



Date: March 7, 2017

To: Mayor and Council

From: Jeff Brown, Community Health Administrator

Subject: Community Health Commission Advisory Communication Regarding Tobacco

Information / Background:

The Community Health Commission (CHC) work plan for 2017 includes the evaluation of current tobacco regulations in Edina and recommendations for ordinance language to reduce tobacco use. This staff report, advisory communication, and additional information provide those recommendations.

At the February 13, 2017 CHC meeting, a motion was passed to recommend raising the age requirement to purchase tobacco products in Edina to age 21, as is described in the advisory communication. Members of the CHC have also collaborated with Clearway Minnesota and attorneys at the Public Health Law Center to provide the attached recommended ordinance language, including commentary regarding the edits.

As the Community Health Administrator for the Edina Community Health Board, I strongly agree with this recommendation. The City Council, acting in its capacity as the Edina Community Health Board, has a statutory responsibility (145A.04, subd. 1a) to identify local public health priorities and implement activities to address these priorities. Increasing the purchasing age for tobacco products in the City will improve the health of young people in Edina, will show that the City prioritizes the health of residents, and will provide an example for communities throughout Minnesota that local action can impact public health. While there are other municipalities in Minnesota considering this action, Edina will be the first jurisdiction in Minnesota to reach implementation.

Minnesota Statute 461.19 requires notification of licensed establishments a minimum of 30 days before local ordinances are adopted or substantially amended in regard to tobacco and tobacco-related devices. Staff will complete mailed notification to all 18 of the City licensed tobacco establishments to meet this requirement.