



A PROJECT UPDATE FROM THE CONTRA COSTA COUNTY TOBACCO PREVENTION PROJECT

Fall 2013

Thanks to more than three years of work by over twenty community advocates and City Staff, on 9/17/13 the **Walnut Creek City Council voted on a first reading to adopt one of the strongest secondhand smoke ordinances in the County.** The ordinance will prohibit smoking (including the use of e-cigarettes) in: all multi-unit residences with 2 or more units including inside units; common indoor and outdoor areas; balconies, decks and patios; and within 20 feet of doors and windows; all of the downtown pedestrian retail district; all recreational areas (except unenclosed areas on golf courses); outdoor dining areas; service areas (ATM lines, bus stops, etc); within 25 feet of entry ways and operable windows of buildings open to the public; and all places of employment (except tobacco retail stores with private smokers lounges). The Council is expected to have a second reading of the ordinance within the next month and the ordinance would take effect 30 days after the Council adopts at a second hearing. In multi-unit housing, owners will be required to notify tenants of new restrictions within 30 days of effective date; no smoking signs must be posted within 60 days of effective date and the ordinance is enforceable within 60 days of the effective date. For all other areas, the ordinance will take effect after the city manager certifies that the required no-smoking signage is in place.

The Concord City Council voted on 7/9/13 to expand the Downtown Smokefree Area to the Downtown Pedestrian zone, which is a few blocks broader than the original smokefree downtown designation. Coalition members and advocates spoke about the importance of citywide secondhand smoke protections, including in multi-unit housing.

On 7/8/13, the **Lafayette City Council directed staff to draft a secondhand smoke protections ordinance** that would include outdoor dining, smokefree doorways, outdoor public areas and public events, Multi-unit housing common areas, balconies, decks and patios and inside new multi-unit housing units. Further discussion is expected in October. For more information about this issue, contact Jaime Jenett at Jaime.jenett@hsd.cccounty.us or (925) 313-6216.

On 7/9/13, **Antioch extended their temporary moratorium on new tobacco and paraphernalia retailers from ninety days to ten months and fifteen days.** The City Council plans to explore options to address the high rate of tobacco sales to minors and other violations of tobacco and paraphernalia related laws. For more information on this issue, contact Jaime Jenett at Jaime.jenett@hsd.cccounty.us or (925) 313-6216.

On 9/10/13, **the City of Oakley discussed regulating smoking in multi-unit housing** after receiving multiple complaints about drifting secondhand smoke in multi-unit housing. The Contra Costa Times reports that city staff may be presenting a draft ordinance to the Council in October.

Next Tobacco Prevention Coalition Meeting

Monday, September 23, 2013

1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Contra Costa County Office of Education, Briones Room, 77 Santa Barbara Rd. Pleasant Hill

- Planning Tobacco Prevention Activities for 2014-2017
- Action on Regulating Menthol

For more information, call (925) 313-6216 or email cctobaccopreventioncoalition@gmail.com

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The Tobacco Prevention Coalition will have a table at the **African American Health Expo in Pittsburg** on 9/21/13 to educate community members on illegal tobacco sales to minors in Pittsburg and remedies, including tobacco retailer licensing. The rate of tobacco sales to minors in Pittsburg was 26% in 2010, one of the highest in the County according to the California Department of Health. For more information on this issue, contact Jaime Jenett at Jaime.jenett@hsd.cccounty.us or (925) 313-6216. For information on the Expo, go to <http://www.africanamericanhealth.us/pdf/aahee-press-release-2013.pdf>

Effective September 3, 2013, **University of California, San Francisco (UCSF)** will require everyone, (including faculty, staff, students, trainees, contractors, and volunteers), to **be tobacco-free** while at work and class, including all breaks (whether on or off campus), at all sites. The tobacco-free policy is driven by the strategic goal to improve the level of safety and quality within the hospital, ambulatory areas, satellite campus locations, and the surrounding community. As a nationally recognized health care institution and health science campus, University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) will be the first UC campus to implement a Tobacco Free at Work policy.

For a number of years, health organizations and public bodies have been urging Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to regulate menthol in cigarettes due to concerns about the youth appeal of the flavoring and the disproportionate marketing and use in communities of color. The County Board of Supervisors and the cities of Martinez, Pittsburg, Richmond and San Pablo have all adopted resolutions of support for Food and Drug Administration (FDA) banning menthol in cigarettes and flavoring in other tobacco products. The **FDA is now considering regulating menthol in cigarettes and has extended the comment period on this issue by 60 days** or until 11/22/13. For more information, visit the [FDA's menthol cigarettes page](#) and read the FDA's recent [press release related to menthol in cigarettes](#).

Chicago City Mayor Ral Emanuel has formally requested that the **City Board of Health** engage both Chicago's residents and national content experts to **study the impact of flavored tobacco products, including menthol-flavored cigarettes**, on the health of Chicago's children. "When the majority of young people who become addicted to smoking pick up the deadly habit through the use of flavored tobacco products, it is clear that we can focus our efforts," wrote the Mayor. "Of particular concern are menthol-flavored cigarettes, the single most popular tobacco product among youth." The Board of Health president, Dr. Carolyn Lopez, responded by saying that "Big tobacco is using menthol flavored cigarettes to turn our children into lifelong addicts. The Board of Health stands ready to work with Mayor Emanuel and our community to find new solutions to help our children."

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"Tobacco Prevention Coalition of Contra Costa" Visit us online at:
<http://www.cchealth.org/topics/tobacco/>