

Healthy Cities Initiative: Tobacco Policies Survey

The City of Cupertino is considering tobacco policies and seeking public input on this initiative.

Summary Of Responses

As of October 14, 2019, 11:48 AM, this forum had:		Topic Start	Topic End
Attendees:	1032	September 6, 2019, 2:32 PM	October 14, 2019, 10:23 AM
Responses:	639		
Hours of Public Comment:	32.0		

QUESTION 1

Do you think it is easy or difficult for youth under the age of 21 to buy flavored tobacco products in Cupertino? (Flavored tobacco products include menthol cigarettes, little cigars, and electronic cigarettes in flavors such as fruit, candy, and liquor.)

		%	Count
Easy		53.8%	344
Difficult		3.9%	25
Not sure		42.3%	270

QUESTION 2

Do you think flavored tobacco products are more appealing to youth than unflavored tobacco products?

		%	Count
Yes		90.3%	577
No		1.1%	7
Not sure		8.6%	55

QUESTION 3

Would you support or oppose a law prohibiting the sale of flavored tobacco products, like menthol cigarettes and fruit-flavored electronic cigarettes, in Cupertino?

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QUESTION 4

Would you support or oppose a law to prevent stores near schools from selling tobacco products (e.g., no new tobacco retailers within 1,000 feet of schools)?



QUESTION 5

Would you support or oppose a law that limits where stores that sell tobacco can be located within a community (e.g., no new tobacco retailers within 500 feet from existing tobacco retailers)?



QUESTION 6

Would you support or oppose a law that caps the number of tobacco retailers that can be located in Cupertino (e.g., no more than one tobacco retailer per 2,500 residents)?

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QUESTION 7

Would you support or oppose a law that bans pharmacies from selling tobacco products?



QUESTION 8

Would you support or oppose a law requiring store owners to purchase a local license to sell tobacco? The license fees would cover the cost of checking whether stores follow tobacco laws.



QUESTION 9

Have you used a tobacco product such as cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vape pens, chewing tobacco, in the last 30 days?




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		%	Count
Yes		3.0%	19
No		94.8%	606
Decline to state		2.2%	14




QUESTION 10

Have you used a flavored tobacco product in the last 30 days? (Check all that apply)

		%	Count
Yes: menthol cigarettes		0.5%	3
Yes: flavored little cigars/cigarillos		0.5%	3
Yes: flavored e-cigarettes/vape solution		0.8%	5
Yes: flavored smokeless tobacco (chew/snuff)		0.2%	1
Yes: flavored hookah tobacco (shisha)		0.6%	4
Yes: other flavored tobacco		0.2%	1
No: I don't use flavored tobacco products of any kind		98.6%	630

QUESTION 11

What category best describes your age:

