



A PROJECT UPDATE FROM THE CONTRA COSTA COUNTY TOBACCO PREVENTION PROJECT

Winter 2014

Walnut Creek now has one of the strongest secondhand smoke protections ordinances in the County. The ordinance (adopted 10/1/13) prohibits 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).

Lafayette adopted a comprehensive citywide secondhand smoke ordinance on 11/12/13 that provides protections in doorways, outdoor dining, parks and public events. Multi-unit housing protections include inside all new units, common indoor and outdoor areas of residences; balconies, patios, decks and carports; and all areas within 25 feet of doors and windows of multi-unit housing residences. Existing units will convert to smokefree upon a change in tenancy.

Richmond now prohibits the use of electronic cigarettes in all areas where tobacco smoking is prohibited under the city's existing secondhand smoke ordinance including common areas of multi-unit housing; public doorways; outdoor dining areas; recreational and service areas and public events like festivals and farmer's markets. The city council voted to adopt this change on 12/3/13.

The city of **Oakley is expected to discuss secondhand smoke protections for multi-unit housing residences at the end of January.** After hearing from a number of residents about the impact of secondhand smoke in multi-unit residences in October, the City Council asked city staff to develop an ordinance to create smokefree areas in multi-unit housing. For more information, contact Denice Dennis, Tobacco Prevention Project, at 925-313-6825 or denice.dennis@hsd.cccounty.us.

Tobacco Prevention Coalition Meetings

Monday, January 27th, 1:30 -3:30 pm

Office of Contra Costa Supervisor Federal Glover, 315 East Leland Road, Pittsburg

Topics include: Reducing youth access to tobacco in Pittsburg, enforcement of smokefree housing laws and discussion of Coalition plans for 2014-2017 work

Upcoming meetings: March 17th, May 19th, July 21st, September 15th, November 17th

Meetings take place from 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m., locations TBD

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

Non-members welcome to attend meetings. To become a member, click [here](#).

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COMMUNITY WELLNESS & PREVENTION PROGRAM

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The City of **El Cerrito has been gathering community input for secondhand smoke protections** in the City. An online survey about outdoor and multi-unit housing protections can be found on the City's website at www.el-cerrito.org/smoking, and a **community forum to discuss possible protections will be held on Thursday Feb. 27th**, at 6:30 pm at City Hall, 10890 San Pablo Avenue. As staff gather feedback, this information will be used to develop a draft ordinance that will then be presented for community review and comments. Staff anticipates that an ordinance would be presented to the City Council for consideration in spring or early summer. For more information, go to www.el-cerrito.org/smoking or contact Denice Dennis, Tobacco Prevention Project, at 925-313-6825 or denice.dennis@hsd.cccounty.us

The Coalition worked with community partners and Tobacco Prevention Project staff recently to assess and prioritize tobacco prevention issues. The **Coalition has committed to working on the following objectives for 2014-2017** under Prop 99 funding:

1. At least one jurisdiction in Contra Costa County will adopt a public policy that prohibits smoking in all multi-unit housing residences as part of a comprehensive outdoor protections policy, or will revise an existing policy to include smokefree multiunit housing.
2. A minimum of one jurisdiction within Contra Costa County will adopt a policy (e.g. tobacco retailer licensing, conditional use or zoning) to prohibit the location of tobacco retail outlets within at least 1,000 feet of schools, parks, youth facilities, residential areas and within 1,000 feet of another tobacco retailer.
3. Develop participatory collaborative partnerships with at least two (2) organizations serving youth from the diverse tobacco control "priority populations" in Contra Costa.

There are other tobacco prevention issues that have been prioritized for funding, should additional funds become available. The complete list of priorities will be presented at the January 27th Coalition meeting (see box on first page for meeting details).

Chicago recently adopted a historic law that prohibits the sale of menthol and other flavored tobacco products within 500 feet of schools. This cutting-edge legislation is the first ever to include menthol as a prohibited flavor. The prevalence use of menthol-flavored cigarettes among kids (ages 12-17) is staggering, with disproportionate rates being evident across the community: 72% of African Americans, 51% of Asians, 47% of Hispanics and 41% of Whites; as well as 71% among young LGBT smokers. Locally, the California Tobacco Control Program's (CTCP) 2013 Health Equity Summit findings indicate that restricting availability of menthol is one of the top most promising strategies to reduce tobacco-related disparities and promote health equity in California. For more information, contact Denice Dennis, Tobacco Prevention Project, at 925-313-6825 or denice.dennis@hsd.cccounty.us

New research just released in the 1/8/14 issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association finds that **tobacco-control efforts since 1964 kept 8 million people from dying prematurely.** The decline in smoking has added 2.3 years to the average lifespan of American men and 1.6 years to the lifespan of American women. For more, information go [here](#).

This year marks the **50th anniversary of the first Surgeon General's Report (SGR) on smoking and health.** Since the first report was released in 1964, remarkable progress has been made, with smoking prevalence among U.S. adults reduced by half. Unfortunately, tobacco use remains the leading preventable cause of disease, disability, and death in the United States. A new report (SGR 50) will be released in the mid to latter half of January 2014 and will highlight 50 years of progress in tobacco control and prevention, present new data on the health consequences of tobacco use, and detail initiatives that can end the tobacco use epidemic in the U.S. For more information, go [here](#).

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