

Menthol Ordinance Change

10/4/17

Public Record

1. Eleanor Kieger
10xx W. Idaho Ave. W.
Against Menthol Ordinance Change
2. Julie Elder
Against Menthol Ordinance Change
People must decide for themselves. A law won't do it.
3. Dee Walsh
Against Menthol Ordinance Change
If sales are restricted just to Smoke Shops the smoke shops will monopolize and put neighborhood gas stations and grocers out-of-business.
4. Connie Du Voux
Against Menthol Ordinance Change.
Government doesn't have the right to say what they can and cannot smoke.
5. David Derham
Against Menthol Ordinance Change
He smokes menthol cigarettes. He believes in the freedoms outlined in the constitution
6. Jarret Debar (sp?)
Against Menthol Ordinance Change

Ka Xiong @ 1047 Lawson sent a BEAUTIFUL LIE UGLY TRUTH postcard (for menthol restrictions)
Malachi @ 1532 Larpenteur Avenue E sent BEAUTIFUL LIE UGLY TRUTH for Menthol Restrictions

Jane Whitrock – Ward 3 resident – Left voice message that she supports the ban on menthol cigarettes.

From: Ed Owens [<mailto:ed@ansrmn.org>]

Sent: Monday, October 09, 2017 11:26 AM

To: Tolbert, Chris (CI-StPaul)

Subject:

Chris, This is Ed Owens a member of your word, Vice President and Chair of St. Paul Chapter NAACP. We have not spoken, however this is a vital conversation regarding menthol cigarette's restriction from our community. Black, Native, Asian and Pacific Islanders are the targeted group and all young men of color. The abuse and attempt at destroying these seeds must stop if our communities are to strive, and work better together. We need leadership, which instill in our young men and children trust and shows that we care. Ordinances, Statues and Laws are ways our values are expressed, I ask you for your vote of support and place lives over money. Thank You for your time.

Dear Cnclm Bostrom,

Banning the sale of all flavored menthol cigarettes in addition to mint and wintergreen dip is clearly an attempt by City Council to further limit the choices of adult tobacco consumers, and it's UNFAIR! These restrictions on legal tobacco products go too far. Attempting to ban flavored tobacco is a prime example of government overreach. St. Paul has already banned all flavored tobacco in the city except for menthol, mint, and wintergreen. Banning these products even further unfairly limits my choices as an adult tobacco consumer. It's not about flavors. It's about limiting adult choices. Banning flavors will only undermine local small businesses and threaten our city's economy. Please STOP targeting adult tobacco consumers with unreasonable regulations. This is an important issue to me and I will remember how you vote. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Amber Bernal

887 Lawson Ave E Saint Paul, MN 55106-3218

Dear Cnclm Bostrom,

Banning the sale of all flavored menthol cigarettes in addition to mint and wintergreen dip is clearly an attempt by City Council to further limit the choices of adult tobacco consumers, and it's UNFAIR! These restrictions on legal tobacco products go too far. Attempting to ban flavored tobacco is a prime example of government overreach. St. Paul has already banned all flavored tobacco in the city except for menthol, mint, and wintergreen. Banning these products even further unfairly limits my choices as an adult tobacco consumer. It's not about flavors. It's about limiting adult choices. Banning flavors will only undermine local small businesses and threaten our city's economy. Please STOP targeting adult tobacco consumers with unreasonable regulations. This is an important issue to me and I will remember how you vote. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dawn Vanwagner

1190 Forest St Apt 2 Saint Paul, MN 55106-2635

Dear Cnclm Bostrom,

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Sincerely,

Pat Johnson

1485 Ivy Ave E Apt 3 Saint Paul, MN 55106-2127

Dear Cnclm Bostrom,

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Sincerely,

Amanda Mckenzie

1030 Walsh St Saint Paul, MN 55106-3137

Dear Cnclm Bostrom,

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Sincerely,

Jennifer Fowler

1830 Mechanic Ave Saint Paul, MN 55119-4818

1. Hello, my name is Thomas Shackett, I live in saint paul, and I want to first say that I am against tobacco use as a whole and think the whole thing should not be permitted for human consumption, the same way other harmful chemicals aren't. You don't allow people to buy poison to kill themselves, and the FDA doesn't allow tar in our food but yet its ok to smoke it. It is a highly addictive stimulant, same as many drugs you need a prescription to get. I will say this straight forwardly though. This is a **racist** law that will disproportionately affect African American people. They are the main purchasers of menthol cigarettes, mainly brands like Newport, L&M, Tourney, and Winston. I work at the Super America on Rice St at Wheelock Parkway. I know which people buy which kind of cigarettes. Passing the law will not affect my smoking habits; I am a white person that doesn't smoke and never has. If anything, it will hopefully lead to less people smoking and less cigarette litter. I am sending this email only to let you know what kind of backlash it will face.

