

Model Ordinance Prohibiting Smoking in Outdoor Places of Employment and Public Places

Sec. 1000. Title

This Article shall be known as the _____ [name of City or County] Smokefree Outdoor Air Ordinance of _____ [year].

Sec. 1001. Findings and Intent

The _____ [City or County Governing Body] does hereby find that:

The 2006 U.S. Surgeon General's Report, *The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke*, has concluded that (1) secondhand smoke exposure causes disease and premature death in children and adults who do not smoke; (2) children exposed to secondhand smoke are at an increased risk for sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), acute respiratory problems, ear infections, and asthma attacks, and that smoking by parents causes respiratory symptoms and slows lung growth in their children; (3) exposure of adults to secondhand smoke has immediate adverse effects on the cardiovascular system and causes coronary heart disease and lung cancer; (4) there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke. (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke: A Report of the Surgeon General*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, 2006.) According to the 2010 U.S. Surgeon General's Report, *How Tobacco Smoke Causes Disease*, even occasional exposure to secondhand smoke is harmful and low levels of exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke lead to a rapid and sharp increase in dysfunction and inflammation of the lining of the blood vessels, which are implicated in heart attacks and stroke. (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *How Tobacco Smoke Causes Disease: The Biology and Behavioral Basis for Smoking-Attributable Disease: A Report of the Surgeon General*. Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, 2010.)

Numerous studies have found that breathing secondhand smoke (also known as environmental tobacco smoke) is a cause of disease in healthy nonsmokers, including heart disease, stroke, respiratory disease, and lung cancer. The National Cancer Institute determined in 1999 that secondhand smoke is responsible for the early deaths of approximately 53,000 Americans annually. (National Cancer Institute (NCI), "Health effects of exposure to environmental tobacco smoke: the report of the California Environmental Protection Agency. Smoking and Tobacco Control Monograph 10," *Bethesda, MD: National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute (NCI)*, August 1999.)

The Public Health Service's National Toxicology Program (NTP) has listed secondhand smoke as a known carcinogen. (Environmental Health Information Service (EHIS), "Environmental tobacco smoke: first listed in the Ninth Report on Carcinogens," *U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Public Health Service, NTP*, 2000; reaffirmed by the NTP in subsequent reports on carcinogens, 2003, 2005.)

Based on a finding by the California Environmental Protection Agency in 2005, the California Air Resources Board has determined that secondhand smoke is a toxic air contaminant, finding that exposure to secondhand smoke has serious health effects, including low birth-weight babies; sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS); increased respiratory infections in children; asthma in children and adults; lung cancer, sinus cancer, and breast cancer in younger, premenopausal women; heart disease; and death. (California Air Resources Board (ARB), "Appendix II Findings of the Scientific Review Panel: Findings of the Scientific Review Panel on Proposed Identification of Environmental Tobacco Smoke as a Toxic Air Contaminant as adopted at the Panel's June 24, 2005 Meeting," *California Air Resources Board (ARB)*, September 12, 2005.)

There is indisputable evidence that implementing 100% smoke-free environments is the only effective way to protect the population from the harmful effects of exposure to secondhand smoke. (World Health Organization (WHO), "Protection from exposure to secondhand smoke: policy recommendations," *World Health Organization (WHO)*, 2007.)

Secondhand smoke is particularly hazardous to elderly people, individuals with cardiovascular disease, and individuals with impaired respiratory function, including asthmatics and those with obstructive airway disease. (California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal EPA), "Health effects of exposure to environmental tobacco smoke", *Tobacco Control* 6(4): 346-353, Winter, 1997.) The Americans With Disabilities Act, which requires that disabled persons have access to public places and workplaces, deems impaired respiratory function to be a disability. (Daynard, R.A., "Environmental tobacco smoke and the Americans with Disabilities Act," *Nonsmokers' Voice* 15(1): 8-9.)

During periods of active smoking, peak and average outdoor tobacco smoke (OTS) levels measured in outdoor cafes and restaurant and bar patios near smokers rival indoor tobacco smoke concentrations. (Klepeis, N.; Ott, W.R.; Switzer, P., "Real-time measurement of outdoor tobacco smoke particles," *Journal of the Air & Waste Management Association* 57: 522-534, 2007.) Nonsmokers who spend six-hour periods in outdoor smoking sections of bars and restaurants experience a significant increase in levels of cotinine when compared to the cotinine levels in a smokefree outdoor area. (Hall, J.C.; Bernert, J.T.; Hall, D.B.; St Helen, G.; Kudon, L.H.; Naeher, L.P., "Assessment of exposure to secondhand smoke at outdoor bars and family restaurants in Athens, Georgia, using salivary cotinine," *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene* 6(11): 698-704, November 2009.)

