

NEWS



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EXPANDED SMOKING ORDINANCE IN EFFECT OCT 1

More no-smoking areas aimed at protecting against secondhand smoke

SUNNYVALE, Calif. – The City of Sunnyvale has updated its smoking law to provide additional protection from the harmful effects of secondhand smoke by expanding no-smoking areas. The new ordinance goes into effect October 1, 2016 and prohibits smoking:

- in all outdoor dining areas, anywhere food or drink is consumed;
- within 25 feet of building doors and windows;
- within 25 feet of service areas such as transit stops;
- at public events such as farmers' markets;
- on South Murphy Avenue between Washington Avenue and Evelyn Avenue;
and
- in all public parks, including golf courses.

The ordinance also expands the smoking prohibition to multi-family housing properties with two or more units including apartments, condominiums and townhomes; multi-family no-smoking areas now include:

- multi-family housing common areas (indoors and outdoors);
- within 25 feet of multi-family housing doors and windows; and
- inside units, including shared balconies and patios.

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Smoking remains the leading cause of preventable death in the United States and exposure to secondhand smoke is responsible for an estimated 41,000 heart-disease related and lung cancer deaths each year. According to the Centers for Disease Control, the only way to fully protect nonsmokers is to eliminate smoking in all homes, worksites and public places.

The City is committed to creating a healthier community for all residents and visitors, and Sunnyvale joins more than 100 California municipalities that require smokefree outdoor areas and nearly 40 communities that require smokefree multi-family housing within some or all units. In an online survey conducted by the City at *OpenCityHall.inSunnyvale.com*, nearly 90 percent of respondents favored outdoor dining and around business entryways as smokefree areas. The smokefree ordinance updates also will raise the City's grade from a "D" to a "B" in the American Lung Association's State of Tobacco Control Report. To help educate the community about the updated law, businesses and multi-family housing are required to post "no smoking" signs. A limited number of signs are available from the City by calling 408-730-7610 or emailing *np@sunnyvale.ca.gov*.

For more information about the law, visit *Smoking.inSunnyvale.com*.

The American Lung Association's State of Tobacco Control Report can be found online at

http://www.lung.org/local-content/california/documents/state-of-tobacco-control/2016/2016-sotc__california-full.pdf

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