pass a comprehensive tobacco retail license ordinance in the city of Antioch.

Tobacco is the number one cause of preventable death in the United States, killing more than 480,000 people each year. It causes more deaths than alcohol, prescription meds, suicides, homicides, and car crashes combined. It's a horrible health hazard that impacts all of us, and has very serious health consequences. Smoking tobacco—including vaping—can cause disease, death, and harm to nearly every body organ. It can lead to respiratory and cardiac problems, is a precursor for diabetes, and can cause different kinds of cancer. Here in Antioch, we have higher rates of lung cancer when compared to the state average. The deadly health consequences brought on by tobacco usage can be and should be prevented here in our community. They not only impact individuals, but cost our healthcare system lots of money. Limiting the sale of tobacco products in our city would improve the health of our overall community and save money.

To replace the smokers who get sick or die from using tobacco, the tobacco industry markets to young people with flavored tobacco products. The Center for Disease Control notes that since 2018, the number of youth who smoke has sharply increased. Research shows that 80% of youth who start smoking do so with a flavored tobacco product. The names of the flavors appeal directly to our city's youth, and they're able to walk into a retailer here and purchase them. Flavored tobacco products also are available in e-liquids for vaping and e-cigarettes, which many youth are using nowadays. The Center for Disease Control shows that youth are more likely to get addicted than adult smokers, and that smoking affects their lung health and cognitive processes. Our youth should not be able to access these products. Removing them from shelves in our city's retailers would prevent addiction and improve the health of our city's kids. Tobacco retail licensing is backed by evidence that reduces rates of youth smoking and holds retailers accountable to selling to minors.

I support a comprehensive tobacco retail license ordinance here in the city of Antioch that prohibits the sale of flavored tobacco products. As a healthcare worker, I have seen the devastation tobacco causes on individuals and communities. We must protect the health of our city's young people and ban the sale of flavored tobacco products.

Signed,

Gloria Lewis, RN
Antioch Resident



CHAA OAKLAND
1141 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 105
Alameda, CA 94502
510.835.2777 office
510.835.0164 fax

CHAA RICHMOND
207 37th Street.
Richmond, CA 94805
510.233.7555 office
510.233.4545 fax

CHAA ANTIOCH
3727 Sunset Lane, Suite 110
Antioch, CA 94509
925.778.1667 office
925.778.2679 fax

May 18, 2021

**Community Health for Asian Americans
3727 Sunset Lane
Antioch, California 94509**

**Antioch City Council
City Hall 200 H Street
Antioch, California 94509**

To Antioch City Council,

I write on behalf of Community Health for Asian Americans to offer information on the potential impact of implementing a Tobacco Retail License in Antioch. American tobacco companies mass-produce and sell a deadly and highly addictive consumer product. Consequently, the Antioch tobacco market remains a serious threat to public health. This is especially true in vulnerable communities where teens and young adults are deliberately targeted by industry marketing and promotion.

A comprehensive Tobacco Retail License policy would protect the health of youth in the community by banning the sale of flavored tobacco, restricting the sale of electronic cigarettes, setting minimum pack sizes and pricing for cigars and little cigars, limiting the number of tobacco retailers, and reducing retailers near youth-sensitive areas.

Tobacco products with menthol, flavors, and colorful packaging are designed to attract teens and young adults who are, as the tobacco industry explains, "the only source of replacement smokers." Menthol numbs the throat and reduces irritation, making it an ideal choice for beginners. Flavored products, like fruit-flavored cigarillos, designed to be sold to young people, provide them with an array of "appealing" alternatives to the taste of pure tobacco. Over 80% of tobacco consumers began by using flavored products—menthol or otherwise. They function as the proverbial "gateway drug" designed to hook young customers. Therefore, we are confident that regulating the sale of products designed to capture and addict new customers will effectively impact and mitigate the tobacco industry's ability to target teens and young adults.

Given the targeting of teens by big tobacco on a daily basis in the retail environment, on social media, and by their peers at school, in order to protect youth, we must begin to reduce their exposure in the community. A strong Tobacco Retail License policy will set standards for products sold in the retail environment, reduce youth exposure to tobacco products, and hold retailers accountable for their actions. It is vital, necessary, and in alignment with our fundamental values: our communities here in Contra Costa County have a strong record of working hard to protect vulnerable citizens, including youth, from the threat of addiction, disease, and death. In this spirit, our organization commends and

thanks you for your efforts to continue this legacy by prioritizing public health and safety over tobacco industry special interests.