The smoking of tobacco is a form of air pollution, a positive danger to health, and a material public nuisance.

Unregulated high-tech smoking devices, commonly referred to as electronic cigarettes, or "e-cigarettes," closely resemble and purposefully mimic the act of smoking by having users inhale vaporized liquid nicotine created by heat through an electronic ignition system. After testing a number of e-cigarettes from two leading manufacturers, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) determined that various samples tested contained not only nicotine but also detectable levels of known carcinogens and toxic chemicals, including tobacco-specific nitrosamines and diethylene glycol, a toxic chemical used in antifreeze. The FDA's testing also suggested that "quality control processes used to manufacture these products are inconsistent or non-existent." ([n.a.], "Summary of results: laboratory analysis of electronic cigarettes conducted by FDA," *Food and Drug Administration (FDA)*, July 22, 2009; <http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/PublicHealthFocus/ucm173146.htm> Accessed on: October 22, 2009.) E-cigarettes produce a vapor of undetermined and potentially harmful substances, which

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may appear similar to the smoke emitted by traditional tobacco products. Their use in workplaces and public places where smoking of traditional tobacco products is prohibited creates concern and confusion and leads to difficulties in enforcing the smoking prohibitions.

Accordingly, the _____ [*City or County Governing Body*] finds and declares that the purposes of this ordinance are (1) to protect the public health and welfare by prohibiting smoking in outdoor places of employment and outdoor public places where nonsmokers are likely to be exposed to secondhand smoke; and (2) to guarantee the right of nonsmokers to breathe smokefree air, and to recognize that the need to breathe smokefree air shall have priority over the desire to smoke.

Sec. 1002. Definitions

The following words and phrases, whenever used in this Article, shall be construed as defined in this Section:

- A. "Bar" means an establishment that is devoted to the serving of alcoholic beverages for consumption by guests on the premises and in which the serving of food is only incidental to the consumption of those beverages, including but not limited to, taverns, nightclubs, cocktail lounges, and cabarets.
- B. "Business" means a sole proprietorship, partnership, joint venture, corporation, or other business entity, either for-profit or not-for-profit, including retail establishments where goods or services are sold; professional corporations and other entities where legal, medical, dental, engineering, architectural, or other professional services are delivered; and private clubs.
- C. "E-cigarette" any electronic oral device, such as one composed of a heating element, battery, and/or electronic circuit, which provides a vapor of nicotine or any other substances, and the use or inhalation of which simulates smoking. The term shall include any such device, whether manufactured, distributed, marketed, or sold as an e-cigarette, e-cigar, e-pipe, or under any other product name or descriptor.
- D. "Employee" means a person who is employed by an employer in consideration for direct or indirect monetary wages or profit, and a person who volunteers his or her services for a non-profit entity.
- E. "Employer" means a person, business, partnership, association, corporation, including a municipal corporation, trust, or non-profit entity that employs the services of one or more individual persons.
- F. "Partially Enclosed" means an area closed in by a roof or overhang or by permanent or temporary walls or windows (exclusive of doorways), on at least two sides, including but not limited to, courtyards, patios, and covered walkways.
- G. "Place of Employment" means an area under the control of a public or private employer, including, but not limited to, work areas, construction sites, temporary offices, restroom facilities, and vehicles.