2. Dear Cnclm Brendmoen, I am disappointed to learn that some members of our City Council want to restrict the sale of tobacco products in my community. Banning menthol cigarettes and mint and wintergreen tobacco products could shift sales of these products from law abiding retailers to other sources, some of which could be illegal. As a result, the regulations being considered could potentially devastate responsible retailers that sell tobacco products across the city. It could also put local jobs at risk! Banning the sale of mint and wintergreen flavors in tobacco and e-vapor products, as well as menthol cigarettes will only further restrict the choices adults have for the products they prefer. My business employs your constituents and contributes to our local economy. The proposed sales bans would directly impact my bottom line by driving my customers to stores in neighboring towns where they can buy milk, bread, and other products that my store depends on. Regulation of flavored tobacco and e-vapor products already occurs at the federal level since the Food and Drug Administration has regulatory authority over tobacco products. Banning the sale of legal products preferred by adult tobacco consumers crosses the line. A ban goes too far. I will be watching this issue closely and ask that you oppose any attempt to ban tobacco sales anywhere in the Twin Cities. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter. Sincerely, Scott Olson 304 Wheelock Pkwy E Saint Paul, MN 55130-3008

Postcards from 3 people **in Support** of the Menthol Ordinance Change:

1. Paul Tischler
1109 Woodbridge St
In support.
2. Jacka Vang
Xxx Desoto
In support.
3. Nevaeh
Xx Orange
In support.

As a St. Paul resident, I am writing to ask you to support restricting the sale of menthol-flavored tobacco products to adult-only tobacco stores.

The City of St. Paul has an opportunity to protect kids, reduce health disparities and save lives. Taking menthol-flavored tobacco products out of stores where kids shop like gas stations and corner stores will decrease youth access and exposure to menthol-flavored tobacco products and marketing.

Menthol cools the throat and masks the harshness of smoking, making it easier for people to start smoking and harder for them to stop. The tobacco industry has a long history of targeting African Americans, women, LGBTQ communities and youth with menthol tobacco marketing. Menthol tobacco use rates are therefore much higher in these priority populations, with 71 percent of LGBTQ young adult smokers using menthol products along with 88 percent of adult African American smokers. Additionally, in Minnesota, over 44 percent of high school student smokers smoke menthol cigarettes.

We can no longer prioritize tobacco profits for a limited number of stores over the health and well-being of our youth. And stopping youth smoking doesn't just prevent future disease and death, it also reduces excess medical costs, which are an enormous burden on individuals, families and taxpayers. I hope the City of St. Paul will continue its history of leadership to reduce smoking by voting to restrict the sale of menthol.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Marietta Dreher
1727 Hubbard Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55104
6127473639

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Sincerely,

Ms. Alexis Bylander
270 Brimhall St.
Apt 516
St. Paul, MN 55105
6126168624

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Sincerely,

Ms. Kelly Martinson
1618 Laurel Ave
Saint Paul, MN 55104
6516452880

Dear Cnclm Bostrom,

Banning the sale of all flavored menthol cigarettes in addition to mint and wintergreen dip is clearly an attempt by City Council to further limit the choices of adult tobacco consumers, and it's UNFAIR! These restrictions on legal tobacco products go too far. Attempting to ban flavored tobacco is a prime example of government overreach. St. Paul has already banned all flavored tobacco in the city except for menthol, mint, and wintergreen. Banning these products even further unfairly limits my choices as an adult tobacco consumer. It's not about flavors. It's about limiting adult choices. Banning flavors will only undermine local small businesses and threaten our city's economy. Please STOP targeting adult tobacco consumers with unreasonable regulations. This is an important issue to me and I will remember how you vote. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Cathy Schoonover
957 Arcade St Apt 1 Saint Paul, MN 55106-3817

From: lowayne54@aol.com [<mailto:lowayne54@aol.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 6:16 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Subject: Ban on menthol products

Chris, this is Andy Naber, 1893 Jefferson Avenue. Hope all is well. We had spoken a few months ago on phone regarding ideas on getting the council budget more healthy.

