



*Live Well. Health Matters.*

January 27, 2014

Dear Councilmembers:

Thank you for considering an ordinance that will regulate smoking in outdoor places. In 2004 and again in 2011, Beach Cities Health District (BCHD) passed resolutions (496, 517) encouraging the beach cities to institute smoke-free policies, which are evidence-based strategies to reduce the prevalence of youth and adult smoking, decrease cigarette consumption, accelerate declines in tobacco-related deaths, and diminish health-care costs from tobacco-related diseases. BCHD supports the City of Manhattan Beach's ordinance to implement a comprehensive smoke-free policy.

While Manhattan Beach has been at the lead in creating a healthy community and building smoke-free environments, 11% of Manhattan Beach adults still smoke today. Smoking is the leading cause of preventable death in our community. An ordinance not only reduces exposure to secondhand smoke in non-smokers, but also supports current and former smokers to quit smoking.

Today, it is estimated that more than 2,500 Manhattan Beach adults are smokers. The costs of smoking are great – **every year, these Manhattan Beach smokers incur more than \$11 million in costs (health care costs, lost productivity, premature death).**

Every year, more than half of adult smokers try to quit smoking. An ordinance will help these smokers quit by reducing their own exposure to secondhand smoke and by increasing their time in smoke-free environments. Research shows that communities that implement a smoking ordinance benefit from fewer tobacco-related hospital visits and deaths, including reductions in heart attacks and sudden cardiac deaths.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Lisa Santora, M.D., M.P.H.  
Chief Medical Officer

References:

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Hopkins DP, Briss PA, Ricard CJ. [Reviews of evidence regarding interventions to reduce tobacco use and exposure to environmental tobacco smoke](#). *Am J Prev Med* 2001; 20(2S):16–66.

Hopkins DP, Razi S, Leeks KD, et al. [Smoke-free policies to reduce Tobacco use: a systematic review](#). *Am J Prev Med* 2010; 38(2S):275-289.

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Tan CE, Glantz SA. Association between smoke-free legislation and hospitalizations for cardiac, cerebrovascular, and respiratory diseases: a meta-analysis. *Circulation*. 2012 Oct 30; 126(18):2177-83.



The mission of BHS is to transform lives by offering hope and opportunities for recovery, wellness and independence. Behavioral Health Services, Inc. Drug and Alcohol Treatment Programs

American Recovery Center  
909-865-2336

BHS/NCADD-Torrance  
310-328-1460

Boyle Heights Recovery Center  
323-262-1786

Community Assessment Service Center  
310-973-2272(CASC)

Flossie Lewis Center  
562-435-7350

Hollywood Recovery Center  
323-461-3161

Join Efforts  
310-831-2358

Lincoln Heights Family Recovery Center  
323-221-1746

Pacifica House  
323-754-2816

Patterns  
310-675-4431

Redgate Memorial Recovery Center  
562-599-8444

South Bay Recovery Center  
310-679-9031

South Bay Senior Services  
310-325-2141

Wilmington Community Recovery Center  
310-549-2710

All of the above programs of Behavioral Health Services, Inc. have been accredited by



High Gain : 310-644-3659

January 24, 2014

Honorable Mayor Amy Howorth and Councilmembers  
City of Manhattan Beach  
1400 Highland Avenue  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Dear Mayor Amy Howorth and Councilmembers;

Behavioral Health Services (BHS) supports Manhattan Beach's efforts to become a healthier, clean air community by prohibiting smoking in outdoor areas where the public gathers including entryways to businesses and restaurants, bus stops, public events, outdoor shopping centers, and all recreation areas.

The recently released updated U.S. Surgeon General's Report that highlights the health consequences of tobacco use for the last 50 years, states that more than 2.5 million deaths have been non-smokers who died from diseases caused by exposure to secondhand smoke. The California Air Resources Board has put secondhand smoke in the same category as the most toxic automotive and industrial air pollutants for which there is no safe level of exposure. The U.S. Surgeon General has also stated that there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke.

The dangers of secondhand smoke are well documented, especially for children and adults with asthma or other chronic illnesses, pregnant women, and the elderly. Furthermore, when young people see adults smoking in family-friendly public places, they see the behavior as acceptable, influencing them to copy it. Children imitate adults and every day 4,000 children in the U.S. smoke their first cigarette and 2,000 teenagers become daily smokers. An extensive smoking ban in outdoor areas is needed to set an example for children that smoking is not acceptable in your beautiful beach city.

It is the Mission of BHS to transform lives by offering hope and opportunities for recovery, wellness, and independence. We support Manhattan Beach's commitment to the health and well-being of its residents, businesses, stakeholders, and visitors by offering a healthy community environment.

BHS believes in making Manhattan Beach safer, cleaner, and more enjoyable for everyone. We encourage the Manhattan Beach City Council to pass an expanded smoking ban in outdoor public areas in an effort to help mitigate tobacco litter, decrease the risk of fire by cigarettes, protect the public from secondhand smoke and set a healthy, smoke-free example for our children.

Sincerely,

Henry van Oudheusden  
President/CEO  
Behavioral Health Services

15519 Crenshaw Blvd, Gardena, CA 90249  
310-679-9126 • Fax 310-679-2920 • [www.bhs-inc.org](http://www.bhs-inc.org)



January 27, 2014

Manhattan Beach City Council  
City of Manhattan Beach  
1400 Highland Avenue  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266  
Attn: Sona Kalapura Coffee, Environmental Programs Manager  
Via email: [scoffee@citymb.info](mailto:scoffee@citymb.info)

**RE: Endorsement of City of Manhattan Beach efforts to regulate outdoor smoking and strong encouragement of City Council to draft and adopt a comprehensive outdoor smoking ordinance.**

Dear Honorable Mayor Howorth and Members of the Manhattan Beach City Council:

On behalf of the Surfrider Foundation, Surfrider's South Bay Chapter, and over 30,000 members and supporters in the state of California, I am writing to endorse City efforts to regulate outdoor smoking as a means to facilitate a cleaner and healthier outdoor environment for residents, businesses, and visitors in the City of Manhattan Beach. Surfrider Foundation (Surfrider) is a nonprofit grassroots organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of the world's oceans, waves, and beaches through a powerful activist network. Founded in 1984 by a handful of visionary surfers in Malibu, California, Surfrider now maintains over 250,000 supporters, activists, and members through a network of over 100 chapters in 15 countries worldwide.