- H. "Playground" means any park or recreational area designed in part to be used by children that has play or sports equipment installed or that has been designated or landscaped for play or sports activities, or any similar facility located on public or private school grounds or on [City or County] grounds.
- I. "Public Place" means an area to which the public is invited or in which the public is permitted.
- J. "Recreational Area" means any public or private area open to the public for recreational purposes, whether or not any fee for admission is charged, including but not limited to, amusement parks, athletic fields, beaches, fairgrounds, gardens, golf courses, parks, plazas, skate parks, swimming pools, trails, and zoos.
- K. "Restaurant" means an eating establishment, including but not limited to, coffee shops, cafeterias, sandwich stands, and private and public school cafeterias, which gives or offers for sale food to the public, guests, or employees, as well as kitchens and catering facilities in which food is prepared on the premises for serving elsewhere.
- L. "Service Line" means an outdoor line in which one (1) or more persons are waiting for or receiving service of any kind, whether or not the service involves the exchange of money, including but not limited to, ATM lines, concert lines, food vendor lines, movie ticket lines, and sporting event lines.
- M. "Shopping Mall" means any parcel of land zoned and used for retail sales by more than one retailer that is jointly operated or which includes shared parking facilities.
- N. "Smoking" means inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying any lighted or heated cigar, cigarette, or pipe, or any other lighted or heated tobacco or plant product intended for inhalation, in any manner or in any form. "Smoking" also includes the use of an e-cigarette which creates a vapor, in any manner or in any form, or the use of any oral smoking device for the purpose of circumventing the prohibition of smoking in this Article.

Sec. 1003. Prohibition of Smoking on [City-Owned or County-Owned] Outdoor Property

Smoking shall be prohibited on all outdoor property owned, leased, or operated by the _____ [City or County] of _____.

Sec. 1004. Prohibition of Smoking in Outdoor Places of Employment

- A. Smoking shall be prohibited in all outdoor places of employment where two or more employees are required to be in the course of their employment. This includes, without limitation, work areas, construction sites, temporary offices such as trailers, restroom facilities, and vehicles.

- B. This prohibition on smoking shall be communicated to all existing employees by the effective date of this Article and to all prospective employees upon their application for employment.

Sec. 1005. Prohibition of Smoking in Outdoor Public Places

Smoking shall be prohibited in the following outdoor public places:

- A. Within a reasonable distance of _____ [*recommended 15-20*] feet outside entrances, operable windows, and ventilation systems of enclosed areas where smoking is prohibited, so as to prevent tobacco smoke from entering those areas.
- B. In, and within _____ [*recommended 15-20*] feet of, outdoor seating or serving areas of restaurants and bars.
- C. In outdoor shopping malls, including parking facilities.
- D. In outdoor arenas, stadiums, and amphitheaters. Smoking shall also be prohibited in, and within _____ [*recommended 15-20*] feet of, bleachers and grandstands for use by spectators at sporting and other public events.
- E. In outdoor recreational areas, including parking facilities.
- F. In, and within _____ [*recommended 15-20*] feet of, outdoor playgrounds.
- G. In, and within _____ [*recommended 15-20*] feet of, all outdoor public transportation stations, platforms, and shelters under the authority of the _____ [City or County].
- H. In outdoor service lines, including lines in which service is obtained by persons in vehicles, such as service that is provided by bank tellers, parking lot attendants, and toll takers. In lines in which service is obtained by persons in vehicles, smoking is prohibited by both pedestrians and persons in vehicles, but only within _____ [*recommended 15-20*] feet of the point of service.
- I. In partially enclosed areas.

Sec. 1006. Prohibition of Smoking in Outdoor Residential Facilities

Smoking shall be prohibited in outdoor common areas of apartment buildings, condominiums, trailer parks, retirement facilities, nursing homes, and other multiple-unit residential facilities, except in designated smoking areas, not to exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the total outdoor common area, which must be located at least _____ [*recommended 15-20*] feet outside entrances, operable windows, and ventilation systems of enclosed areas where smoking is prohibited.

Sec. 1007. Declaration of Outdoor Public Place as Nonsmoking

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article, an owner, operator, manager, or other person in control of an outdoor public place or place of employment may declare that entire outdoor area as a nonsmoking place. Smoking shall be prohibited in any place in which a sign conforming to the requirements of Section 1008(A) is posted.

Sec. 1008. Posting of Signs

The owner, operator, manager, or other person in control of an outdoor public place or place of employment where smoking is prohibited by this Article shall:

- A. Clearly and conspicuously post “No Smoking” signs or the international “No Smoking” symbol (consisting of a pictorial representation of a burning cigarette enclosed in a red circle with a red bar across it) in that place.
- B. Clearly and conspicuously post on every vehicle that constitutes a place of employment under this Article at least one sign, visible from the exterior of the vehicle, stating that smoking is prohibited.
- C. Remove all ashtrays from any area where smoking is prohibited by this Article, except for ashtrays displayed for sale and not for use on the premises.