I wanted to drop you a note to urge you to vote against the ban on menthol products being proposed within the St. Paul city council. While I can appreciate the intent is good regarding the ban on menthol products, here is why I believe strongly that THE CITY COUNCIL HAS NO BUSINESS REGULATING THESE PRODUCTS.

- the council is vastly overstepping its boundaries trying to regulate what products our residents should or should not use in their daily lives. A good example of this government overreach is the recent fast reversal of Cook County in Illinois on their taxing sugary drinks.....which was a complete and rapid failure!!!!
- the ban is simply a "feel good" type effort with little chance of effect in St. Paul residents lives. Don't you think people who want to use these products will simply travel 10-15 minutes and get them from other communities.....pretty naive if council members think this will not happen
- this ban is the WRONG message to send to potential small businesses and people thinking about moving to St. Paul vs other choices these groups have.....do we want to give the impression that St. Paul is where "big government" reigns and where regulations are vast and cumbersome.....I sure hope not!!

As always, I would be glad to discuss further with you if your schedule permits.

Thanks

Andy Naber

From: jillwarren46@comcast.net [<mailto:jillwarren46@comcast.net>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 4:59 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Subject: Restricting Menthol Tobacco Sales

Dear Council Member Tolbert,

I'm writing to let you know that I strongly support the proposed restrictions on menthol tobacco here in St Paul, and I hope you will vote to support the ordinance. My dad passed away from lung cancer many years ago and I'm lucky that my life has provided me with the education and level of stability to make a decision for myself to quit smoking since then. Many individuals from the marginalized communities most targeted by the tobacco industry with menthol won't have that privilege and because of various stressors in their lives will not be able to quit before it's too late. The marginalized groups that are hit hardest by menthol need your support to push back. Please vote yes on this ordinance.

Jill Warren

1624 Juno Ave, 55116

From: Paula Keller [<mailto:pkathome@sbcglobal.net>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 9:47 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Subject: Support restriction of menthol flavored tobacco products to adult only tobacco shops

Dear Councilmember Tolbert:

Last month, I attended the hearing on restricting menthol-flavored tobacco products to adult-only tobacco shops in St. Paul.. I fully support this ordinance and hope I can count on you to do the same. During the hearing, I heard many of my neighbors and community members talk about how this ordinance would protect their kids from a lifetime of addiction. I heard from other public health advocates about how the tobacco industry targets youth and other communities with menthol products. Then I heard from convenience store owners about how this would impact their profits.

The health of our community, especially the health of our kids, must come before tobacco profits. There are plenty of other products sold at convenience stores and gas stations that don't kill the customer that

purchases them. Those products should be the basis of convenience store business models – not menthol tobacco products.

I also heard this proposed ordinance being described as a “ban” – it is not. Adults in St. Paul will still be able to buy these products. This ordinance simply removes these deadly products from places where youth frequent.

I hope our community can count on your support for this ordinance.

Sincerely,

Paula Keller, 1272 Eleanor Ave, St. Paul, MN 55116

From: Scott Beedy [<mailto:beeds16@gmail.com>]

Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2017 12:32 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Subject: I support restricting the sale of menthol tobacco

Mr. Chris Tolbert,

As a St. Paul resident, I am writing to ask you to support restricting the sale of menthol-flavored tobacco products to adult-only tobacco stores.

The City of St. Paul has an opportunity to protect kids, reduce health disparities and save lives. Taking menthol-flavored tobacco products out of stores where kids shop like gas stations and corner stores will decrease youth access and exposure to menthol-flavored tobacco products and marketing.

Menthol cools the throat and masks the harshness of smoking, making it easier for people to start smoking and harder for them to stop. The tobacco industry has a long history of targeting African Americans, women, LGBTQ communities and youth with menthol tobacco marketing. Menthol tobacco use rates are therefore much higher in these priority populations, with 71 percent of LGBTQ young adult smokers using menthol products along with 88 percent of adult African American smokers. Additionally, in Minnesota, over 44 percent of high school student smokers smoke menthol cigarettes.