In Appreciation,



John Chung

Executive Director
Community Health for Asian Americans.

March 10, 2021

To: Antioch City Council

RE: Tobacco Retail Licensing in Ordinance

Dear Members of the Antioch City Council:

The CourAGE Youth Health Coalition is a group of high school aged youth throughout Contra Costa County. We currently have a number of Antioch youth participating in our coalition. We are a youth-centered and directed coalition, with the goal of empowering youth to lead education and advocacy efforts to address health-related issues in our community. One of our focus areas is preventing the youth use of tobacco. We know that big tobacco companies advertise and market their products to youth so that they can replace older smokers who are dying from a tobacco-related illness.

The tobacco industry uses a few different strategies to lure youth to smoke: (1) retailers are allowed to set up near schools and other youth populated areas. One third of Antioch schools are located within walking distance of a tobacco retailer, with youth passing these stores every day on their way to and home from school; (2) the industry has created flavored tobacco products that have a fruity or sweet flavor, and come in brightly colored packaging that often mimics the labels of snacks and drinks youth enjoy. Research shows 80% of youth who start smoking do so with a flavored tobacco product, and 97% of tobacco retailers in Antioch near a youth-populated area sold some type of flavored tobacco product; and (3) sell little cigars in packs of two for as cheap as \$0.99. This is a price cheaper than most candy bars, and most stores in Antioch sell these little cigars--often at cheaper prices.

In response to the various tactics used to hook youth on tobacco, a comprehensive tobacco retail license ordinance is an evidence-based policy that effectively reduces youth rates of smoking by banning the sale of flavored tobacco products, including menthol; requiring new tobacco retailers to locate more than 1000 feet away from youth-populate areas; and requiring a minimum pack size and price so that these products are more likely to end up in the hands of adults--among other stipulations. Therefore, we support a comprehensive tobacco retail license ordinance in the city of Antioch to protect youth from the predatory tactics of a global industry.


Signed,

COURAGE
ADVOCACY GENERATION EDUCATION

STAFF REPORT TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

DATE: Regular Meeting of June 17, 2021

TO: Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission

SUBMITTED BY: Brad Helfenberger, Parks and Recreation Director 

SUBJECT: Presentation of Bicycle Garden Concept & Formation of an Ad-Hoc Committee

RECOMMENDED ACTION

It is recommended that the Parks and Recreation Commission receive the presentation of the Bicycle Garden Concept and establish an ad hoc committee, tasked with conducting public outreach and evaluate 3-5 potential locations and return to the Parks and Recreation Commission with a recommendation for a preferred location.

FISCAL IMPACT

The estimated cost of the proposed project is being determined. The Bicycle Garden would be the first of its kind in the region. Funding would need to be established once a viable project is identified and approved by the City Council.

DISCUSSION

The City of Antioch, in partnership with the Contra Costa Transportation Authority ("CCTA") and the Street Smarts Diablo Safe Routes to Schools program, proposes the development of a state-of-the-art Bicycle Garden in Antioch. The Bicycle Garden would be a permanent, hands-on bicycle training facility fully contained within an existing Antioch park. Designed like a miniature city streetscape, the Garden would provide a safe place for youth and adults to ride bikes and learn the rules-of-the-road. The park would consist of small roads that weave in and around landscaped areas with smaller scaled versions of real-life traffic features including signals, traffic signs, road markings, bus stops, bike lanes, train tracks, etc.

In addition to open and free public use by individuals and families, the Bicycle Garden could provide a variety of programming opportunities for the City of Antioch: school field trips, classes for children, teens, and adults of all ages and abilities; summer camp modules, community biking and safety events, private party rentals, and more.

The Antioch Bicycle Garden will serve four goals:

- **SAFETY:** Serve as the gold standard model for bicycle safety education, work toward a regional Vision Zero goal of eliminating fatal and severe traffic collisions involving bicyclists and pedestrians; and provide hands-on bicycle, pedestrian, and driver safety education designed for both programmed and independent learning in a comfortable, fun, permanent, and car-free facility.
- **COMMUNITY HEALTH:** Increase and support community building, exercise, outdoor recreation options, and social and emotional well-being for youth and adults while instilling a “culture of bicycling” in Antioch, and the region.
- **CLIMATE CHANGE:** Improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by inspiring community members to replace vehicle trips to/from schools and other community destinations with bicycling or walking.
- **EQUITY:** Ensure equitable, safe, and no-cost access to the facility for all members of the public, including youth and adults of all ages and abilities.