		%	Count
17 or under		2.7%	17
18-24		0.5%	3
25-34		3.8%	24

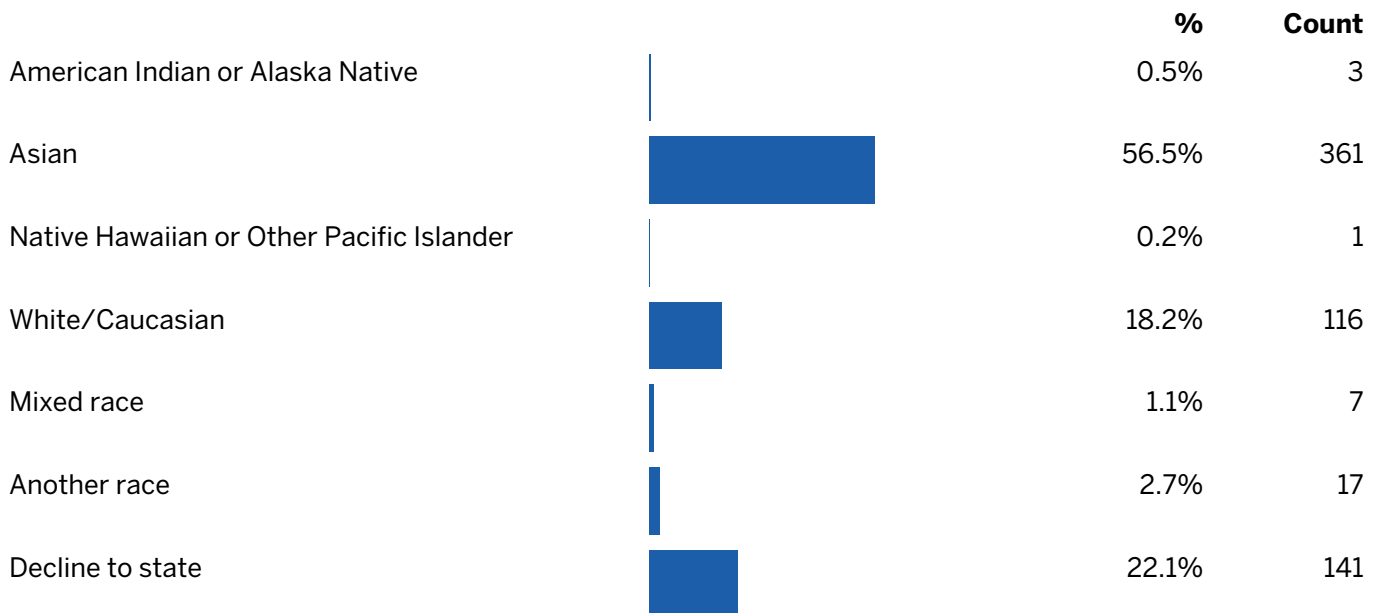
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QUESTION 12

Which category best describes your race/ethnicity? (please check all that apply)





QUESTION 13

Which category best describes your gender?



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		%	Count
Gender queer/non-binary		0.2%	1
Decline to state		9.9%	63

QUESTION 14

Tell us about yourself (check all that apply).

		%	Count
I live in Cupertino		72.6%	464
I work in Cupertino		14.6%	93
I attend school in Cupertino		20.7%	132
I own a business in Cupertino		3.9%	25
None of the above		6.9%	44

QUESTION 15

Would you attend a school-sponsored community meeting regarding the proposed tobacco policies?

		%	Count
Yes		49.0%	313
No		13.5%	86
Not sure		37.6%	240

QUESTION 16

What is your zip code?

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Answered	639
Skipped	0

QUESTION 17

Provide additional comments.

Answered	114
Skipped	525

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Survey Questions

QUESTION 1

Do you think it is easy or difficult for youth under the age of 21 to buy flavored tobacco products in Cupertino? (Flavored tobacco products include menthol cigarettes, little cigars, and electronic cigarettes in flavors such as fruit, candy, and liquor.)

- Easy
- Difficult
- Not sure

QUESTION 2

Do you think flavored tobacco products are more appealing to youth than unflavored tobacco products?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

QUESTION 3

Would you support or oppose a law prohibiting the sale of flavored tobacco products, like menthol cigarettes and fruit-flavored electronic cigarettes, in Cupertino?

- Support
- Oppose
- Not sure

QUESTION 4

Would you support or oppose a law to prevent stores near schools from selling tobacco products (e.g., no new tobacco retailers within 1,000 feet of schools)?

- Support
- Oppose
- Not sure

QUESTION 5

Would you support or oppose a law that limits where stores that sell tobacco can be located within a community (e.g., no new tobacco retailers within 500 feet from existing tobacco retailers)?

- Support

- Oppose
- Not sure

QUESTION 6

Would you support or oppose a law that caps the number of tobacco retailers that can be located in Cupertino (e.g., no more than one tobacco retailer per 2,500 residents)?

- Support
- Oppose
- Not sure

QUESTION 7

Would you support or oppose a law that bans pharmacies from selling tobacco products?

