

**From:** [Jane Phillips](#)  
**To:** [\\*CI-StPaul>Contact-Council](#)  
**Subject:** Oppose the cannabis smoking ban  
**Date:** Thursday, September 14, 2023 10:57:08 AM

---

Hi,

Just weighing in on the proposed ban of smoking cannabis in public places. I oppose that ban. I would support banning smoking anything in playgrounds and areas where youth activities occur, but in other areas, like city sidewalks, parks, trails, I oppose a ban on smoking. Smoking cigarettes, cigars, pipes, cannabis, and vaping are all legal for adults. They should be allowed by adults in our shared open public places.

I don't smoke anything, but I support the rights of others to smoke. I live right next to Como Park and walk in it several times per day. Smoking is currently legal in the park, yet I rarely see anyone smoking, so I think this is not a big problem and doesn't need some kind of city-wide ban to solve something that isn't a big problem. Our law enforcement personnel have better things to do than to hand out citations for doing something legal.

Thanks.  
Jane Phillips  
1378 Breda Avenue  
St. Paul MN 55108

**From:** [Harlan Copeland](#)  
**To:** [\\*CI-StPaul\\_Contact-Council](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis smoking  
**Date:** Thursday, September 14, 2023 9:16:05 AM

---

I support banning cannabis smoking in public areas.

Harlan Copeland

**From:** [Ruth Butros](#)  
**To:** [\\*CI-StPaul>Contact-Council](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Smoking Enforcement  
**Date:** Thursday, September 14, 2023 8:08:13 AM

---

Please explain Ms. Jalali's statement regarding smoking pot in public spaces indicating that the proposed legislation "disproportionately impacts renters, young people, low-income residents and people of color, and will absolutely have discriminatory enforcement consequences." This statement is first, an insult to people of color, as if the majority of smokers are people of color, and an insult to low-income residents—go ask the moms who are working two and three jobs if they want pot smoking in their parks, their neighborhoods, on their streets, where their kids are walking and playing. In downtown Minneapolis, officers have ticketed white probation officers, workers at the Government Center, etc. for throwing a cigarette butt on the ground. Maybe that's disproportionate because they're thinking of these people as a source of income. Come on, let's be real. Do you also want people to be able to take alcohol into public spaces and drink wherever they want? Maybe it's discriminatory to enforce the alcohol possession/use laws and allow pot use. As someone who worked with young people for 45 years, IMO, you are anything but into advocating for them.

Ruth Butros

**From:** [Katherine Cairns](#)  
**To:** [\\*CI-StPaul>Contact-Council](#); [#CI-StPaul.Ward4](#)  
**Subject:** MN Internal Medicine physicians-Written testimony supporting Ordinance  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 13, 2023 3:31:26 PM  
**Attachments:** [St Paul MNACP no smoke vape in city parks 9.13.23.pdf](#)

---

**Councilmember Mitra Jalali-**

**We have sent this letter of support to the City Council for consideration in its public hearing today supporting the ordinance to prohibit smoking commercial tobacco, cannabis and vape products on city property, including parks.**

**Unfortunately, we are unable to deliver the testimony in person. As leaders in a statewide physician organization, we all live in your Ward 4 and strongly support this proposed ordinance. Thank you for your consideration.**

Sally Berryman, MD- resident at 2197 Dayton  
Katherine Cairns, MPH MBA- resident at 1992 Grand Ave.

--

Katherine Cairns  
Executive Director  
Minnesota Chapter of the American College of Physicians  
1041 Grand Ave. #215 St. Paul, MN 55105  
651-492-1994 651-699-7798 (fax)  
[mnchapter.acponline.org](http://mnchapter.acponline.org)  
[Minnesota.ACP@gmail.com](mailto:Minnesota.ACP@gmail.com)  
[MN-ACP LinkedIn](#) and Twitter: [@mn\\_acp](#)

**Save the Date:**

**Sept. 13, 2023-** I.M. on Tap at Blacklist in Duluth, MN [Info/Register](#)  
**Oct. 10, 2023-** I.M. on Tap at Kieran's in Minneapolis, MN [Count me IN](#)  
**Oct. 26, 2023 -** MN-ACP Council meeting at 6:30pm at Bloomington Hilton MOA/MSP  
**Oct. 27, 2023-** Minnesota Internal Medicine:2023 in Bloomington, MN [Info/Registration](#)

**From:** [Tou T Lee](#)  
**To:** [\\*CI-StPaul Contact-Council](#); [\\*CI-StPaul Mayor](#)  
**Subject:** Smoke-Free Parks  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 13, 2023 2:17:04 PM

---

Dear Mayor Carter and St. Paul City Council Members:

I am in favor of and support clean air for all who use Saint Paul's parks and public spaces. I co-chair the Hmong Health Care Professionals Coalition (HHCPC) and most of my career has been dedicated to promoting healthy living for all St. Paul residents and Minnesotans. Public spaces are there for all of us to enjoy. Once a public space is taken over by people using it for purposes not intended, others stay away in droves. Our beautiful parks, intended to be healthy places for families to congregate, have fun, and enjoy the great outdoors could easily become scary places for families. Parks are a resource that are very important to our Hmong families. Every weekend, you will see many Hmong families at these local parks with their families. We are frequent users of these outdoor spaces for our small and large gatherings. Please keep them safe, inviting places for all of us!

Thank you,

Tou T. Lee  
HHCPC Co-Chair