



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
METROPOLITAN HEALTH DISTRICT

Tobacco 21

Colleen M. Bridger, MPH, PhD
Director

City Council B Session
December 6, 2017

Tobacco

- Leading cause of **preventable** disease, disability, and death in the United States.
- Each year, nearly half a million Americans **die prematurely** of smoking or exposure to secondhand smoke.

Tobacco and Teens

- Every day, more than 3,800 youth under the age of 18 smoke their first cigarette.
- Every day, nearly 2,100 young people under the age of 21 become daily cigarette smokers.

Tobacco's Burden



Prevalence

Tobacco Use - USA:

- 31.4% of high school youth use tobacco products
- 10.8% of high school youth smoke cigarettes

Bexar County:

- 12.6% of male and 9.9% of female high school students smoke

Economics


- Annually, \$300 billion is spent on health care and lost worker productivity costs related to tobacco use

Health

- 20% of all deaths are attributed to smoking and exposure to secondhand smoke
- Tobacco use is associated with cancer, heart disease, drug use, and pregnancy complications

Increasing the Sale Age to 21

A Public Health Solution



People who have not used tobacco by age 21 are unlikely to ever start.

Why Raise the Age?

Most Smokers Start Before Age 21

- 95% of adult smokers began smoking before they turned 21.
- Many occasional smokers transition to regular use during the ages of 18-21.

Why Raise the Age?

Nicotine Is Addictive

- The **adolescent brain is more susceptible** to nicotine.
- Using **nicotine can rewire the teenage brain** to become more easily addicted to other drugs.

Why Raise the Age?

Reduce Tobacco Use in High School

- Currently legal high school smokers 18-19 years old are a major supplier of cigarettes to younger teens.
- Younger teens have less contact with people 21 and up, therefore raising the age reduces their access to tobacco.

Why Raise the Age?

Benefits Summarized

- Delay age of first tobacco use and reduce risk of becoming regular smoker.
- Help keep tobacco out of schools.
- Younger teens have harder time passing themselves off as 21.

E-cigarettes

- The **most popular** tobacco product used by youth.
- **81% of youth** who tried e-cigarettes started with a flavored e-cigarette.
- Tobacco companies market smokeless tobacco, little cigars and electronic cigarettes in **youth-friendly flavors** like cotton candy, gummy bear, cherry and watermelon.



Tobacco and the Military

- Smoking is **not allowed** during basic training.
- Tobacco takes a toll on troop readiness and places financial burden on military health care system.
- Military leaders are actively taking steps to reduce tobacco use.



“Tobacco impairs reaction time and judgment. It stands in the way of a Marines number one priority; to be in top physical and mental shape – combat ready.”

- General Robert Magnus, Assistant Commander of the Marine Corps

18 Not the age of majority for everything...



- Drink or purchase alcohol
- Gamble in casinos
- Obtain concealed weapon permit
- Rent a car
- Check into a hotel
- Foster a child

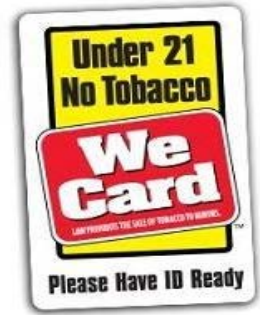
Where is T21 already in place?

25% of
Americans
covered



Results seen in Chicago

- Chicago implemented T21 on 7-1-2016
- December 2016 survey found a 36% decrease in smoking in 18-20 year olds.



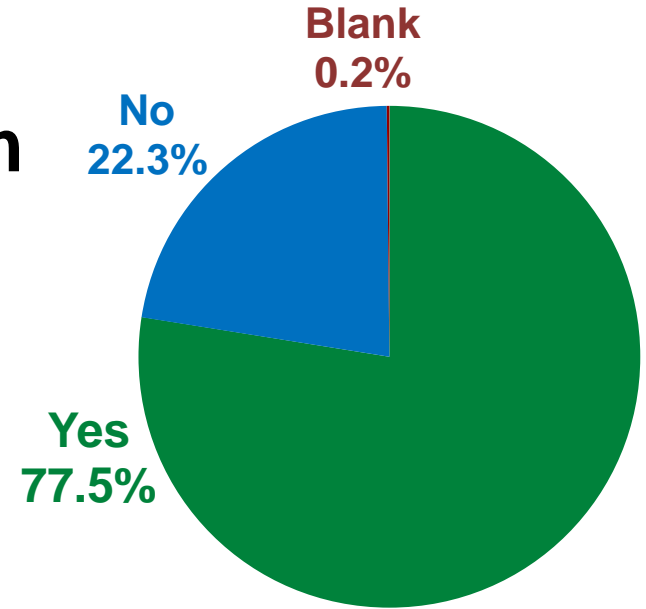
Age Group	2015	2016
18-20 years	15.2%	9.7%

Local Survey Results

5,447 individuals responded to our Tobacco 21 survey that asked the question:

Do you believe that the minimum tobacco sales age should be raised from 18 to 21?