- Support
- Oppose
- Not sure

QUESTION 8

Would you support or oppose a law requiring store owners to purchase a local license to sell tobacco? The license fees would cover the cost of checking whether stores follow tobacco laws.

- Support
- Oppose
- Not sure

QUESTION 9

Have you used a tobacco product such as cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vape pens, chewing tobacco, in the last 30 days?

- Yes
- No
- Decline to state

QUESTION 10

Have you used a flavored tobacco product in the last 30 days? (Check all that apply)

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- Yes: menthol cigarettes
- Yes: flavored little cigars/cigarillos
- Yes: flavored e-cigarettes/vape solution
- Yes: flavored smokeless tobacco (chew/snuff)
- Yes: flavored hookah tobacco (shisha)
- Yes: other flavored tobacco
- No: I don't use flavored tobacco products of any kind

QUESTION 11

What category best describes your age:

- 17 or under
- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-64
- 65+
- Decline to state

QUESTION 12

Which category best describes your race/ethnicity? (please check all that apply)

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White/Caucasian
- Mixed race
- Another race
- Decline to state

QUESTION 13

Which category best describes your gender?

- Female
- Male
- Trans
- Gender queer/non-binary
- Decline to state

QUESTION 14

Tell us about yourself (check all that apply).

- I live in Cupertino
- I work in Cupertino
- I attend school in Cupertino
- I own a business in Cupertino
- None of the above

QUESTION 15

Would you attend a school-sponsored community meeting regarding the proposed tobacco policies?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

QUESTION 16

What is your zip code?

QUESTION 17

Provide additional comments.

Provide additional comments

My mother was a life-long smoker. Could not get her to stop smoking. So addiction to tobacco is entrenched problem.

I believe that e- cigarettes are addictive, especially for youth. I expect health problems from e-cigarettes similar to the ones that are created by regular cigarettes.

Favor all measures that restrict access to tobacco products.

Ban smoking all forms of smoking everywhere in Cupertino. Would mean smokers could only smoke inside their own homes, not their yards or doorsteps.

It is illegal for anyone under 21 to buy tobacco products. No additional city laws are needed. The state should enforce existing laws..

I oppose the sale of vaping products.

don't be stupid and over burden retailers. This will not stop youth from getting tobacco.

Coordinate such policies with neighboring cities so that kids just walk to next town and easily get tobacco or tobacco substitute but harmful products like ecigerrates.

My son in Cupertino High School told me that he sees older kids using vape pens outside school. That makes me concerned that even he is not using it, he might still get second-hand smoke from it.

I support anti tobacco policies

Teens are naturally curious about many things, it's not a surprise that they would try smoking,vaping, etc.

I don't think the location of tobacco store will make much of a difference. The kids aren't trying to buy them in stores. They are buying off the black market from "friends"

Discouraging young people from smoking or vaping or using flavored tobacco is a parental responsibility and not the business of local governments.

I have friends who have died from tobacco related diseases. Please save your citizens lives.

We should follow the County guidelines, and not create additional requirements on retailers.

I think it's stupid to have a city by city law on tobacco. We should just stick with country regulations.

Say no to tobacco.

I support banning the sale of all tobacco products in Cupertino.

The right thing may not be an easy thing to do in the short term, but the long term benefit of doing the right thing is well worth the extra work and rewarding.

Keep Cupertino Clean with NO cigarettes or Vapor

None

please have a law for no more new business allowed to sell any tobacco

I don't support infringing on an adult's rights to use flavored tobacco nor on a business' ability to sell it. I support legislature banning the sale of tobacco products in Cupertino or anywhere else whose marketing is intended to entice anyone under the age of 21 and/or whose packaging resembles candy in any way. I also support tobacco product taxes or business license fees to sell tobacco products whose proceeds will pay to enforce that legislation.

