The Walnut Creek City Council is expected to discuss a draft secondhand smoke ordinance June 18th. The secondhand smoke protections to be discussed include no smoking within 20 feet of entryways of buildings open to the public; in outdoor dining; in parks and recreation areas and in all outdoor areas in the Pedestrian Retail Zone (downtown). Protections in multi-unit housing are also likely to be considered. For more information on this issue, contact Jaime Jenett at jaime.jenett@hsd.cccounty.us or (925) 313-6216.

At its May 29th meeting, the Concord City Council Housing and Economic Development Committee discussed proposed revisions to the city's ordinance to expand the Downtown Smoking Ban Area. Committee members Tim Greyson and Ron Leone voted to move the proposal to the full City Council. Coalition members and advocates urged Committee members to consider citywide protections including smokefree doorways and multi-unit housing provisions. The proposal is expected to be discussed by the full City Council on July 9th. For more information on this issue, contact Denice Dennis at Denice.Dennis@hsd.cccounty.us or (925) 313-6825.

On May 13th, the City of Lafayette heard a staff report on secondhand smoke policy options and voted to support citywide smoking restrictions in outdoor dining; within 20 feet of doors and windows of buildings open to the public; in multi-unit housing common indoor and outdoor areas; on balconies, decks and patios of multi-unit housing; and in outdoor public events and public areas such as plazas. The City Council is expected to hear a staff report on additional multi-unit housing protections on July 8th. For more information about this issue, contact Jaime Jenett at jaime.jenett@hsd.cccounty.us or (925) 313-6216.

On May 28th, Antioch adopted a temporary moratorium on new tobacco and paraphernalia retailers after a series of spot checks of tobacco retailers revealed widespread noncompliance with state and federal laws. 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.

With more than one in four tobacco retailers (26%) selling tobacco to minors, Pittsburg has one of the highest rates of illegal tobacco sales to minors in Contra Costa according to data from the California State Department of Health. Tobacco retailer licensing is an effective tool to reduce sales to minors. Successful tobacco retailer licensing programs include license fees to cover costs of compliance checks and administration as well as suspension of the license for violations of youth tobacco sales laws, like tobacco sales to minors. The Tobacco Prevention Coalition is working to build support for tobacco retailer licensing in Pittsburg. For more information on this issue, contact Jaime Jenett at jaime.jenett@hsd.cccounty.us or (925) 313-6216.

Next Tobacco Prevention Coalition Meeting
Monday, July 22, 2013
1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Location TBD

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

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Five community organizations have signed resolutions of support for tobacco retailer licensing in Pittsburg including the African American Health Empowerment Collaborative, Los Medaños Community Healthcare District, the Pittsburg Women’s Community League, People Who Care, and Soroptimist International of Pittsburg. For more information on this issue, contact Jaime Jenett at Jaime.jenett@hsd.cccounty.us or (925) 313-6216.

France will regulate the use of e-cigarettes in the same way it regulates conventional cigarettes in public places and will also include them in the ad ban on tobacco products. In the U.S., some venues, including San Francisco’s baseball stadium, are acting to protect their patrons from e-cigarette emissions as well.

For the first time in several years, Tobacco Industry advertising and promotional expenditures rose from 2010 to 2011 for both cigarettes and smokeless tobacco. Tobacco Industry advertising and promotional expenditures for cigarettes were close to $23 million a day in 2011. Price discounts paid to cigarette wholesalers and retailers to reduce the price to consumers is the largest category, constituting 83.6% of total tobacco industry advertising and promotional expenditures. For more information, go to http://www.ftc.gov/opa/2013/05/tobacco.shtm.

The Cal State University system plans to prohibit smoking throughout the 23-campus system, and may ban the sale of tobacco on campuses by the end of 2013. The University of California also announced that all UC campuses will be smoke-free by 2014.

Friend the Tobacco Prevention Coalition on Facebook:
“Tobacco Prevention Coalition of Contra Costa” Visit us online at: http://www.cchealth.org/topics/tobacco/