



MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

(Revised: 6/9/2014)

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 2/5/15
Agenda Item #: R.5
Est. Start Time: 10:40 am
Date Submitted: 1/22/15

Agenda Title: Board of Health Public Hearing on E-Cigarettes

Note: Title should not be more than 2 lines but be sufficient to describe the action requested.

Requested: February 5, 2015 **Time Needed:** 60 minutes
Department: Non-D **Division:** Chair's office
Contact(s): Liz Smith Currie
Phone: 503-988-4435 **Ext.** 8-4435 **I/O Address:** 503/6
Presenter Name(s) & Title(s): Chair Deborah Kafoury, Commissioners, Staff, Invited Guests & Public

General Information

1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

To meet as the Board of Health to receive input on recommendations they received from the Health Department and the Oregon Health Equity Alliance to take action to limit youth access and exposure to e-cigarettes (inhalant delivery systems) for youth and in the workplace.

2. Please provide sufficient background information for the Board and the public to understand this issue. Please note which Program Offer this action affects and how it impacts the results.

The Multnomah County Health Department testified on Nov. 13 and Nov. 25, 2014 before the Board of Health about youth access to and the health impact of the emerging e-cigarette market and best practices for addressing youth access to tobacco and nicotine products. The Health Department also presented this information to east County elected officials on Nov. 14th. On Dec. 18th, 2014 members of the Oregon Health Equity Alliance briefed the Board of Health on the disproportionate impact of tobacco and emerging products on communities of color and asked that elected officials take action to address these issues.

Among the issues of concern to the Board of Health are that tobacco is the leading cause of preventable death in Multnomah County, and yet Multnomah County has one of the highest rates of illegal tobacco sales to minors in the nation. Oregon has no licensing system for tobacco retailers. The use of e-cigarettes tripled among US middle and high school students in 2011-2012 and continues to rise, yet there are currently no restrictions

on the use or sale of these products in the County.

The Health Department asked the Board of Health to consider these areas of focus to limit youth access and exposure to e-cigarettes, and the Board would like to hear public feedback on:

- Prohibiting e-cigarette sales to, and use by, minors.
- Including e-cigarettes in the County's Smoke-Free Workplace code (prohibiting their use where cigarettes are prohibited).
- Licensing retailers who sell tobacco and e-cigarette products.

For this public hearing, the Board of Health would like to receive input on these and any other ideas from the public.

3. Explain the fiscal impact (current year and ongoing).

n/a.

4. Explain any legal and/or policy issues involved.

n/a

5. Explain any citizen and/or other government participation that has or will take place.

This is the second public hearing on this issue. The first was on February 27th. The Board of Health also heard briefings from the Health Department and the Oregon Health Equity Alliance in Nov. and Dec. of 2015. The Health Department plans to present information on the impact of e-cigarette on youth to the cities of Fairview, Troutdale, Wood Village and Portland on January 21, January 27th, Feb. 10th, and Feb. 11th, respectively.

Required Signature

**Elected
Official or
Department**

Director: Nancy Bennett /s/ **Date:** 1/22/15

Note: Please submit electronically. Insert names of your approvers followed by /s/ - we no longer use actual signatures. Please insert date approved.