We can no longer prioritize tobacco profits for a limited number of stores over the health and well-being of our youth. And stopping youth smoking doesn't just prevent future disease and death, it also reduces excess medical costs, which are an enormous burden on individuals, families and taxpayers. I hope the City of St. Paul will continue its history of leadership to reduce smoking by voting to restrict the sale of menthol.

Sincerely,

Scott Beedy

270 Brimhall Street

St. Paul, MN 55105

From: Kristen Werner [<mailto:kristenlwerner@gmail.com>]

Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2017 1:43 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Cc: Kelley, Pattie (CI-StPaul)

Subject: Re: I support the St. Paul menthol restriction

Good afternoon Council member Tolbert,

I want to reach out to you again about the menthol ordinance that the city is considering and hope that I can count on you to vote in favor on October 25th. I attended both public hearings and saw the passion

coming from the community members asking you to put the lives of those who are targeted by the tobacco industry first.

I understand you have a full plate with the Ford plant vote but now I urge you to support the menthol restriction. This ordinance is about supporting the health of all your residents and that is definitely something all of Ward 3 can get behind. I am happy to answer any questions or concerns that you have about this issue.

Thank you for your leadership in our community. Please prioritize health over tobacco industry profits.
Kristen

From: Marietta Dreher [<mailto:richandetta@comcast.net>]

Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2017 7:48 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Subject: I support restricting the sale of menthol tobacco

As a St. Paul resident, I am writing to ask you to support restricting the sale of menthol-flavored tobacco products to adult-only tobacco stores.

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Marietta Dreher
1727 Hubbard Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55104

From: Kelly Martinson [<mailto:kelly@ksquare.us>]

Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2017 8:05 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Subject: I support restricting the sale of menthol tobacco

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Sincerely,

Ms. Kelly Martinson
1618 Laurel Ave
Saint Paul, MN 55104

Dear Cnclm Bostrom,

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Sincerely,

Sarah Reynolds
1591 Ivy Ave E Saint Paul, MN 55106-2227

M Xiong @ 707 Hoyt Avenue E send postcard in favor of menthol restrictions (Beautiful Lie Ugly Truth)

St. Paul Councilmembers,

We support your efforts to enact strong, tobacco control policy that keeps St. Paul's kids from beginning a lifetime of tobacco use. Thanks.

Shalom (שלום),

--

Gene and Denois Kenney
844 Aurora Avenue
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55104

Dear City council,

I support your efforts to enact strong, tobacco control policy that keeps St. Paul's kids from beginning a lifetime of tobacco use. I grew up in a stinky, hazardous household!

Please do not let organizations like BP on Ruth Avenue advertise tobacco on their electronic sign. It's illegal and need to be enforced!

STeve Law and Gerry Ferderer
370 Marshall Avenue, #309
St paul, MN 55102

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Sincerely,
Cathy Schoonover
957 Arcade St Apt 1 Saint Paul, MN 55106-3817

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Sincerely,
Christine Erdos
1257 7th St E Saint Paul, MN 55106-4017

From: Patty Radford Henderson [<mailto:patty@radfordhenderson.com>]

Sent: Friday, October 13, 2017 10:23 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Subject: I support restricting the sale of menthol tobacco

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Sincerely,

Ms. Patty Radford Henderson
435 Portland Ave
St. Paul, MN 55102

From: Sarah Zalanga [<mailto:sarahzalanga@gmail.com>]

Sent: Saturday, October 14, 2017 11:15 AM

To: Brendmoen, Amy (CI-StPaul)

Subject:

Greetings!

This is Sarah Zalanga and Jayden Nurnberg, we both work at the Science Museum of Minnesota on Health Crew in the YSC (Youth Science Center). We are learning about the issues and effects of tobacco, we are very appreciative of all of your effort you put into this matter! We both stand behind this ordinance and know that this will help make a healthier environment for our futures.

