

Summit Hill Association

District 16 Planning Council
860 Saint Clair Avenue
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55105
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August 17, 2017

Councilmember Jane Prince
Saint Paul City Council
15 West Kellogg Boulevard
Suite 310B
St. Paul, MN 55102

Sent by Email

Re: Menthol Tobacco Ordinance Changes

Dear Councilmember Prince;

The Summit Hill Association District 16 Planning Council (SHA), at its meeting on August 10, voted unanimously to support the proposed changes to the City of St. Paul Tobacco Ordinance Section 324.03(3) with regard to further regulating the sale of menthol-flavored tobacco to read as follows:

- (3) *Flavored product* means any tobacco product, tobacco-related device, electronic delivery device, or nicotine or lobelia delivery product that contains a taste or smell, other than the taste or smell of tobacco, that is distinguishable by an ordinary consumer either prior to or during the consumption of the tobacco product, electronic delivery device, or nicotine or lobelia delivery product, including, but not limited to, any taste or smell relating to menthol, mint, wintergreen, chocolate, cocoa, vanilla, honey, fruit, or any candy, dessert, alcoholic beverage, herb, or spice. A public statement or claim, whether express or implied, made or disseminated by the manufacturer of a tobacco product, tobacco-related device, electronic delivery device, or nicotine or lobelia delivery product, or by any person authorized or permitted by the manufacturer to make or disseminate public statements concerning such product or device, that the product or device has or produces a taste or smell other than tobacco shall constitute presumptive evidence that the product or device is a flavored product.

With two K-12 schools within our district boundaries, and an additional one immediately adjacent, the SHA board of directors feels that it is important to take any action which will further deter youth from starting smoking, or smokers in general from continuing to smoke, and that these ordinance changes will work toward accomplish those goals.


At the same meeting, the SHA board also voted to sign on as part of the coalition supporting the ordinance changes and the initiative, overall. As part of that support, it was agreed that we would publicize this through our various communication platforms in order to educate those in the Summit Hill area about the issues surrounding menthol-flavored tobacco and its impact on smoking rates with youth and in general.

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Please let me know if there are any questions about these votes. Thank you for alerting us to these proposed ordinance changes, and for the opportunity to consider and vote on them as a district council.

Yours truly,



Lori Brostrom
Chair, Zoning and Land Use Committee
Summit Hill Association District 16 Planning Council

cc: Monica Haas, Executive Director
Stephanie Harr, Legislative Aide, Ward 7
Rebecca Noecker, Councilmember, Ward 2
Taina Maki, Legislative Aide, Ward 2
St. Paul City Council
Kari Oldfield, ANSR-MN