Would like for children not to be able to legally purchase any vaping products.

Tobacco should be banned in Cupertino!

same as tobacco, weed products should apply to the new law

It is an acute health hazard among teenagers

Please we need to do this to help our children have a clean environment at school and community. Thanks for sending this survey

Sad that the city needs to address this issue. Where's the FDA?

Vaping is a huge problem at our high school, so anything that can be done to make it harder for kids to get access would be great

I dislike these products and think we need more study about their health effects, but I believe adults should be able to buy them in Cupertino.

I favor a complete ban on tobacco and e-cigarettes in Cupertino.

Knowing about the recent fatalities, I think city of Cupertino should totally ban the sale of any flavored tobacco products throughout the city.

Outlaw All vaping products in Cupertino without a prescription from medical doctor.

Time to full stop Tobacco 2.0, which is ruining health of so many teens.

Thank you for considering tightening access to tobacco products in Cupertino.

I want adults 21 and over to be able get these products, but I want it do be difficult and well enforced that people under 21 cannot get these products

I hope Cupertino will become the first tobacco-free city in the USA that bans smoking in all public grounds. Tobacco smokers are only allowed to smoke in designated areas where the air will be strictly filtered.

Ban all tobacco products including Cigarettes. Just banning e-cigs is going to push vapers towards traditional cigarettes. Either ban everything, or ban nothing.

Ban all tobacco products including Cigarettes. Just banning e-cigs is going to push vapers towards traditional cigarettes. Either ban everything, or ban nothing.

You should restrict the mailings to areas actually in Cupertino. As a part-time resident of San Jose, I don't have a a vote here.

The community should stand up against the use of tobacco and I will be part of it

PSA in schools showing a healthy lung side-by-side with vaping and smoking lung

In cases where tobacco products would still be permitted to be sold, I would support an additional sales tax on tobacco and vaping paraphernalia to the maximum amount permitted by law.

Education is what is required and will be effective, not regulations trying to restrict supply. If young people want to smoke, they will find a supplier. Illegal drugs is a perfect example of this.

Our community borders Santa Clara, Sunnyvale and Cupertino, so cooperation on a new tobacco policy would be extremely beneficial, making these products even harder to access.

If there is a proposed law prohibiting any vape products from being sold, there should be a like ban on tobacco cigarettes or cigars.

Ban any kind of smoking in all of California.

You are doing a great thing, please ban all flavored tobacco products. Cupertino High School has a rest room called Juul Labs. Sam Lawson kids are getting hooked as well.

Stats show equal % of vaping adults use flavors. Limits on # of "tobacco" shops prevent vape shops from competing with deadly cigarette shops.

My kids attend school in Cupertino

one of the flavored tobacco companies had on their website that pretty much has a teen telling her mom " Mom that's just a USB stick". they are blatantly selling to kids.

We have to make changes now to the tobacco policies to keep our youth & future safe & healthy. Currently lot of sellers don't ID kids and hence teens are able to get hold of the vaping / smoking products easily. Illegal selling is going on in our schools is what I have heard too.

Must have vape detectors

Don't get our kids addicted to more harm.

No thanks

My kids went to CUSD elementary and middle schools.

P

Teen are easy to be attracted by cigarettes. We should limiting tobacco sale as well as educating kids not to take cigarettes in school.

Tabasco kills people and destroys youths!

Not any tabaco products near school

We need to protect our kids and help them stay away from tobaccos!!!

Tobacco needs to be regulated and licensed for selling, and should not be sold near a public area like school or library where has many children.

Our address is in CUSD, kids are in high school now. We support local policy to fully ban e-cigarettes, vaping products and or any kind of cigarettes.

i suggest no marijuana retail and use in cupertino

We live on the border of West San Jose and Cupertino. So I care a lot about Cupertino. I treat myself as a Cupertino citizen.

Being an ex-smoker I understand the unhealthy tobacco side effects. I support measures to discourage tobacco use.