Sec. 1009. Nonretaliation; Nonwaiver of Rights

- A. No person or employer shall discharge, refuse to hire, or in any manner retaliate against an employee, applicant for employment, customer, or resident of a multiple-unit residential facility because that employee, applicant, customer, or resident exercises any rights afforded by this Article or reports or attempts to prosecute a violation of this Article. Notwithstanding Section 1011, violation of this Subsection shall be a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1000 for each violation.
- B. An employee who works in a setting where an employer allows smoking does not waive or otherwise surrender any legal rights the employee may have against the employer or any other party.

Sec. 1010. Enforcement

- A. This Article shall be enforced by the _____ [Department of Health or City Manager or County Administrator] or an authorized designee.
- B. Notice of the provisions of this Article shall be given to all applicants for a business license in the _____ [City or County] of _____.
- C. Any citizen who desires to register a complaint under this Article may initiate enforcement with the _____ [Department of Health or City Manager or County Administrator].

- D. The Health Department, Fire Department, or their designees shall, while an establishment is undergoing otherwise mandated inspections, inspect for compliance with this Article.
- E. An owner, manager, operator, or employee of an area regulated by this Article shall direct a person who is smoking in violation of this Article to extinguish the product being smoked. If the person does not stop smoking, the owner, manager, operator, or employee shall refuse service and shall immediately ask the person to leave the premises. If the person in violation refuses to leave the premises, the owner, manager, operator, or employee shall contact a law enforcement agency.
- F. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article, an employee or private citizen may bring legal action to enforce this Article.
- G. In addition to the remedies provided by the provisions of this Section, the _____ [Department of Health or City Manager or County Administrator] or any person aggrieved by the failure of the owner, operator, manager, or other person in control of a public place or a place of employment to comply with the provisions of this Article may apply for injunctive relief to enforce those provisions in any court of competent jurisdiction.

Sec. 1011. Violations and Penalties

- A. A person who smokes in an area where smoking is prohibited by the provisions of this Article shall be guilty of an infraction, punishable by a fine not exceeding fifty dollars (\$50).
- B. Except as otherwise provided in Section 1009(A), a person who owns, manages, operates, or otherwise controls a place of employment of public place and who fails to comply with the provisions of this Article shall be guilty of an infraction, punishable by:
 - 1. A fine not exceeding one hundred dollars (\$100) for a first violation.
 - 2. A fine not exceeding two hundred dollars (\$200) for a second violation within one (1) year.
 - 3. A fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500) for each additional violation within one (1) year.
- C. In addition to the fines established by this Section, violation of this Article by a person who owns, manages, operates, or otherwise controls a place of employment or public place may result in the suspension or revocation of any permit or license issued to the person for the premises on which the violation occurred.
- D. Violation of this Article is hereby declared to be a public nuisance, which may be abated by the _____ [Department of Health or City Manager or County Administrator] by restraining order, preliminary and permanent injunction, or other means provided for by law, and the _____ [City or County] may take action to recover the costs of the nuisance abatement.

- E. Each day on which a violation of this Article occurs shall be considered a separate and distinct violation.

Sec. 1012. Public Education

The _____ [Department of Health or City Manager or County Administrator] shall engage in a continuing program to explain and clarify the purposes and requirements of this Article to citizens affected by it, and to guide owners, operators, and managers in their compliance with it. The program may include publication of a brochure for affected businesses and individuals explaining the provisions of this ordinance.

Sec. 1013. Governmental Agency Cooperation

The _____ [City Manager or County Administrator] shall annually request other governmental and educational agencies having property within the _____ [City or County] to establish local operating procedures in cooperation and compliance with this Article. This includes urging all Federal, State, _____ [County or City], and School District agencies to update their existing smoking control regulations to be consistent with the current health findings regarding secondhand smoke.

Sec. 1014. Other Applicable Laws

This Article shall not be interpreted or construed to permit smoking where it is otherwise restricted by other applicable laws.

Sec. 1015. Liberal Construction

This Article shall be liberally construed so as to further its purposes.

Sec. 1016. Severability

If any provision, clause, sentence, or paragraph of this Article or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall be held invalid, that invalidity shall not affect the other provisions of this Article which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Article are declared to be severable.

Sec. 1017. Effective Date

This Article shall be effective thirty (30) days from and after the date of its adoption.

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