



Add E-Cigarettes to SIPPO

Austin should update the existing Smoking in Public Places Ordinance (SIPPO) to include new smoking technologies, specifically electronic cigarettes and electronic tobacco products.

What Are Electronic Cigarettes?

Electronic cigarettes, commonly known as e-cigarettes, are battery-operated devices that generally contain cartridges with nicotine, flavor, and other chemicals. An e-cigarette turns nicotine, which is highly addictive, and other chemicals into vapor that is inhaled.¹

Not Just Harmless Water Vapor

- The vapor from e-cigarettes contains volatile organic compounds, heavy metals, and carcinogenic nitrosamines.²
- One in four U.S middle and high school students say they've been exposed to secondhand aerosol from e-cigarettes.³

Teens and E-Cigarettes

- Nicotine addiction is so powerful that every day about 1,000 teens become daily smokers.
- E-cigarette use among high school students increased nine-fold in the past three years.⁴
- The e-cigarette industry targets youth through flavors such as gummy bear, cotton candy, and fruit punch.⁵
- The FDA is concerned that e-cigarettes can increase nicotine addiction among young people and may lead kids to try other tobacco products, including conventional cigarettes.¹

Not A Cessation Device

- E-cigarettes are not cessation devices – even manufacturers say so.⁷ In fact, research shows many smokers use e-cigarettes in addition to traditional cigarettes, not as a replacement.⁸
- Use of e-cigarettes could be a step backward for air quality as well as a negative for someone who may have otherwise quit nicotine use.⁹

Tobacco Kills

- In Travis County, Tobacco is the No. 1 cause of preventable death, causing more deaths than AIDS, crack, heroin, cocaine, alcohol, car accidents, fire, suicide, and murder combined.¹⁰
- In 2015, in the City of Austin, 729 deaths were attributed to the use of cigarettes and other tobacco products—an average of two people every day.¹¹
- At least 21,870 people are living with serious smoking-related diseases in the City of Austin.¹²

Everyone Has a Right to Breathe Clean Air

- In Austin-Travis County, non-smokers outnumber smokers 8:1.¹³
- Tobacco users are not the only ones who breathe its deadly smoke - all the people around them are forced to inhale it too. Recognizing that there is no level of safe second hand smoke exposure, 24 states and more than 627 localities have comprehensive smoke-free laws.¹⁴
- Non-smokers have the right to breathe clean air that's smoke-free and vapor-free



References

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- ¹³ 2012 Austin Travis County Health and Human Services Department Telephone Survey
- ¹⁴ American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network. How Do You Measure Up 2014. <https://www.acscan.org/content/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/HDYMU-2014-Report.pdf>