I'm concerned that these restrictions could discourage grocery stores, gas stations and pharmacies from locating in Cupertino. We NEED these kinds of stores!

I support banning the products

I wish Cupertino had an ordinance that banned smoking in multi-unit residences similar to Santa Clara County (Ordinance No. NS-625.6) and surrounding communities such as Sunnyvale's 'Smokefree Sunnyvale Law'

Tobacco usage should be banned in public places

There's enough state and federal laws in regards to tobacco sales. Proper enforcement of existing laws is adequate for preventing minor tobacco consumption. Proposed laws are draconian and place current and future businesses at a disadvantage solely by their location and time of establishment. This is crony capitalism at its worst.

I appreciate that the City of Cupertino is considering such policies and has initiated a survey. As a resident, however, I wish the survey did not pre-decide and impose numbers such as "no new tobacco retailers within 500 feet of existing tobacco retailers", "1000 feet from schools" and "no more than 1 tobacco retailer per 2500 residents". The city should provide residents with options for deciding these limits as well, for this to be considered a fair survey. One might oppose these limits because they end up being too relaxed where instead they need to be tightened up. Please reconsider.

Our high schools are telling us this is already a huge problem and growing. We need to take action now.

I am very concerned about this issue specially the fact that our kids can easily access e-cigarettes

Tobacco should not be allowed that's it

Tobacco use should be gradually phased out with education and social pressure. Tobacco use harms everyone, physically and financially.

I am more worried about illegal distribution channels that get established within the school and neighborhood.

Like the city of Santa Clara, we also need to ban smoking inside apartment buildings and public places. Neighbors who smoke on their balconies are a nuisance.

Why only Flavored Tobacco ? Ban tobacco in totality , Learn from Bhutan

Please make strict rules that do no get into vaping

Nicotine is brain poison. Why are we allowing our kids to be poisoned?

Tobacco use is harmful for kids of any age. Please stop sale of tobacco for kids.

Stop sale of tobacco to kids or around schools.

My children attend Cupertino MS and Homestead HS, I am very concerned with the ease of purchasing e-cigarettes and the prevalence of these devices in the education system. We must object to this new wave of tobacco addicting devices.

It's important to ensure children and high schoolers are kept away from harmful substances like tobacco

Let's protect kids in Cupertino!

Schools need to be held responsible and accountable in making sure that kids are not exposed to any kind of vaping or drugs. Just as they have taken up upon themselves to reduce bullying in school they need to set strict rules of expelling students or suspending them if found vaping or bringing any drugs to school. Parents send their children to school with the hope that they are well secured/safe and gaining quality education. Schools should do everything possible to educate the students about the adverse effects of vaping, how it can effect their lives, their bodies and their wellbeing. Just like schools educate students these days about the dangers of unprotected sexual misconducts. Schools need to have more stringent rules, sting operations to catch those who are not following the rules and have them expelled for good.

Any kind of substance that is known to affect health must be banned from school, including vaping

I have children in Cupertino schools.

my kids attend school in cupertino. neither they nor their classmates should be exposed to tobacco products of any kind.

Tobacco sellers are already licensed by the CDTFA at significant cost to the business, and have routine compliance checks by sting operations. I would support heavier fines and punishments for businesses violating the law by selling to minors, but an additional licensing fee only serves as an added "tax" on business owners (even those in compliance with the law).

Laws that support random backpack checks for the students

The schools management should always be in a lookout for kids who sound suspicious because half of their time is spent in school campus

Tobacco is bad, period. I support any law that eliminates the use of tobacco products.

There should be no tobacco products sold in the city of Cupertino. It should go on the ballot so the residents can vote for it. The idea of license is not going to make any difference other than provide the city with a source of income. The city should not monetize tobacco sales with a license. Tobacco products should not be sold anywhere near to a school. The 1000 ft for new stores and the 500 ft within existing retailers should not be on the survey. City has to curb tobacco sales and make it harder for the kids to be able to find it.

