



Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

Meeting Date: January 29, 2013

Prepared By/Phone Number: Marcella V. Alonzo 854-1106

Elected/Appointed Official/Dept. Head: Sherri E. Fleming,
County Executive for Health and Human Services and Veterans Service

Commissioners Court Sponsor: Judge Samuel T. Biscoe

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

Consider and take appropriate action on Proposed Amendments to Chapter 57 (Travis County Tobacco-Free Workplace Policy) of the Travis County Code to prohibit the use of tobacco products on all County properties.

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST AND ATTACHMENTS:

Travis County Commissioners Court adopted the current Smoking Policy on October 21, 1986, to be effective January 1, 1987. This policy bans indoor smoking in County buildings and in County vehicles. In 2008 the Court implemented the recommendation of staff regulating smoking in County Parks during youth events (See attached memo). In November of 2010, the Court approved an Interlocal agreement with the City of Austin to receive funding through a grant from the Center for Disease Control to improve the health of government employees and the general public through cessation of the use of tobacco products. Prior to receiving the grant, the Travis County Wellness Clinic had already provided tobacco cessation counseling and treatment to all employees and has, since, undertaken a public information campaign to educate staff and the public about the hazards to self and others of using tobacco products. The grant also recommended that the grantees consider the implementation of Tobacco Free Workplace policies. On January 24, 2012, the Court conducted a public hearing in order to obtain feedback from all segments of the County workforce and to establish a forum for feedback from Travis County residents as well, prior to making decisions on any proposed policy changes.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Staff recommends that the Court amend Chapter 57 of the Travis County Code (Travis County Smoking Policy) as presented.

AGENDA REQUEST DEADLINE: All agenda requests and supporting materials must be submitted as a pdf to Cheryl Aker in the County Judge's office, Cheryl.Aker@co.travis.tx.us by Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m. for the next week's meeting.

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:

On November 16, 2010, the Court approved an Interlocal Agreement to participate in a grant and receive funding through the City of Austin from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services via the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, to help reduce tobacco use prevalence and exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke under the Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW) initiative.

Travis County's Health and Human Service and Veterans' Service (HHS&VS) Department, in collaboration with the Travis County's Wellness Clinic, was charged with the implementation of the Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW) initiative, whose objectives were to:

- 1) protect the well-being of Travis County employees, their families and the community by reducing tobacco use prevalence and exposure to second-hand smoke; and
- 2) explore the implementation of a Tobacco Free Workplace policy at all Travis County properties, and to provide resources for employees who want to stop using tobacco products.

The Interlocal agreement with the City of Austin for funding of this initiative expired on February 29, 2012.

FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Projected costs for signage are not to exceed \$8,080. The City of Austin has committed to fund \$5,000 of the total costs; this would leave a balance of \$3,080 which the County would fund, from line item #1580010001.

REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:

Leslie Browder, Purchasing and Budget Office
Mary Etta Gerhardt, Assistant County Attorney
Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent
Nicki Riley Travis County Auditor
William Paterson, Risk Management, HRMD
Josie Pena, Clinic Administrator, Travis County Wellness Clinic

AGENDA REQUEST DEADLINE: All agenda requests and supporting materials must be submitted as a pdf to Cheryl Aker in the County Judge's office, Cheryl.Aker@co.travis.tx.us by Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m. for the next week's meeting.

Draft

Chapter 57 - Travis County Tobacco-Free Campus/Worksite Policy

57.001 **Authority.** Travis County (“County”) is authorized to restrict the use of Tobacco Products and tobacco-related activities pursuant to: Texas Constitution, Article V, Section 18 (powers and jurisdiction over all county business); Texas Local Government Code, Section 291.001 (authority to maintain public buildings); Texas Health and Safety Code, Section 121.003 (authority to provide for general health); Texas Health and Safety Code, Section 121.003(a) (authority to enforce any law reasonably necessary to protect the public health); and other applicable statutes, laws and ordinances.

57.002. **Purpose.**

(a) **Healthy Worksite.** County is committed to providing a safe and healthy worksite and to promoting the health and well-being of its employees clients and visitors utilizing County Facilities.

