

**CITY OF SAN MATEO  
ORDINANCE NO. 2015-15**

**AMENDING CHAPTER 7.40, “SMOKING CONTROL,” AND SECTION 13.20.010 OF  
CHAPTER 13.20, “PARKS REGULATIONS,” OF THE SAN MATEO MUNICIPAL CODE**

WHEREAS, citizens and numerous organizations have expressed concerns and complaints associated with the harm caused by second-hand smoke; and

WHEREAS, the City Council requested a review and proposed revision of the Municipal Code for more stringent regulations regarding smoking within the City limits; and

WHEREAS, health hazards related to smoking, and breathing second-hand smoke, can include certain cancers and adverse respiratory effects and worsen the quality of life for citizens with existing allergies and respiratory diseases; and

WHEREAS, studies have found that tobacco smoke is a major contributor to indoor air pollution and chemicals in tobacco smoke have been classified as carcinogens;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN MATEO, CALIFORNIA, ORDAINS that:

**Section 1.** Chapter 7.40, “Smoking Control,” of the San Mateo Municipal Code is amended to read as set forth below:

**Chapter 7.40**

**SMOKING CONTROL**

- 7.40.010 Findings and purpose.**
- 7.40.020 Definitions.**
- 7.40.030 Prohibition of smoking in city facilities and on city property.**
- 7.40.040 Prohibition of smoking in public places.**
- 7.40.050 Prohibition of smoking in multi-unit residences.**
- 7.40.060 Where smoking not regulated.**
- 7.40.070 Medical marijuana.**
- 7.40.080 Violations and enforcement.**
- 7.40.090 Nondiscrimination.**
- 7.40.100 Vending machines—sales prohibited.**
- 7.40.110 Self-service displays prohibited.**

**7.40.010 FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.** The City Council of the City of San Mateo hereby finds that:

- (a) Numerous studies have found that tobacco smoke is a major contributor to indoor air pollution; and
- (b) Reliable studies have shown that breathing second-hand smoke, which has been classified as a carcinogen, is a significant health hazard for all persons; and
- (c) Health hazards induced by breathing second-hand smoke include lung cancer, respiratory function, bronchoconstriction, and bronchospasm; and
- (d) Nonsmokers with allergies, respiratory diseases and those who suffer other ill effects of breathing second-hand smoke may experience a loss of job productivity or may be forced to take

periodic sick leave because of adverse reactions to same; and

(e) There have been some studies that indicate that there are second-hand effects to those exposed to electronic cigarette vapors; and

(f) Accordingly, the City Council finds and declares that the purpose of this Chapter is to protect the public health and welfare by prohibiting smoking in public places, places of employment, and multi-unit residences as set forth herein.

**7.40.020 DEFINITIONS.** The following words and phrases, whenever used in this article, shall be construed as defined in this section:

(a) **“Dining Area”** means any indoor or outdoor area which is available to, or customarily used by, the general public and which is designed, established or regularly used for consuming food or drink.

(b) **“Employee”** means any person who is employed by any employer in consideration for direct or indirect monetary wages or profit, and any person who volunteers his or her services for a non-profit entity.

(c) **“Employer”** means any person, partnership, corporation, or non-profit entity, including a municipal corporation, who employs the services of one or more persons.

(d) **“Enclosed”** means closed in by a roof and four walls with appropriate openings for ingress, egress, and windows.

(e) **“Multi-Unit Residence”** means residential property containing two or more units, with one or more shared wall, floor, ceiling or ventilation system, including apartments, condominiums, duplexes or townhomes and their patios and balconies. A multi-unit residence does not include:

(1) A hotel or motel that meets the requirements set forth in California Civil Code section 1940(b)(2);

(2) A residential care facility or assisted living facility governed by federal or state community care licensing regulations;

(3) A single-family residence, including one which has a detached permitted secondary unit on the same lot.