Businesses should be able to sell anything anywhere to anyone over 18. There can not be restrictions on what businesses can legally sell. This impedes on free market principles and reduces competition, which ultimately hurts our economy. We should not make regulations that hurt businesses, only ones that truly reduce vaping and tobacco use without harming locals.

Please ban tobacco in our city

As per some kids in Cupertino School, if you know 'right people', it is easy to get tobacco.

I oppose this proposal. The restrictions to sell tobacco are already very strict and you have to be 21 to buy tobacco. I agree that flavored tobacco is more attractive to youth (specifically flavored e-cigarettes). I don't believe that teens are buying flavored e-cigarettes from retail outlets. I believe they get products from friends and family. I also don't think teens are smoking cigars/chewing tobacco/smoking menthol, they are more interested in vaping. I think that if you need to remember that if you restrict all flavored tobacco - it includes e-cigarettes as well as chew/cigars/cigarettes. These are products that your adult constituents use and should have the right to choose. Restricting e-cigs at retail will not solve the problem, it only restricts adult choice. I think targeting small businesses for more regulation will hurt small business in Cupertino, while teens will continue to get vape products online (through pre paid visa cards) or through adult friends/family that will buy in other towns.

I hear there's a black market on the Monta Vista campus for vaping supplies. The school needs to crack down on this activity and suspend students from school if

caught with this stuff. Sequoia High School in Redwood City will suspend students for 2 days. Check out their policy.

This issue feels manufactured. There are loud and poorly researched alarm bells and the issue requires no action.

Stores should be severely penalized if they are found violating the law about sales of narcotics. e.g. enough bad activities go on behind 7 -11 on Bubb road, but it is thriving. It is a common knowledge among kids.

Can we make this in Sunnyvale as well?

May be better provide other with option where we have choice to enter our inputs. It is restricted that I have to choose support or oppose or not sure.

Uncontrolled tobacco selling will downgrade Cupertino City.

N/a

This is a school problem. The schools know that students are bringing contraband onto campus, but they refuse to do anything about it, such as regularly bringing K9 on campus to do sweeps, or installing vape detectors. Instead, they want the city council to kick the defenseless businesses around, because abusing businesses is fashionable and acceptable these days. What about THEIR rights? Blank out. This is totally unfair. It is those students who bring contraband onto campus who are violating the existing laws. They are the ones who should be disciplined (suspended) and held accountable. The school board and school principals want to stick their heads in the sand and not admit that this is their problem. They don't want to use readily available and effective policing actions and methods to find the contraband and clearly send a message to the students that contraband won't be tolerated on campus. Instead they want the city to use force against innocent pharmacies and shops to do their dirty work. It's ok to violate business people's rights, but god forbid we hold those students and administrators accountable for their wrong-doings. That's unjust and immoral.

When making the law, be sure to include new types of products being introduced in the US such as IQOS : <https://www.cnbc.com/2019/04/30/fda-clears-iqos-philip-morris-heated-tobacco-device.html>

As a nurse, I have seen the adverse effects that come from years of smoking. I have seen the acute distress of patients in hospitals who are in need of a cigarette. I don't think our young people can see where a smoking addiction will take them. I also think young people need to know other ways to cope with stress.

Vaping, with and without THC, is now a teen epidemic that is killing kids. Please start a campaign to ban vaping at the federal level. I'd sign a change.org petition, and I'd like to see it submitted to our congressional reps. Smoking anything in 2019 is barbaric and abusive of children, women and men. These companies just want another gateway drug to hook kids.

Let us make it as difficult as possible to for kids to get these products; even if it means completely banning them.

Is it a possibility for City to limit the number of print advertising on tobacco / e-cigarette products near schools?

I always thought that inhaling a liquid (even if small particles) is not a good idea.
Liquid in lungs = pneumonia