

11/21/05

RESOLUTION NO. M-3519

A RESOLUTION relating to the Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department's Community Center Campus Tobacco-Free Policy.

WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver, the Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department and the Clark County Health Department cite findings that show tobacco use in the proximity of children and adults, even outdoors, is detrimental to their health; and

WHEREAS, tobacco use can be offensive to customers using parks and recreation community centers with a goal of greater health; and

WHEREAS, the Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department has a unique opportunity to create and sustain an environment that supports a non-tobacco norm through a tobacco-free policy, education and adult-peer role modeling on department-owned and operated recreation center campuses; and

WHEREAS, the Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department believes parents, leaders and staff involved in recreation are role models for youth and can have a positive effect on the lifestyle choices they make; and

WHEREAS, cigarettes and chewing tobacco, once consumed in public spaces, are often disposed of on the ground, requiring additional maintenance expenses, diminishing the beauty of the Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation community center grounds, and posing a risk to toddlers and pets due to ingestion; and

WHEREAS, the City enacted a smoke free work environment policy on April 1, 1992 to ensure that City facilities, including City owned buildings, vehicles, individual employee offices, and offices or other facilities rented or leased by the City will be smoke free; and

WHEREAS, the City enacted Resolution M-3225 in May of 1999 which extended the smoke free workplace policy to encompass the entire City Hall facility extending to the public right-of-way; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission, at its October 21, 2005 meeting, voted unanimously in favor of the Community Center Campus Tobacco-Free Policy and to forward the policy statement to Vancouver City Council with its recommendation for adoption; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Vancouver determines that the abstinence from tobacco use in and around the City's recreational facilities serves to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Vancouver.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VANCOUVER:

Section 1. The City of Vancouver does hereby adopt the Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department's Community Center Campus Tobacco-Free Policy for such City of Vancouver community center properties as set forth herein.

Section 2. The Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Director is authorized to designate the following City-owned community center facilities and grounds within the City of Vancouver to be posted with signage prohibiting tobacco use:

- The grounds of the Marshall Community Center, 1009 East McLoughlin Boulevard.
- The grounds of the Firstenburg Community Center, 700 N.E. 136th Avenue.
- The grounds of the Vancouver Tennis Center, 5300 E. 18th Street.
- The grounds of any future city-owned, Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation community center.

Section 3. As used in this resolution, "grounds" means all property owned or leased by the City which comprises a community center, but shall not include any public right-of-way bordering such facility.

Section 4. The prohibition of tobacco use on City of Vancouver Parks and Recreation community center campuses will be implemented as follows:

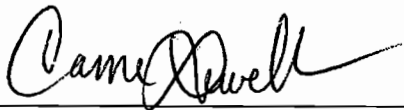
- A. Appropriate signs shall be posted in the above specified areas.
- B. The community will be notified of this policy through media, neighborhood newsletters, the City of Vancouver's Web site, and letters to gatekeeper and shareholders.
- C. The Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation staff and associated maintenance crews will be notified of this policy.

Section 4. This policy statement is effective immediately upon the date of adoption.


ADOPTED at regular session of the Council of the City of Vancouver this 21st of November, 2005.

  
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Royce E. Pollard, Mayor

Attest:

  
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R. Lloyd Tyler, City Clerk  
By: Carrie Lewellen, Deputy City Clerk

Approved as to form:

  
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Ted H. Gathe, City Attorney

# **Tobacco-Free Parks and Recreation Community Center Campus Policy**

***Approved by Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission on October 21, 2005***

The City of Vancouver believes that each employee, patron, and visitor to community centers should have the opportunity for full participation in employment, recreational and other activities in an environment free from tobacco smoke and the residue of chewing tobacco.

Since tobacco use inside city buildings is already prohibited by both State law and City policy, this "*Tobacco-Free Parks and Recreation Community Center Campus*" policy expands that prohibition to include the outdoor area, or campus, surrounding the recreation center.

## **Specifically, tobacco use is prohibited on:**

- The acreage, park, trails and sports fields surrounding Marshall Community Center, 1009 E. McLoughlin Blvd, bordered by McLoughlin, Fort Vancouver Way, Mill Plain, and the Interstate-5 freeway.
- The property surrounding Firstenburg Community Center, extending to the public right-of-way.
- The property surrounding the Vancouver Tennis Center, extending to the public right-of-way.
- **Generally, tobacco use is prohibited on:**
- The property surrounding any future city-owned, Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation recreational facility, extending to the public right-of-way.

Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation is committed to promoting healthy individuals and maintaining quality of life for the maximum benefit of the community; therefore, it is within the City of Vancouver's role to proactively address these facts:

1. Secondhand smoke contains hundreds of harmful chemicals and carcinogens. It is a serious health risk to humans, especially infants, children and pregnant women. It is a risk factor for new cases of asthma in children.
2. Tobacco products, including chewing tobacco and cigarette butts, once consumed in public spaces, are often discarded on the ground, thus posing a risk of ingestion to toddlers and pets, and causing a litter problem.
3. As parents, leaders, coaches, officials and adults we are thought of as role models, and the use of tobacco products around youth has a negative effect on their lifestyle choices.
4. There is ample evidence that risks from secondhand smoke exist even when exposure occurs in open areas.

## **Administrative Procedures**

- All city-owned community centers and their grounds will be designated as tobacco-free, where use of tobacco is prohibited for all employees, patrons and visitors.
- All employees are expected to comply with the tobacco-use restrictions described in this policy, and to assist with the verbal notification of patrons who violate these restrictions.
- Rental groups using city community centers and/or surrounding grounds will be expected to abide by this policy.
- Tobacco-free signs shall be prominently displayed in all designated facilities and immediate grounds.

**NOTE:** The City of Vancouver adopted a Tobacco-Free Parks policy in September, 2005. It requests, through voluntary compliance, that tobacco use be prohibited from playgrounds, ball fields during games, outdoor concert venues during events, and public beaches.