(f) **“Multi-Unit Residence Common Area”** means any indoor or outdoor common area of a multi-unit residence accessible to and usable by residents of different units, including halls and paths, lobbies, laundry rooms, common cooking areas, outdoor eating areas, play areas, shared patios, shared balconies, shared restrooms, elevators and stairwells, swimming pools, carports, garages and parking areas.

(g) **“Non-Profit Entity”** means any corporation, unincorporated association, or other entity created for charitable, educational, political, social, or other similar purposes, the net proceeds from the operations of which are committed to the promotion of the objects or purposes of the organization and not to private financial gain. A public agency is not a “non-profit entity” within the meaning of this section.

(h) **“Public Place”** means any enclosed or unenclosed area to which the public is invited or in which the public is permitted, including banks, bars, educational facilities, health facilities, public transportation facilities, reception areas, restaurants, retail food production and marketing establishments, retail service establishments, retail stores, streets and sidewalks, theaters, and waiting rooms.

(i) **“Retail Tobacco Store”** means a retail store utilized primarily for the sale of tobacco and nicotine products and accessories.

(j) **“Service Area”** means any publicly or privately owned area, including streets and sidewalks, that is designed to be used or is regularly used by one or more persons to receive a service, wait to receive a service or to make a transaction, whether or not such a service or transaction includes the exchange of money. The term “service area” includes but is not limited to information kiosks, automatic

teller machines (ATMs), ticket lines, bus stops, train stations, mobile vendor lines or taxi stands.

(k) **“Smoking”** means possessing a lighted or ignited tobacco, nicotine or marijuana product or paraphernalia; or engaging in an act that generates smoke (including, but not limited to, possessing a lighted or ignited pipe, hookah pipe, cigar, electronic cigarette or cigarette of any kind); or lighting or igniting a pipe, hookah pipe, cigar, electronic cigarette or a cigarette of any kind. Smoking includes the use of any product which emits smoke in the form of gases, particles, vapors or other byproducts released by electronic cigarettes, tobacco cigarettes, herbal cigarettes, marijuana cigarettes and any other type of cigarette, pipe or other implement for the purpose of inhalation of vapors, gases, particles or there byproducts released as a result of combustion or ignition.

(l) **“Tobacco and Nicotine Product”** means any substance containing tobacco leaf, including cigarettes, cigars, loose tobacco, snuff, or any other preparation of tobacco which can be used for smoking, chewing, inhalation or other means of ingestion; and any electronic cigarette or other electronic device used to generate smoke; and any product or formulation of matter containing biologically active amounts of nicotine that is manufactured, sold, offered for sale, or otherwise distributed with the expectation that the product or matter will be introduced into the human body, but does not include any cessation product specifically approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for use in treating nicotine or tobacco dependence.

#### **7.40.030 PROHIBITION OF SMOKING IN CITY FACILITIES AND ON CITY PROPERTY.**

(a) Smoking is prohibited in all buildings, vehicles and other enclosed areas owned or leased by the City of San Mateo or otherwise operated by the City of San Mateo.

(b) Smoking is prohibited in all outdoor areas owned or leased by the City of San Mateo, including parking lots, park properties and facilities, golf courses, and any of the grounds surrounding the buildings, facilities or areas owned or leased by the City of San Mateo, including streets and sidewalks.

#### **7.40.040 PROHIBITION OF SMOKING IN PUBLIC PLACES.**

(a) Smoking is prohibited in all enclosed public places except hotel and motel lodging rooms rented to guests, provided that not more than 50% of the rooms may be designated as rooms where smoking is allowed.

(b) Smoking is prohibited in the following unenclosed public places:

- (1) Service areas.
- (2) Dining areas.
- (3) Lagoons and waterways.

#### **7.40.050 PROHIBITION OF SMOKING IN MULTI-UNIT RESIDENCES.**

(a) Smoking is prohibited inside any multi-unit residence and within 40 feet of a multi-unit residence.