The City Council of the City of Antioch discussed this concept at the regular meeting of May 25th, 2021. They directed staff to bring the item to the Parks and Recreation Commission and ask them to establish an Ad-Hoc Committee tasked with conducting public outreach and evaluating 3-5 potential locations. The Committee would then return to the Parks and Recreation Commission with their findings. The Parks and Recreation Commission would then make a final recommendation to the City Council.

The Committee should consist of no more than three members of the Parks and Recreation Commission. When appointing the Ad-Hoc Committee, a chair should be selected.

ATTACHMENTS

A. PowerPoint Presentation

BICYCLE GARDEN

ANTIOCH, CA



DIABLO REGION



Video link: <http://ajdesign.com/misc/ccta/CCTA-Bicycle-Garden-002.mp4>

May 26, 2021



Traffic Safety Education

OPPORTUNITY

Expand beyond the classroom



DIABLO REGION

Bicycle Garden: 4 Goals

A photograph of children riding bicycles on a wet street. In the foreground, a girl with long brown hair, wearing a white helmet, a green sweatshirt, blue jeans, and a pink backpack, is riding a blue and pink bicycle. She has a red lanyard around her neck and a license plate that says "RILEY" on her handlebars. Her right arm is extended forward. Behind her, a boy in a green jacket and blue jeans is also riding a bicycle, with his right arm extended. Other children and a man are visible in the background. The street is wet and has yellow lane markings. A white crosswalk is visible on the right side of the road.

SAFETY

Bicycle Garden: 4 Goals



COMMUNITY HEALTH

Bicycle Garden: 4 Goals



CLIMATE CHANGE

Bicycle Garden: 4 Goals

EQUITY



Program Possibilities

- ✓ School field trips
- ✓ Family workshops
- ✓ Senior classes
- ✓ Inclusive recreation
- ✓ Community events
- ✓ Summer day camps
- ✓ Bike repair workshops
- ✓ Private party rentals
- ✓ Bike to Work Day energizer station



