



# City of Tigard Press Release

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## **Tigard Parks, Trails and Public Property Will Soon Be Smoke Free**

The Tigard City Council acted to promote the health and well-being of all Tigard residents and the city's workforce by banning the smoking of tobacco and other products and the use of electronic cigarettes on city-owned parks and trails, and by prohibiting the use of those products on all city-owned and operated property.

The bans, adopted by the council on Jan. 26, encompass all smoked materials—including cigarettes, cannabis products, cigars, and pipes—and e-cigarette products that emulate smoking.

The ban in parks and on trails is effective Feb. 25, but no penalties for violations will be issued until after July 1. The smoking ban and penalties for infractions on city-owned property go into effect July 1. The delay gives city staff time to educate and inform the community, city employees and visitors to city facilities about the new regulations covering city property and parks and trails.

“The City of Tigard is committed to promoting the well-being of its residents and employees,” said Marty Wine, Tigard city manager. “The city’s vision includes being a place where people of all ages and abilities enjoy healthy and interconnected lives. Research shows that smoking, and even second-hand smoke, is harmful to human health and is the leading cause of preventable death. These ordinances acknowledge that concern and our larger vision that promotes community health.”

Tigard joins the ranks of many other U.S. municipalities that have passed measures banning smoking and e-cigarette use in park systems, which are used by residents of all ages, including many young persons.

The new ordinances call for a fine up to \$100 for first-time offenses and no more than \$500 for future violations. Over the next several months, the city will be engaging all audiences through signage, city communications materials and collaboration with groups that promote wellness. The bans do not apply to privately owned property or to city sidewalks.

Wine also noted the approved smoking bans complement ongoing efforts to support health in Tigard.

In April 2015, the council unanimously adopted a resolution that supports the city’s efforts to become a municipality that supports healthy eating and active living (HEAL Cities), and won a two-year, \$150,000 grant from Metro in February 2015 to support biking and walking options for students to area schools through the national Safe Routes to School program.

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