(b) Smoking is prohibited within any enclosed and unenclosed multi-unit residence common area.

**7.40.060 WHERE SMOKING NOT REGULATED.** Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Chapter to the contrary, private vehicles and detached single-family residences, except during the time that the residence is used as a child care or a health care facility, shall not be subject to the smoking restrictions of this Chapter.

**7.40.070 MEDICAL MARIJUANA.** Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Chapter, smoking or vaporizing of marijuana for medical purposes, as permitted by California Health and Safety Code sections 11362.7 *et seq.*, inside any multi-unit residence is not prohibited by this Chapter. However, use of marijuana for medical purposes is prohibited in all other places where smoking is prohibited by this

Chapter and all unenclosed public places.

**7.40.080 VIOLATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT.**

(a) Any violation of this Chapter is punishable as specified in Title 1 of the San Mateo Municipal Code.

(b) Causing, permitting, aiding, abetting or concealing a violation of any provisions of this Chapter shall also constitute a violation of this Chapter.

(c) Any violation of the provisions of this Chapter are declared to be a public nuisance and may be abated by appropriate civil action, including injunction.

(d) The remedies provided by this section are cumulative and are in addition to any other remedy existing at law or in equity.

(e) Any aggrieved person under this Chapter may bring a civil action as a private enforcer to compel compliance with this Chapter, provided that the aggrieved person shall have first requested in writing that the City of San Mateo take enforcement action and the City of San Mateo shall have failed to do so after forty-five days. Upon proof of violations by the private enforcer in a civil action, a court shall grant all appropriate relief, including (1) awarding damages and/or (2) issuing an injunction.

**7.40.090 NONDISCRIMINATION.** No person shall discharge, refuse to hire, or in any manner discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because such employee or applicant exercises any rights afforded by this section.

**7.40.100 VENDING MACHINES—SALES PROHIBITED.** No cigarette or other tobacco or nicotine product may be sold, offered for sale, or distributed by or from a vending machine or appliance, or other device designed or used for vending purposes, whether such sale or distribution is by cash, pre-paid ticket/card, or otherwise.

**7.40.110 SELF-SERVICE DISPLAYS PROHIBITED.**

(a) No person, firm, association, or corporation shall sell, permit to be sold, or offer for sale any cigarette or other tobacco or nicotine product by means of self-service displays or by any means other than vendor-assisted sales.

(b) Self-service display shall mean an open display of tobacco or nicotine products that the public has access to without the intervention or assistance of an employee. Vendor assisted shall mean that only a store employee has access to the tobacco and nicotine products and assists the customer by supplying the product.

**Section 2.** Section 13.20.010, "Prohibited Conduct," of Chapter 13.20, "Park Regulations," subsection (k) is amended to read:

(k) Smoking, as defined by Section 7.40.020(k).

**Section 3. SEVERABILITY.** In the event any section, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be determined invalid or unconstitutional, such section, clause or provision shall be deemed severable and all other sections or portions hereof shall remain in full force and effect. It is the intent of the City Council that it would have adopted all other portions of this Ordinance irrespective of any such portion declared to be invalid or unconstitutional.

**Section 4. ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION.** In accordance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines section 15378(b)(5), this action is categorically exempt

from (CEQA) as an administrative activity that will not result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

**Section 5. PUBLICATION.** This Ordinance shall be published in summary in a newspaper of general circulation, posted in the City Clerk's Office, and posted on the City's website, all in accord with Section 2.15 of the City Charter.

**Section 6. LEGISLATIVE HISTORY AND EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Ordinance was introduced on September 8, 2015, and adopted on October 5, 2015, and shall be effective thirty days after its date of adoption.

The foregoing ordinance was adopted by the City Council of the City of San Mateo, State of California by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Freschet, Matthews, Bonilla, Goethals and Lim  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None

ATTEST:

  
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Patrice M. Olds, City Clerk

  
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Maureen Freschet, Mayor