77.5% answered Yes



Information & Education on T21



YOU'RE INVITED

**SAN ANTONIO TOBACCO 21
STAKEHOLDER MEETING**

WHEN: MONDAY
NOVEMBER 13

TIME: 11AM - 1PM
LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED


WHERE: URBAN ECOLOGY
CENTER AT HARDBERGER
PARK 8400 NW MILITARY
HWY. SA TX 78231

EMAIL JERRY.SAAVEDRA@HEART.ORG
WITH ANY QUESTIONS
OR DIETARY RESTRICTIONS

**SAN ANTONIO
TOBACCO21**
Meet the Tobacco 21

**TOBACCO 21
TOWN HALL**

THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO IS CURRENTLY CONSIDERING
A PROPOSAL TO INCREASE THE SALE AGE FOR TOBACCO
PRODUCTS FROM 18 TO 21. THE METROPOLITAN HEALTH
DISTRICT WILL BE HOLDING A TOWN HALL THAT IS OPEN
TO THE PUBLIC TO GATHER COMMUNITY FEEDBACK AND
ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS.

 **CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
METROPOLITAN
HEALTH DISTRICT**

**THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 16
5:30PM - 6:30PM**

**LA ORILLA DEL RIO
BALLROOM**

**203 S. ST. MARY'S
STREET, SUITE 385,
SAN ANTONIO, TX
78205**

San Antonio Tobacco 21 Coalition



Draft Ordinance and State Law

- Current Texas Health and Safety Code addresses sale, purchase and possession of tobacco products to persons under 18.
- State law includes e-cigarettes and electronic smoking devices within these provisions.
- State law permits a political subdivision to create stricter standards regarding these provisions.

Draft Ordinance – Tobacco Retailers

- Proposed revisions **mirror state law**, but will revise age restriction to 21.
- Penalties for violations of **sale** of tobacco products will be a misdemeanor crime, and upon conviction punishable by fine set at a maximum of \$500.

Draft Ordinance – Youth PUP

- Youth Purchase, Use and Possession Enforcement Options:
 1. No enforcement
 2. Mandatory smoking cessation classes
 3. Same as the state, maximum fine of \$250
- Recommend mandatory cessation (option 2)

Implementation Plan

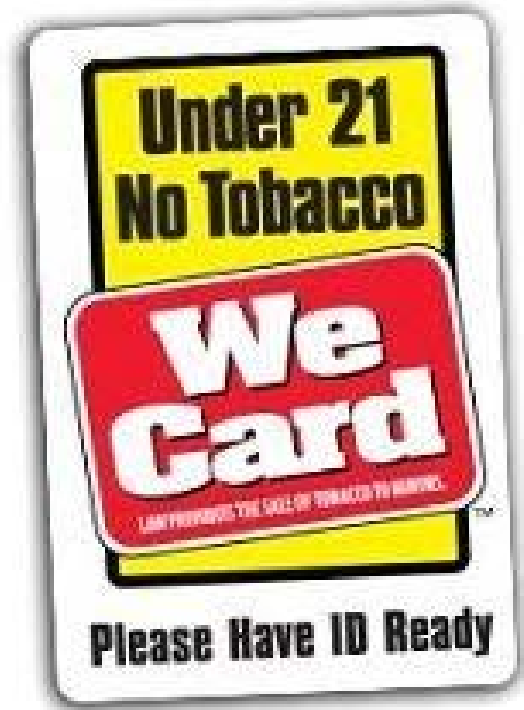


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- Six month **grace period**.
- Collaborate with partners to provide education to **youth and families** to ensure awareness of new law.
- Educate tobacco **retailers and staff** on changes in law.
- **Provide retailers** with signage, checklist and employee acknowledgement forms.

Implementation Plan (con't)

- Metro Health will lead enforcement
- SAPD will not conduct compliance checks
- Predictive analytics used to determine locations of unannounced compliance checks at tobacco retailers



Implementation Philosophy

- **Educate** and partner with retailers to achieve voluntary compliance with new sale age.
- Emphasize **educating** youth about the dangers of tobacco addiction
- Ensure youth are aware of tobacco-related education/cessation classes.

Timeline

Dates	Activity
9/15 to 10/23	Community Survey
10/26	City Council CH&E Committee
11/13	T21 Supporter / Stakeholder Meeting
11/16	Town Hall Meeting
12/6	City Council B Session
Potential Council date if moved forward:	
12/14	Possible City Council A Session
If voted on and passed in December, then proposed implementation timeline:	
6 months (1/2018 – 6/2018)	Educate retailers and community on ordinance and enforcement
7 th month (7/2018)	Tobacco sale age raised from 18 to 21

Key Messages

- Tobacco kills more than 480,000 Americans each year. Virtually all started using tobacco before age 21.
- Increasing the sales age to 21 will help prevent young people from ever starting to smoke—avoiding a lifelong addiction
- Increasing the sales age will help counter tobacco company efforts targeting young people at a critical time when their developing brains are highly susceptible to addiction.

Thank you. Any Questions?



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