



Local Board of Directors

Chair

Heidi Larson

Chair Elect

Mindee Kastelic

Past Chair

Craig Schilling, PharmD

Directors

Carin Anderson

Ken Bence

Steven Christopher

Melissa Fors

Vicki Klasell

Susan Kratz

Brandon Luhmann

Andrew Mellin, MD

Charlene McEvoy, MD

David Midthun, MD

Lin Nelson

Matthew Rudberg

Paul Wagner

Linda Wortman

Executive Director

Missi Arens

December 7th, 2020

Dear St. Paul Councilmembers,

I am writing on behalf of the American Lung Association in Minnesota, the oldest voluntary health organization in the country. Our mission is to promote lung health and prevent lung disease. We support the proposed ordinance that would require the completion of a smoking sale disclosure report for sale of units within a common interest community.

Secondhand smoke is a serious health hazard causing more than 41,000 deaths per year. It can cause or make worse a wide range of damaging health effects in children and adults, including lung cancer, respiratory infections, and asthma. All Americans deserve to live, work, study and play in smokefree environments.

The United States Surgeon General states there is no risk-free level of secondhand smoke exposure. It is estimated that since 1965 approximately 2.5 million nonsmokers have died from health problems caused by secondhand smoke exposure. This policy should serve as a step forward to the goal of prohibiting smoking in all multi-unit housing units in St. Paul.

We respectfully urge you to support this and any future efforts to protect our community from tobacco's harm. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heidi Larson".

Heidi Larson

Manager, Public Policy and Advocacy