

**COMMUNITY MEETING
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION ~ SUB-COMMITTEE
PROPOSED NO SMOKING BAN IN MONROVIA PARKS
COMMUNITY CENTER, MONROE ROOM
JANUARY 27, 2016
7:00 P.M.**

Convene: Chair Matthews convened the Community Sub-Committee meeting on the Proposed No Smoking Ban in Monrovia Park at 7:00 p.m.

In Attendance: Sub-Committee Members ~ Commissioners Dittmar and Hirsch, Vice Chair Yuille, Chair Matthews, and Mayor Pro Tem Spicer.

Staff in Attendance: Tina Cherry, Director, and Lisa Hansberger, Senior Recreation Supervisor.

Chair Matthews provided background of the meeting process, and informed the group that the meeting is intended to gather information, to provide the next steps for the Sub-Committee meeting to be held on Monday, February 1, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Questions

1) Steve Baker, Monrovia: In comparison with other San Gabriel Valley Communities, where does Monrovia stand?

A) A majority of Cities in California have passed a No Smoking ban. There are three cities in our immediate area that do not have an ordinance, they are, Azusa and San Marino and Sierra Madre.

Is there an estimate of the number of people who will be affected by this ordinance?

A) Guadulesa Rivera, Monrovia Coalition to Reduce Teen Smoking stated that eight percent of Monrovia's smoke.

How many people who frequent the park, and might be smokers would be subject to the ordinance and possible enforcement? What type of resources would need to be allocated for enforcement?

A) Director Cherry responded: the ordinance would be more about education and outreach, not so much punitive. The Park Rangers would be utilized for enforcement and outreach.

How would this affect the courtyard at the Museum?

A) Director Cherry responded: these are private rentals, and would not be considered a "public space".

2) Karen MacNair, YMCA - What does the current ordinance actually say? What are we looking at accomplishing?

3) Phil Flennikan, Monrovia – How does the City handle the disposal of cigarette butts?

A) Director Cherry responded: Butt Potts are located around town. Proper disposal is a continuing problem.

Alex Swanson, Monrovia – Non-smoking signage is very helpful.

Dirk Beecham, Monrovia – Will there be additional receptacles for the cigarette butts?

Cliff Acosta, Monrovia – How will the ban affect the new park at Station Square? How much of the area is park or restricted area, promenade, etc?

Chair Matthews commented: We have a responsibility to make sure our parks are safe for everyone to enjoy.

Any feedback from City council yet?

A) No, going through the process.

Alcohol is prohibited public parks.

A) There is an ordinance against alcohol consumption in any public area. With the exception of permitted events.

Should there be smoking in the proximately at the museum because of the affects on the artifacts?

Speaker Cards

Michael Olivarez – Pasadena – American Lung Association; in favor of a smoking ban ordinance.

Primo Castro – Los Angeles – American Cancer Society, Cancer Action Network; in favor of a smoking ban ordinance ~ all smoking/tobacco products including e-cigarettes.

Guadulesa Rivera – Monrovia Coalition to Reduce Teen Smoking and Tobacco Control Program Coordinator at Glendale Adventist Hospital; in favor of a smoking ban ordinance.

Bill and Marlene Flennigan – Monrovia; as a former smoker, concerned about second hand smoke, and in favor of a smoking ban ordinance. Would like residential areas looked at as to second hand smoke.

Director Cherry, recommended the MAP Program to help facilitate discussion on this topic with the neighbors in the community.

Alexandra Swanson – Monrovia; concerned for the health of all, including animals and small children. Litter, the need for receptacles to properly dispose of butts. In favor of the smoking ban ordinance.

Monty Messex – Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Tobacco Control; - offered to provide technical assistance in the development of an ordinance. Provided an information kit to staff and sub-committee. In favor of the smoking ban ordinance.

Roy Russell – Alhambra, San Gabriel – Family & Communities Advocacy; Spoke in favor of the smoking ban ordinance.

Steve Baker – Monrovia City Historian; Spoke in favor of a smoking ban ordinance. Suggested that an ordinance apply curb to curb versus sidewalk to sidewalk.

Dave Conway – Monrovia; Spoke in favor of a smoking ban ordinance.

Clifford Acosta – Monrovia; Spoke in favor of a smoking ban ordinance.

Gail Montgomery – Monrovia; Spoke in favor of a smoking ban ordinance.

Karen MacNair – Monrovia – YMCA; Spoke in favor of a smoking ban ordinance, and to cover curb to curb.

Karen Sutherland – Monrovia – Boys and Girls Club Boardmember; Spoke in favor of a smoking ban ordinance, and to cover curb to curb.

Commissioner Brian Ulm posted this meeting on Nextdoor.com an online forum for Monrovia community members to comment on issues. The following comments were received;

Valarie Ferratii – Great to see a citywide ban on smoking.

John Lane – Diamond cities ~ Great idea, banning smoking in the public parks. In favor of the smoking ban ordinance.

Philip Ramirez – Feel the city should focus on other more important things going on in the city, and not take a right away.

Phillip Ramirez – Tree Streets – Doesn't smoke, but is bothered when people think they are doing society a favor with pointless ideas. I would love to see this enforced like no drinking or staying overnight in the park.

Carol Bush- In favor of a smoking ban ordinance.

Philip Acosta – Are all the Nextdoor.com comments in Monrovia?

A) Yes.

Commissioner Hirsch – Commented on the joint Monrovia/Arcadia/Duarte (MAD) Town Council and City Council meeting, the Mayor spoke of being inclusive of the unincorporated areas and enhanced collaboration.

The next Sub-Committee meeting will be held on Monday, February 1, 2016 in the Monroe Room at the Community Center.

Chair Matthews adjourned this meeting at 8:50p.m.