



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
METROPOLITAN HEALTH DISTRICT

Tobacco 21

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Director

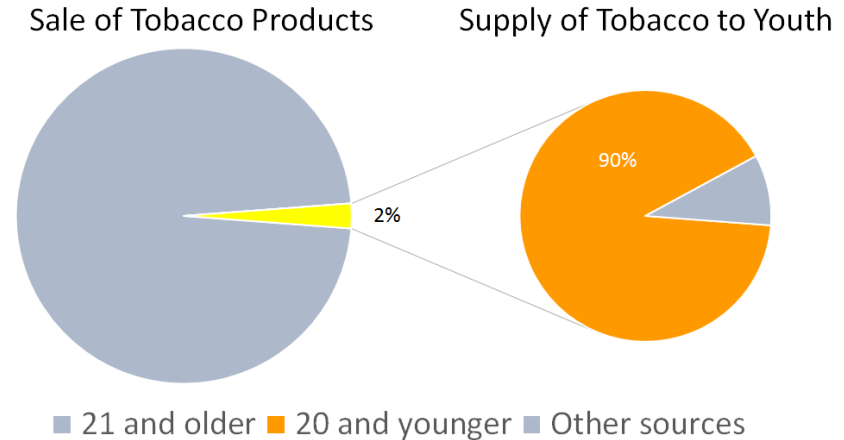
City Council A Session
January 11, 2018

Tobacco

- Leading cause of **preventable** disease, disability, and death in the United States.
- Every day, nearly 2,100 young people under the age of 21 become daily cigarette smokers.
- Nicotine is highly addictive and the adolescent brain is more susceptible to it.

Why Raise the Age?

- 95% of adult smokers began smoking before they turned 21.
- Only 2% of cigarettes sold are purchased by 18-20 year olds, but that 2% supplies 90% of the addictive tobacco to younger people.



Increasing the Sale Age to 21

A Public Health Solution

- 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.



Where is T21 already in place?

25% of
Americans
covered



Timeline

| Dates | Activity |
|--|--|
| August 24 th | Introduced T21 to Community Health & Equity Committee |
| Sept. 15 th – Oct. 23 rd | Community Survey |
| October 26 th | T21 presentation to Community Health & Equity Committee |
| November 3 rd | Mailed letter & town hall invite to over 1,600 local tobacco retailers |
| November 13 th | T21 Supporter / Stakeholder Meeting |
| November 16 th | Town Hall Meeting |
| December 6 th | City Council B Session |

Proposed implementation timeline:

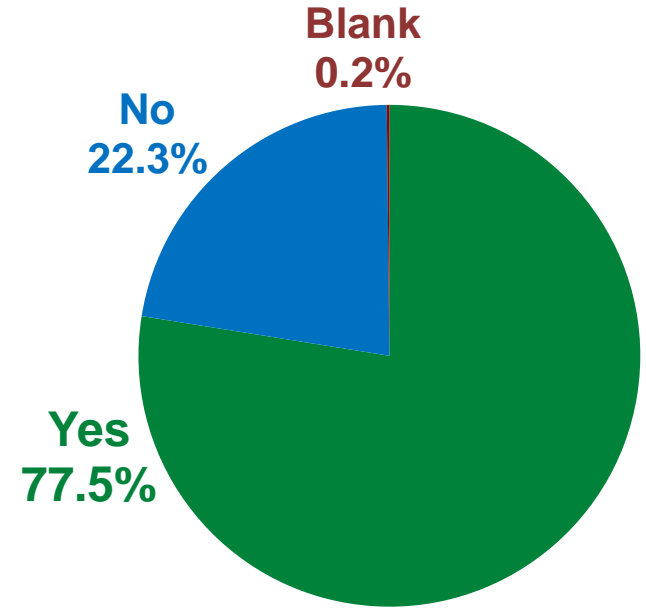
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|---------------------|--|
| January – July 2018 | Educate retailers and community on ordinance and enforcement |
| August 1, 2018 | Tobacco sale age raised from 18 to 21 |

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



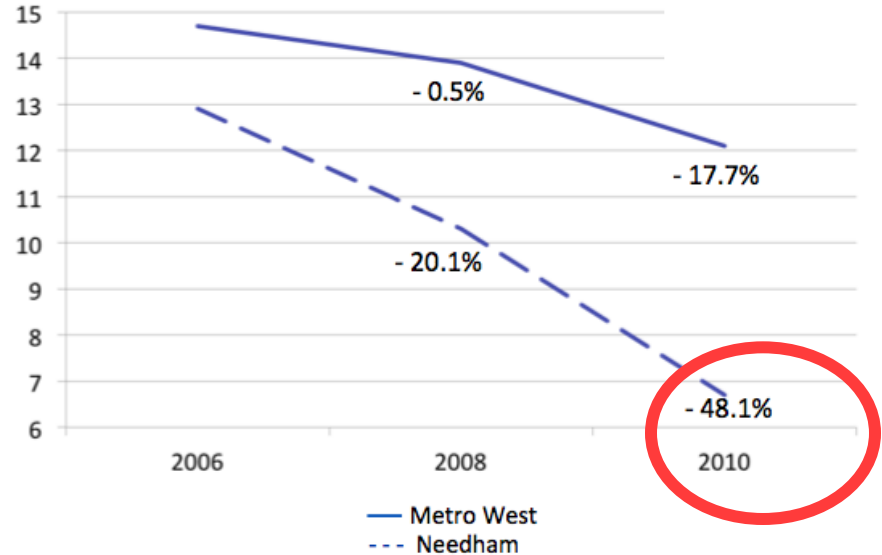
Economic data

| Concern | Response |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Will this program save lives? | Just under 500 San Antonio 18-20 year old lives will be saved each year from implementing T21. |
| Is this program cost effective? | The Texas DSHS estimated \$406 million saved in health care spending on pre-term birth and low birth weight related expenses alone for statewide implementation. |
| Is this program bad for business? | Since implementation in Needham, MA in 2005, no convenience stores have gone out of business. Smokers cost employers almost \$6,000 more per year than non smokers. |

Needham Case History



Needham High School Smoking Rates



Concerns Raised at B Session

| Concern raised in December | Addressed by |
|---|---|
| Proposed method of selecting stores for unannounced compliance checks | Will use random sampling |
| Enforcement on 18-20 year olds purchase, use and possession | Have dropped enforcement on 18-20 year olds; retaining enforcement on retailers |

Draft Ordinance

| Age group | Tobacco Retailers (sale) | Youth (PUP) |
|--------------------|---|---|
| < 18 years of age | <u>State law</u> Violations of sale – misdemeanor, with max. fine of \$500. | <u>State law</u> Violations of youth PUP – misdemeanor, with max. fine of \$250. |
| 18-20 years of age | <u>COSA Ordinance</u> Mirror state law, but will raise age restriction to 21 | <u>COSA Ordinance</u> No enforcement |

Implementation Plan

- Six month grace period - effective August 1, 2018
- Provide education to youth and families to ensure awareness of new law and educate tobacco retailers and staff on changes in law.
- Metro Health will lead enforcement
- Random sampling used to determine locations of unannounced compliance checks at tobacco retailers

Fiscal Impact

- Minimal fiscal impact
- As proposed, the fine is up to \$500 for the sale of tobacco products to someone under 21 years of age.
- Revenues from these fines will be deposited in the General Fund.

Recommendation

Staff recommends City Council approve the proposed changes to Chapter 36 of the City Code, titled Smoking



Thank you. Any Questions?



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