(b) **Employee Assistance.** County is also committed to providing all assistance possible, within the resources available to County, for County Employees in order to assist those individuals desiring to stop the use of Tobacco Products. County Employees are encouraged to contact the County Wellness Clinic and/or HR to pursue such assistance.

57.003 **Definitions.** As used in this Travis County Tobacco-Free Campus/Worksite Policy (“Policy”), the following words will have the meaning assigned in this Section 57.003:

(a) **“Covered Individuals”** means all persons entering County Facilities including but not limited to employees, invitees, subcontractors, clients, or visitors.

(b) **“Employees”** means all persons hired or engaged by County to provide services for Travis County and not working as an independently contracted business, including regular employees (whether full-time or part-time), temporary employees, volunteers and interns.

(c) **“Facilities”** Unless otherwise specified in writing, “Facilities” include all property that is owned, leased or controlled by County for the purpose of conducting its business, including but not limited to:

(c-i) all enclosed property;

(c-ii) indoor and outdoor open space within or between enclosed facilities [**not** including that space located outside the facility - i.e., public sidewalks, walkways, etc. unless covered by (c-iii)];

(c-iii) all outside areas within fifteen (15) feet of a doorway or window that can be opened;

- (c-iv) County owned or leased vehicles in all locations;
- (c-v) private vehicles located on County property (owned or leased);
- (c-vi) garages and parking lots;
- (c-vii) worksites occupied by County Employees, as to those Employees;
- (c-viii) and all other facilities as indicated by authorized signage indicating it is a tobacco-free area.

This Policy will only apply to leased property/facilities to the extent that the owner of the property/facility does not object. Unless otherwise specified, this Policy applies to all County Facilities, regardless of the Employees housed in or activities pursued in that Facility.

(c) **“Secondhand smoke”** means tobacco smoke from any Tobacco Product that is exhaled by smokers or is given off by burning tobacco and is inhaled by persons nearby.”

(d) **“Tobacco Product”** means any product made, derived from or containing tobacco including, but not limited to: cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, snuff, and pipe tobacco. This also includes any component, part or accessory of any of the above and any product which, to the observer, appears to be a Tobacco Product (i.e., water vapor “cigarettes” and similar products).

57.004 **Tobacco Product Use Prohibited.**

(a) **Prohibition.** Use of Tobacco Products is not permitted at any time by Employees or Covered Individuals within the limits of all County Facilities.

(b) **No Designated Areas.** There will be no designated smoking areas within Facilities.

(c) **Littering.** Littering of tobacco-related products on the grounds of parking areas (lots, garages, driveways) is also prohibited.

(d) **Surrounding Areas.** County strives to be a good neighbor in the community, and as such, discourages the use of Tobacco Products on the property of nearby businesses and residences.

57.005 **Enforcement -**

(a) **Compliance.** Compliance with the tobacco-free campus policy is mandatory for all Employees and Covered Individuals

(b) **Communication of Policy.** The prohibitions under this Policy will be clearly communicated in all County Facilities by appropriate signage designed and installed by County; written copies of the Policy provided to all Employees; written copies of the Policy provided to Covered Individuals as requested or determined necessary by County; by publication on the County website; and by other means as determined necessary by County.

(c) Waiver. By written order, the County Commissioners Court may waive or all or a portion of this Policy as to any facility or any portion of any facility.

(d) Other Rules. The provisions of this Policy do not negate or impact the implementation of any other duly instituted laws, rules or ordinances which apply to areas also included in this Policy. Applicable City of Austin ordinances, and other municipal ordinances, will apply within the jurisdiction of those municipalities in addition to the more stringent provisions of this Policy.

57.006 **Effective Date**. This Policy will be effective _____. 2012, and will replace any other related policies and procedures in place prior to this Effective Date.

TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT AGENDA REQUEST

Voting Session: July 1, 2008

Work Session: _____

- I. A. Request made by: Joseph P. Gieselman, TNR Phone # 854-9383
- B. Requested Text:
Discuss and take appropriate action regarding proposed new park hours and a new park rule prohibiting tobacco products at youth events.
- C. Approved by: _____
Gerald Daugherty, Precinct 3 Commissioner

- II. A. Backup memorandum and exhibits should be attached and submitted with this Agenda Request (Original and eight copies of agenda request and backup).
- B. Please list all the agencies or officials' names and telephone numbers that might be affected or involved with the request. Send a copy of this Agenda Request and backup to them:

Charles Bergh, TNR Parks	854-9437
Robert Armistead, TNR Parks	854-9437
Kurt Nielsen, TNR Parks	854-7275
Dan Perry, TNR Parks	263-9114
Dan Chapman, TNR Parks	263-9114

- III. Required Authorizations: Please check if applicable:

Planning and Budget Office (854-9106)

- ____ Additional funding for any department or for any purpose
- ____ Transfer of existing funds within or between any item budget
- ____ Grant

Human Resources Department (854-9165)

- ____ A change in your department's personnel (reclassifications, etc.)

Purchasing Office (854-9700)

- ____ Bid, Purchase Contract, Request for Proposal, Procurement

County Attorney's Office (854-9415)

- ____ Contract, Agreement, Policy & Procedure

AGENDA REQUEST DEADLINE: This Agenda Request complete with backup memorandum and exhibits should be submitted to the County Judge's Office no later than 5:00 PM on Monday for the following week's meeting. Late or incomplete requests may be deferred to the next subsequent meeting.



TRANSPORTATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

JOSEPH P. GIESELMAN, EXECUTIVE MANAGER

411 West 13th Street
Executive Office Building
PO Box 1748
Austin, Texas 78767
(512) 854-9383
FAX (512) 854-9436

June 19, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Commissioners' Court

FROM: Joseph P. Gieselman, Executive Manager, TNR

SUBJECT: Discuss and take appropriate action regarding proposed new park hours and a new park rule prohibiting tobacco products at youth events.

Proposed Motion:

- A. Discuss proposed new park hours and take appropriate action.
- B. Discuss a new rule prohibiting tobacco products at youth athletic events and take appropriate action.

Summary and Recommendation:

Park Hours

Our goal is to establish simplified and consistent park hours throughout our system. We understand that some of our facilities require different hours of operation due to special needs, but we would like to minimize system variations.

The majority of our parks currently have four time changes per year for day-use closing. (See attachment 1 for current park hours.) This system of changing hours four times during a year is confusing to the public and is difficult for staff to manage.

This problem has become accentuated with the shift of the beginning of Daylight Savings time to early March and shifting the end of DST to early November. Thus, park staff are trying to close parks when there is still up to an hour of daylight remaining. This is a disservice to those visitors who want to either enjoy the added daylight and/or view the sunset, and often puts our staff in confrontational situations when trying to close the parks at the approved time.

To standardize, as much as practical, system hours and to accommodate our visitors by adjusting for the changes in Daylight Savings times, park staff propose the new park hours outlined in attachment 2. These changes would result in the majority of our parks closing at civil twilight.

For clarification purposes, below are listed some commonly accepted definitions:

Twilight: The time before sunrise and after sunset where it is still light outside, but the sun is not in the sky.

Civil Twilight: The time period when the sun is no more than 6 degrees below the horizon at either sunrise or sunset. The horizon should be clearly defined and the brightest stars should be visible under good atmospheric conditions (i.e. no moonlight, or other lights). One still should be able to carry on ordinary outdoor activities. In the morning before the beginning of civil twilight and in the evening after the end of civil twilight, artificial illumination is normally required to carry on ordinary outdoor activities.

Generally speaking, civil twilight begins approximately 30 minutes after sunset, and ends approximately 30 minutes before sunrise.

We propose changing the Tom Hughes Park off-season closing schedule. Currently, the park is closed on weekdays during October, November, and February, and is closed altogether during December and January. We propose closing the park altogether from November 1st through March 31st. Historically, Tom Hughes experiences extremely low visitation levels during these months, and it is confusing to visitors to have the park open different days during the week.