Best Regards,

Jayden and Sarah

From: Yencia Campbell [<mailto:yenciacc@gmail.com>]

Sent: Saturday, October 14, 2017 11:26 AM

To: Tolbert, Chris (CI-StPaul)

Subject: Menthol Ordinance

Han mitakuyepi,

Hello my relatives

My name is Yencia Dorr-Slowey and I am a Health Crew Intern from The Science Museum Of Minnesota. I am emailing you to inform you on helping support the health of the St. Paul communities. This issue does not just affect me it affects other youth around me and as a young adult I stand behind this ordinance with confidence to help contribute for not just a healthier city but healthier future.

Pidamaya do,

Thank You, Yencia Dorr-Slowey

From: Nujuma Taha [<mailto:nujumataha@gmail.com>]

Sent: Saturday, October 14, 2017 11:32 AM

To: Brendmoen, Amy (CI-StPaul); Thao, Dai (CI-StPaul); Tolbert, Chris (CI-StPaul)

Subject: Menthol Ordinance

Hi, My name is Nujuma Taha and I am working with the Kitty Andersen Youth Science Center Health Crew at the Science Museum of Minnesota. This year we are focusing on topics surrounding Tobacco. With all that said, I appreciate all of the work and effort being put into the various public policies regarding tobacco usage such as the Menthol Ordinance and Tobacco 21. Tobacco has been a growing concern for many years and so regulating it is a great first step to support and encourage the health and wellbeing of St. Paul as a whole.

Thank You,

Nujuma Taha

From: lawsafety@aol.com [<mailto:lawsafety@aol.com>]

Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 9:38 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1-7

Subject: Tobacco

Dear City council,

I support your efforts to enact strong, tobacco control policy that keeps St. Paul's kids from beginning a lifetime of tobacco use. I grew up in a stinky, hazardous household!

Please do not let organizations like BP on Ruth Avenue advertise tobacco on their electronic sign. It's illegal and need to be enforced!

STeve Law and Gerry Ferderer

370 Marshall Avenue, #309

St paul, MN 55102

From: di.ploetz@aol.com [<mailto:di.ploetz@aol.com>]

Sent: Sunday, October 15, 2017 9:30 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3; McMahon, Melanie (CI-StPaul)

Subject: Stop the sale of menthol cigarettes in Saint Paul

Dear Councilmember Tolbert,

I strongly support the menthol cigarette ordinance being presented to you, and ask that you ban the sale of menthol cigarettes. Many young people who smoke use menthol cigarettes. The tobacco industry has long targeted the African American community, and presents menthol cigarettes as an especially "attractive" product for this group. Ending the sale of menthol cigarettes will help save lives, and address a major health disparity in our community.

Thank you for using your vote to help protect the health of the people in St. Paul.

Sincerely,

Dianne Kocourek Ploetz

1749 Bayard Avenue

Saint Paul, MN 55116

Dear Saint Paul City Council Members,

I urge you to restrict the sale of flavored cigarettes to include menthol ones. It amazes me how the tobacco industry continues to be allowed to sell their products, which kill when used as directed. We need to do all we can to discourage tobacco use: for our health, our healthcare costs, and the health of our kids. Please join Minneapolis in this critical initiative.

Paul Orman

Goodrich Ave

Saint Paul 55105

Saint Paul City Council
15 Kellogg Blvd. West
310 City Hall
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Dear St. Paul Councilmembers,

I really hope you take mint tobacco out of the stores me and my friends visit. My parents are addicted to these products and I can see all the bad affects it has on them. My friends think it's cool to smoke and I'm really worried they are going to get sick or die. Please do whatever you can so my friends stay healthy.

Sincerely,

Nevah



Saint Paul City Council
15 Kellogg Blvd. West
310 City Hall
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Dear Saint Paul Councilmembers,

Tobacco is still a problem in my community. I see lots of kids in my neighborhood smoking menthol and lots of signs at the store for menthol tobacco. I really want my community to be healthy and not to be addicted to menthol cigarettes. Please take these products out of my neighborhood stores to protect me, my friends and my family from all of the bad effects of tobacco.

Thank you,

~~Reuben~~ / Ari / Jais

Youth
Leadership
V.I.L.L.
"Change
is
Possible"

Jonathan Harold
NOC h I A 2
Brittney

St. Paul
Mn. 55104

William
Anthony JIM

Adrian
Hobbs-Prestley

Rayanna Walker

Damenica
Ellis

Sarah
McCaster