Surfrider endorses City of Manhattan Beach efforts to regulate outdoor smoking and strongly urges City Council to draft and adopt a comprehensive outdoor smoking ordinance. We feel adoption of such an ordinance addresses the most plentiful source of marine debris litter in our oceans today – the ubiquitous and toxic presence of cigarette litter on our beaches and oceans. Not only are cigarette butts a major cause of visual blight, which in turn threatens the economic tourism value of our beaches and parks, but they are also harmful to our natural environment because they are composed of toxic chemicals and plastics. In fact, cigarette filters contain a type of plastic (cellulose acetate), which slowly breaks down but unfortunately will never fully decompose.

Surfrider's interest in the ban of cigarette butts stems from our mission to protect ocean ecosystems and ensure water quality for the benefit of public health and the marine environment. Surfrider currently directs an active campaign entitled "Hold On To Your Butt" and has focused on educating the public about the prevalence

and negative impact of cigarette butt litter. As a conservation organization, Surfrider Foundation is actively engaged in educating the public on how to live an “environmentally-friendly” lifestyle, which includes taking measurable steps to reduce the amount of tobacco-related trash that reaches our oceans, and litters our beaches, parks, streets, and sidewalks.

Surfrider strongly encourages City Council to draft and adopt a comprehensive outdoor smoking ordinance, which includes all dining and shopping areas, entryways, public events, recreation areas, service areas, sidewalks, and worksites, not only for the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors, but also because cigarette litter from all these areas regularly ends up in our oceans and on our beaches, generating higher cleanup costs, endangering the health of both children and adults, and threatening wildlife with toxic cigarette butt litter that is often mistaken as a food source.

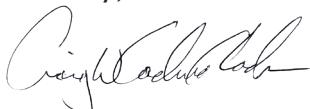
Upon adoption of a comprehensive outdoor smoking ordinance, Surfrider’s South Bay Chapter offers, at no charge to the City, to provide cigarette butt receptacles at transition points between smoke-free and designated smoking areas, should such accommodations be included in the adopted ordinance, similar to what we donated to our neighboring city, Hermosa Beach. Our rationale is that cigarette butts litter our beaches, and we hope these donated receptacles will help control that problem.

We hope that any ordinance will include a requirement of clear signage providing notice of the smoking prohibition, and Surfrider suggests that the ordinance should include language providing for cigarette butt receptacles in adjacent parking lots and transition areas. The act of increasing the availability of cigarette receptacles at public places is also a priority recommendation listed in the Ocean Protection Council’s Resolution on marine debris. In this manner, the city will encourage responsible stewardship of our beaches and parks, which will ultimately decrease the litter harmful to wildlife.

Cigarettes and cigarette filters are consistently the top littered item found in beach clean ups. According to California Coastal Cleanup Day data, the total count for cigarette litter was 6,272,556 accounting for 39.51% of litter items collected on Coastal Clean Up Day from 1989–2011.

Thank you for taking the crucial step of regulating this primary form of litter. We appreciate your willingness to consider the health of our oceans, waves and beaches in your legislative endeavors.

Sincerely,



Craig W. Cadwallader  
Chair, Surfrider Foundation – South Bay Chapter

**Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-0533**

**HENRY A. WAXMAN**  
33RD DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

September 9, 2013

The Honorable David J. Lesser  
Mayor  
City of Manhattan Beach  
City Hall  
1400 Highland Avenue  
Manhattan Beach, California 90266

Dear Mayor Lesser:

I am writing to offer my wholehearted support of the proposal before the Manhattan Beach City Council to expand the city's smoking ordinance. I encourage you to seize this opportunity to better protect the public from the indisputable dangers of tobacco and second-hand smoke.

Tobacco is the single greatest public health threat that America has faced over the last sixty years. In the United States, smoking kills over 400,000 people each year and exposure to second-hand smoke is responsible for an estimated 50,000 deaths. These premature deaths are entirely preventable.

Local smoking ordinances play a vitally important role in the overall strategy to reduce the damage done by tobacco. Communities in Los Angeles County have been national leaders in successfully implementing comprehensive smoking ordinances, which have shown to be effective on multiple fronts. Strong smoking ordinances limit the exposure of children and non-smokers to second-hand smoke and reduce the environmental impacts of cigarette butts; increase public awareness about the health risks of smoking and second-hand smoke; reinforce the changes in public attitudes and social norms regarding smoking; and help smokers reduce the number of cigarettes they smoke or quit altogether.

Strong smoking laws are also critical to prevention. The best way to prevent tobacco addiction is to help our kids not start smoking in the first place. As long as young people continue to be the targets of tobacco industry marketing and powerful cultural influences that glamorize smoking, I believe we should use every tool available to undercut the messages that have for decades lured young people into a deadly addiction.

September 9, 2013

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Strengthening your existing smoking ordinance would complement the forward-looking public health initiatives already underway in Manhattan Beach. Thank you for your continued commitment to the health and well-being of the citizens of Manhattan Beach.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,



HENRY A. WAXMAN

Member of Congress