Currently, sport facility hours are 8:00 AM - 10:30 PM; however, many sports events organizers have requested an earlier start time, and we have determined that events are ending earlier. To accommodate this, staff proposes adjusting sports facilities hours to 7:00AM - 10:00PM.

Also, to better align sport field closure dates with the dormant season, staff propose extending field closure by two weeks. Currently, fields are closed to play from December 15th through February 15th. Staff proposes changing the closure dates to December 1st through February 15th.

New Park Rule

Staff proposes implementing a rule prohibiting the use of tobacco products at youth athletic events. A concerned constituent whose son plays little league baseball at one of our facilities brought the issue to staff's attention. Upon investigation, staff determined that a majority of municipal youth organizations have a rule prohibiting the use of tobacco products at their facilities. The new rule would read "The use of tobacco products are prohibited at this facility during youth events".

Budgetary and Fiscal Impact:

We do not anticipate any financial impact as a result of these changes.

Background:

Park Hours

We currently have four park hours time changes per year at most of our day-use parks with gates. (See attachment 1 for current park hours) Exceptions are below:

Hamilton Pool Preserve, 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM year round.

Tom Hughes Park, Open weekends only in fall and spring; closed in winter season

Milton Reimer's Ranch Park, 7:00 AM - Civil twilight year round.

In our day-use parks without gates, (see attachment 1) the majority of our parks are open from sunrise to sunset. Staff proposes (see attachment 2) changing hours at these parks to Sunrise – Civil twilight.

Exceptions to this are two parks with boat ramps (but no gates): Loop 360 Boat Ramp and Mary Quinlan Park. These parks are currently open until 10:00 PM year round. Staff recommend a new closing time of civil twilight for those visitors recreating in the park and who are not using the boat ramps. This will accommodate boaters who are out late and also discourage unwelcome late-night activity and/or camping in these parks. Opening time would remain at sunrise.

The gated day-use parks would open at 7:00 AM and close at civil twilight. Exceptions are Hamilton Pool Preserve, Hippie Hollow Park, Cypress Creek Park, and Tom Hughes Park. Hamilton Pool Preserve hours would remain the same: 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM daily; these hours are designed to minimize impact on preserve flora and fauna. Hippie Hollow, Cypress Creek Day-Use, and Tom Hughes would open at 9:00 AM year round in order to conserve resources required to open earlier. In addition, historic use patterns indicate that these parks are not normally visited early in the morning.

New Park Rule

In August 1993, Commissioners Court adopted rules that include the prohibition of alcohol at Del Valle Youth Fields. Since then, numerous youth athletic facilities have been added at three Metropolitan Parks and Webberville Park. In addition, staff has determined that most youth organizations and facilities ban the use of tobacco products. However, many Travis County facilities, although designed for youth sports, are used by the general public. Therefore, staff proposes that the rule apply at our sports facilities only during sponsored youth events.

Required Authorization:

Travis County Commissioners' Court

Attachments:

Current Park Hours

Proposed Park Hours

cc: Charles Bergh, TNR – Parks Division Director
Robert Armistead – Parks Program Manager
Dan Chapman, TNR – Chief Park Ranger
Dan Perry, TNR – West District Park Manager
Kurt Nielsen, TNR – East District Park Manager

Attachment 1

TRAVIS COUNTY PARKS HOURS:

Park Name	Spring (Mar 1-Apr 30)	Summer (May 1-Sept 9)	Fall (Sept 10-Oct 31)	Winter (Nov 1-Feb 28)	
Allen Park	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	No Gate
Arkansas Bend	Sunrise to 9:00 PM-day use 24 hrs. for camping	Sunrise to 9:00 PM-day use 24 hrs. for camping	Sunrise to 9:00 PM-day use 24 hrs. for camping	Sunrise to 9:00 PM-day use 24 hrs. for camping	24 hrs
Ben Fisher	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	No Gate
Bob Wentz	9:00 AM to 7:30 PM	8:00 AM to 9:00 PM	9:00 AM to 7:30 PM	9:00 AM to 6:00 PM	Gated
Cypress Creek	Sunrise to 9:00 PM-day use 24 hrs. for camping	Sunrise to 9:00 PM-day use 24 hrs. for camping	Sunrise to 9:00 PM-day use 24 hrs. for camping	Sunrise to 9:00 PM-day use 24 hrs. for camping	Day-use Gated Boat Ramp open 24 hrs
Dave Reed	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	No longer managed by TC
Del Valle	8:00 AM to 10:30 PM	8:00 AM to 10:30 PM	8:00 AM to 10:30 PM	8:00 AM to 10:30 PM	No Gate
Dink Pearson	9:00 AM to 7:30 PM	8:00 AM to 9:00 PM	9:00 AM to 7:30 PM	9:00 AM to 6:00 PM	No Gate
Fritz Hughes	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	No Gate
Hamilton Pool Preserve CLOSED: During Hazardous Trail Conditions	9:00 AM to 6:00 PM	9:00 AM to 6:00 PM	9:00 AM to 6:00 PM	9:00 AM to 6:00 PM	Gated
Hippie Hollow/ Mc Greggor	9:00 AM to 7:30 PM	8:00 AM to 9:00 PM	9:00 AM to 7:30 PM	9:00 AM to 6:00 PM	Gated
Laura Reed	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	No longer managed by TC
Little Webberville	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	No Gate
Loop 360 Boat Ramp	Sunrise to 10:00 PM	Sunrise to 10:00 PM	Sunrise to 10:00 PM	Sunrise to 10:00 PM	No Gate
Mansfield Dam	Sunrise to 9:00 PM-day use 24 hrs. for camping	Sunrise to 9:00 PM-day use 24 hrs. for camping	Sunrise to 9:00 PM-day use 24 hrs. for camping	Sunrise to 9:00 PM-day use 24 hrs. for camping	Day use - Gated Boat ramp open 24 hrs
Mary Quinlan	Sunrise to 10:00 PM	Sunrise to 10:00 PM	Sunrise to 10:00 PM	Sunrise to 10:00 PM	No Gate
Northeast Metropolitan Park	9:00 AM to 7:30 PM	8:00 AM to 9:00 PM	9:00 AM to 7:30 PM	9:00 AM to 6:00 PM	Gated
Pace Bend	Sunrise to 9:00 PM-day use 24 hrs. for camping	Sunrise to 9:00 PM-day use 24 hrs. for camping	Sunrise to 9:00 PM-day use 24 hrs. for camping	Sunrise to 9:00 PM-day use 24 hrs. for camping	24 hrs
Richard Moya	9:00 AM to 7:30 PM	8:00 AM to 9:00 PM	9:00 AM to 7:30 PM	9:00 AM to 6:00 PM	Gated
Southeast Metropolitan Park	9:00 AM to 7:30 PM	8:00 AM to 9:00 PM	9:00 AM to 7:30 PM	9:00 AM to 6:00 PM	Gated
Sandy Creek	Sunrise to 9:00 PM-day use 24 hrs. for camping	Sunrise to 9:00 PM-day use 24 hrs. for camping	Sunrise to 9:00 PM-day use 24 hrs. for camping	Sunrise to 9:00 PM-day use 24 hrs. for camping	24 hrs
Sports Facilities CLOSED: Every Friday & Dec. 15th-Feb. 15th	8:00 AM to 10:30 PM	8:00 AM to 10:30 PM	8:00 AM to 10:30 PM	8:00 AM to 10:30 PM	N/A
Selma Hughes	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	No Gate
Tom Hughes CLOSED: During Hazardous Trail Conditions	9:00 AM to 7:30 PM	8:00 AM to 9:00 PM	Sept 10-Sept 30 9:00AM-7:30PM Oct.1-Nov.30 Weekends only (Sat, Sun, Hol.)	(Dec 1-Jan 31) Closed (Feb 1-Feb 28) Weekends only (Sat, Sun, Hol.)	Gated
Webberville	9:00 AM to 7:30 PM	8:00 AM to 9:00 PM	9:00 AM to 7:30 PM	9:00 AM to 6:00 PM	Gated
Windmill Run	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	Sunrise to Sunset	No Gate

Attachment 2

TRAVIS COUNTY PARKS HOURS:

PROPOSED

Park Name	Park Hours	
Allen Park	Sunrise to Civil Twilight (DARK)	No Gate
Ben Fisher	Sunrise to Civil Twilight (DARK)	No Gate
*Del Valle	Sunrise to Civil Twilight (DARK)	No Gate
Fritz Hughes	Sunrise to Civil Twilight (DARK)	No Gate
Selma Hughes	Sunrise to Civil Twilight (DARK)	No Gate
Windmill Run	Sunrise to Civil Twilight (DARK)	No Gate
Dink Pearson	Sunrise to Civil Twilight (DARK)	No Gate/Boat Ramp
Little Webberville	Sunrise to Civil Twilight (DARK)	No Gate/Boat Ramp
Loop 360 Boat Ramp	Sunrise to Civil Twilight (DARK)	No Gate/Boat Ramp
Mary Quinlan	Sunrise to Civil Twilight (DARK)	No Gate/Boat Ramp
Mansfield Dam Boat Ramp	Sunrise to Civil Twilight (DARK)	No Gate/Boat Ramp
Mansfield Dam Day-Use	8:00 AM to Civil Twilight (DARK)	Gated
Bob Wentz	8:00 AM to Civil Twilight (DARK)	Gated
*East Metropolitan Park	8:00 AM to Civil Twilight (DARK)	Gated
Milton Reimers Ranch	8:00 AM to Civil Twilight (DARK)	Gated
*Northeast Metropolitan Park	8:00 AM to Civil Twilight (DARK)	Gated
*Richard Moya	8:00 AM to Civil Twilight (DARK)	Gated
*Southeast Metropolitan Park	8:00 AM to Civil Twilight (DARK)	Gated
*Webberville	8:00 AM to Civil Twilight (DARK)	Gated
Hamilton Pool Preserve CLOSED: During Hazardous Trail Conditions	9:00 AM to 6:00 PM	Gated
Hippie Hollow/Mc Gregor	9:00 AM to Civil Twilight (DARK)	Gated
Cypress Creek Day-Use	9:00 AM to Civil Twilight (DARK)	Gated
Tom Hughes CLOSED: During Hazardous Trail Conditions	9:00 AM to Civil Twilight (DARK)	Gated/Closed from November 1 st thru March 31 st
Arkansas Bend	Sunrise to Civil Twilight (DARK) 24 hrs. for camping	Camping/24 hrs
Cypress Creek Camping Park	Sunrise to Civil Twilight (DARK) 24 hrs. for camping	Camping/24 hrs
Pace Bend	Sunrise to Civil Twilight (DARK) 24 hrs. for camping	Camping/24 hrs
Sandy Creek	Sunrise to Civil Twilight (DARK) 24 hrs. for camping	Camping/24 hrs
*Sports Facilities CLOSED: Every Friday & Dec. 1st-Feb. 15th	7:00 AM to 10:00 PM	Gated except Del-Valle

NOTES:

1. This draft Policy is a facilities policy rather than a personnel policy, and, as such, applies to all facilities regardless of the elected official or supervisor officed within that facility.
2. This draft Policy covers all people on County property. There is the option of a waiver (for example, for the Sheriff's control of jails), or for changes to reflect owners requirements where the County leases property.
3. This draft Policy acknowledges the application of the City of Austin ordinance or any other municipality's ordinance, and states that more stringent provisions of this Policy apply.
4. This draft Policy includes all vehicles on County property including parking garages and parking lots, whether that car is County-owned or privately owned.
5. This draft Policy includes all tobacco products whether or not smoke is produced, and vapor-cigarettes.
6. This draft Policy does not include any designated smoking areas. Individuals will have to completely vacate County property/facilities to use tobacco products.



Sherri E. Fleming, County Executive
Travis County Health and Human Services
& Veterans Service

Tobacco-Free Workplace (TFW) Policy

January 29, 2013

Policy Recommendation

Fully implement a Tobacco-Free Workplace (TFW) policy on all Travis County properties effective April 7, 2013.