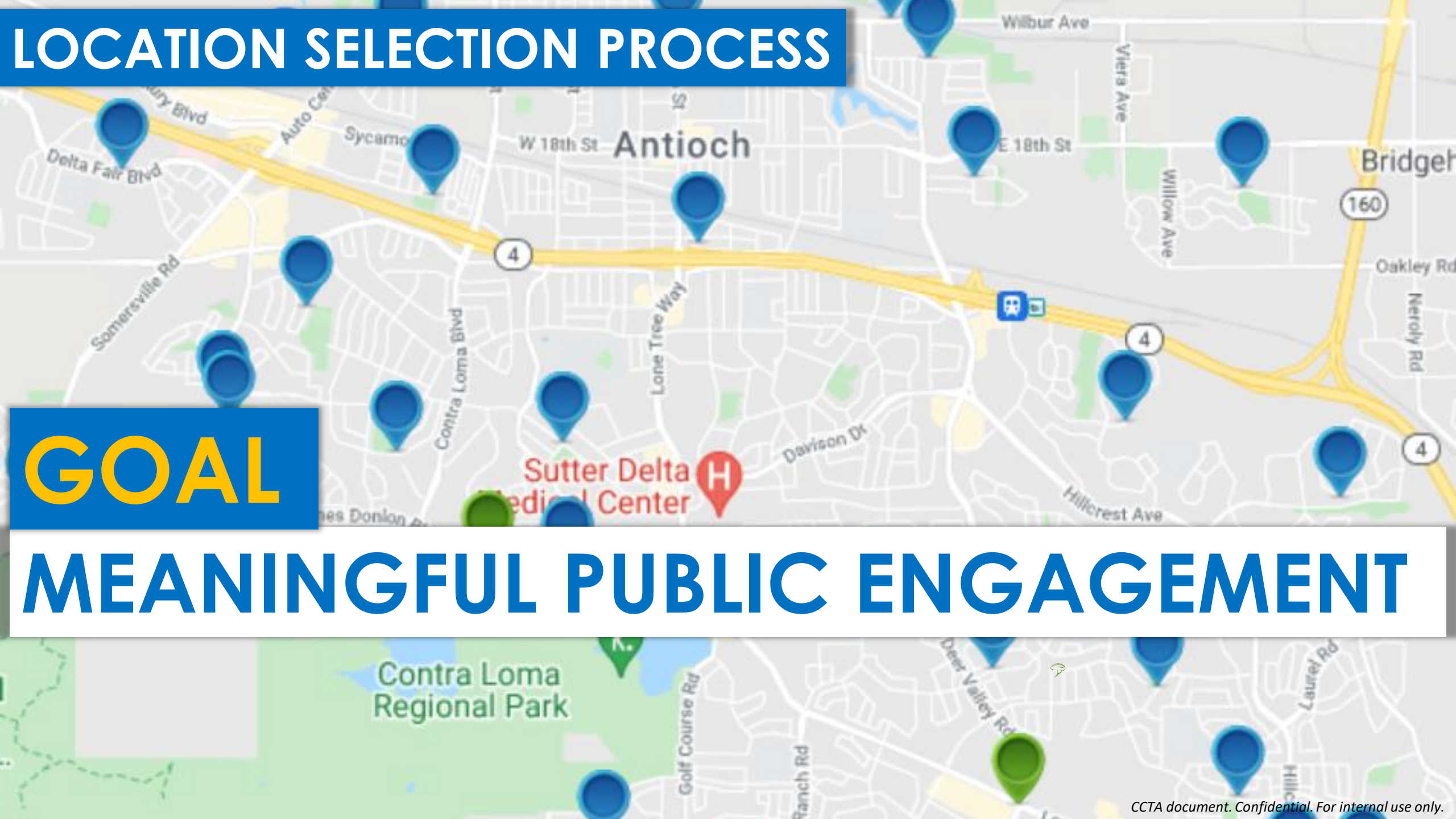
ANTIOCH
OPPORTUNITY LIVES HERE

Street  Smarts
DIABLO REGION

LOCATION SELECTION PROCESS

GOAL

MEANINGFUL PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT



LOCATION SELECTION PROCESS

Ad Hoc Committee

- Meet 5-6 times this summer (*Committee to decide schedule*)
- Confirm location selection criteria
- Evaluate location options (*virtually and in person*)
- Review public comments
- Result: Recommend top park locations for PRC presentation to City Council

ANTIOCH
OPPORTUNITY LIVES HERE



CONTRA COSTA
transportation
authority



DIABLO REGION




END

CITY OF
ANTIOCH
CALIFORNIA

STAFF REPORT TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

DATE: Regular Meeting of June 17, 2021

TO: Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission

SUBMITTED BY: Brad Helfenberger, Parks and Recreation Director 

SUBJECT: Discussion of Antioch Trails

RECOMMENDED ACTION

It is recommended that the Parks and Recreation Commission discuss and provide recommendation to City staff.

FISCAL IMPACT

This recommended action has no direct fiscal impact at this time.

DISCUSSION

This item is solely for the Parks and Recreation Commission's discussion. The item was requested for discussion at the May 20th regular meeting by Chair Arce. The request came during a discussion on the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The CIP identifies trail maintenance as a project. This discussion will help identify possible areas of focus for maintenance as well as future trail improvements.

ATTACHMENTS


None.



STAFF REPORT TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

DATE: Regular Meeting of June 17, 2021

TO: Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission

SUBMITTED BY: Brad Helfenberger, Parks and Recreation Director 

SUBJECT: Possibility of Adding Pickleball Striping to Certain City Tennis Courts

RECOMMENDED ACTION

It is recommended that the Parks and Recreation Commission discuss and provide a recommendation to City staff.

FISCAL IMPACT

This recommended action has no direct fiscal impact at this time. Should the City choose to add Pickle Ball Striping, costs will include materials and staff time.

DISCUSSION

Pickleball is a rapidly growing sport. Pickleball has been described as a combination of ping pong, racquetball and tennis, and requires players to use special paddles to hit a wiffle ball over a net in the center of the court. However, pickleball courts are much smaller than a tennis court.

Pickleball lines can be retrofitted on existing sport courts, which provides an additional use for recreation sites. City staff seeks a recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Commission concerning whether pickleball lines should be added to certain tennis courts to offer an additional recreational use for them.

This item is for the Parks and Recreation Commission's discussion. The item was requested for discussion by the City Manager.

ATTACHMENTS

None.