TFW Policy Benefit

Reduces exposure to secondhand smoke (SHS):

- 43% of non-smoking adults and children are exposed to SHS.
- A person within 6 feet of a smoker outdoors can be exposed to SHS levels similar to those indoors.
- Just 30 minutes of exposure to SHS can increase the risk of blood clots, slow the rate of blood flow, and injure blood vessels and interfere with their repair.
- 4,300 nonsmokers in Texas die annually from exposure to SHS.

TFW Policy Benefit (contd)

Helps employees and visitors quit tobacco:

- More than 1 in 6 Travis County adults use tobacco
- Of Travis County tobacco using employees, 77% report trying to quit in the past.



TFW Policy Benefit (contd)

Saves employers and taxpayers money:

- Saves employers costs associated with smoke breaks, absenteeism, health care, and health and life insurance premiums.
 - In 2004, tobacco-related disease cost Texas about \$6.4 billion in lost worker productivity.
- In 2004, \$1.6 billion of Texas Medicaid expenditures were for smoking-related illnesses.
- Texas households pay about \$750 a year to cover tobacco-related healthcare costs.



Since June 2012:

- Conducted site visits of County properties to determine placement of signs; plotted locations on Google maps
- Met with City of Austin to obtain feedback on implementation and information on potential resources
 - ATCHHSD will contribute \$5,000 towards County initiative
- Met with Wellness Clinic to develop employee tobacco cessation resource packet
- Researched costs associated with implementing policy (signage, hardware, logistics)

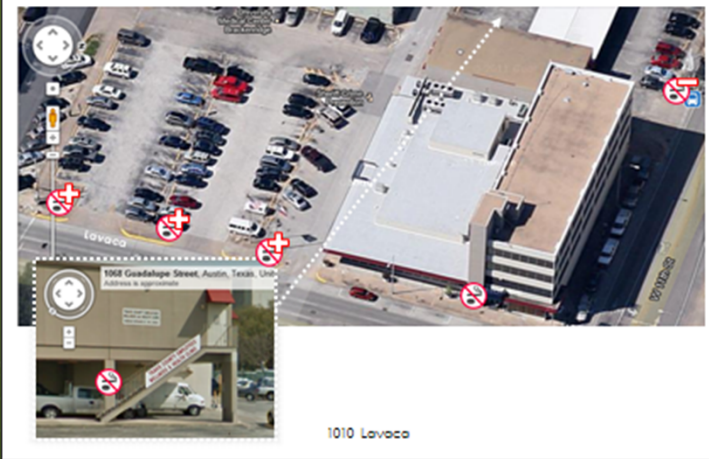
Cost Detail- update

	Policy Signs				
	Signs	Sign Posts	Bolts	Decals	Total
Number	245	95	280	1500	
Ind. Cost	\$13	\$17	\$1	\$2	
Total Cost	\$3,185	\$1,615	\$280	\$3,000	\$8,080

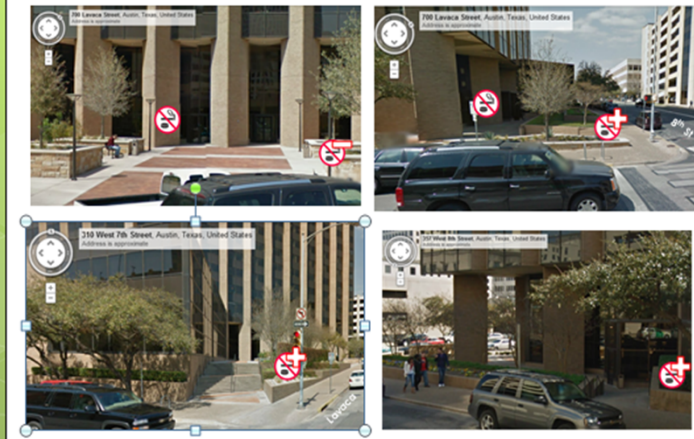
Sample Maps

TFW Sign Locations

USB Building & Parking



700 Lavaca Building



Symbol Key



Attached to Wall



Attached to Existing Pole



Attached to New Pole

Leased Properties in Unincorporated Areas

18649 Hwy 1431, Jonestown, TX

