

## Breathe Easy on the 16th Street Mall



# The Importance of Creating a Healthy Environment in Our Cities

- Secondhand smoke has an adverse effect on individuals who do not smoke and has resulted in 2.5 million deaths since 1964 (CDC 2017).
- Secondhand smoke contains more than 7,000 chemicals. Hundreds are toxic and about 70 can cause cancer (CDC 2017)
- E-cigarette aerosol can contain heavy metals, ultrafine particulates that can be inhaled deep into the lungs, and cancer causing agents like acrolein (CDC 2015)



## Nation-Wide Smoking Prohibition Policies

- 4,523 municipalities in US have laws that restrict where smoking is permitted (ANRF 2016)
- Prohibitive policies have reduced smoking prevalence among the general population and young people (CDC 2016)
- Large Cities with Prohibitive Smoking Policies in Commercial Areas

Philadelphia, PA
Boston, MA
Albuquerque, NM

Portland, OR San Diego, CA New York, NY





## Colorado Smoking Prohibition Policies

#### Colorado Clean Indoor Air Act

- Prohibits smoking in an indoor area
- Requires smoking to be practiced in private residences
- No smoking within 15 feet of entryways
- Penalty is up to \$300 fines





#### **Current Denver Policies**

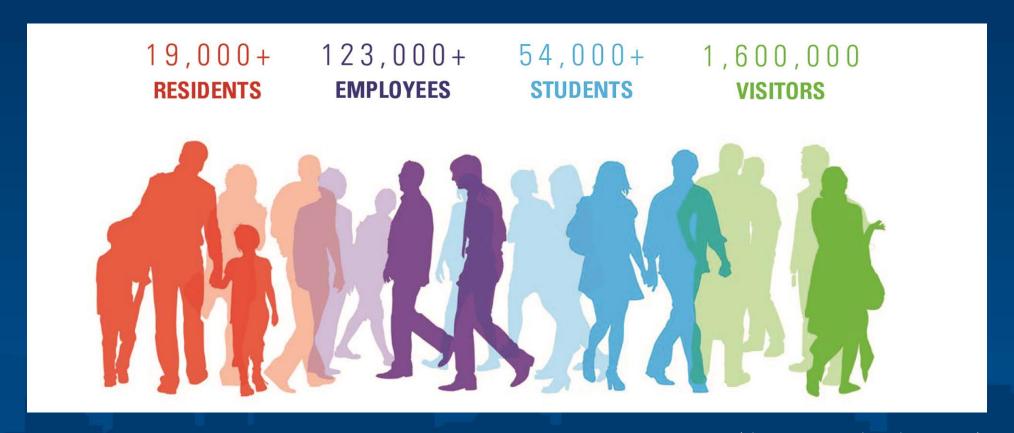
"Cigarette" Smoking prohibition around

- City Buildings
- Hospitals

#### **Breathe Easy**

- Prohibit smoking on the 16<sup>th</sup>
   Street Mall
- Include electronic cigarettes and vape pens





(Photo: Denver Parks and Recreation)



# What we've been doing on the 16<sup>th</sup> Street Mall

- Beautification
- Family-Friendly
  - Security
- Downtown Denver Partnership
  - RTD Security
    - DPD



### Breathe Easy on the 16<sup>th</sup> Street Mall Ordinance

Section 24-304, D.R.M.C., shall be amended by deleting the language stricken and adding new subsections (b)(5) and (b)(6):

On certain public premises adjoining hospital properties, as prohibited by section 38-8 On the  $16^{th}$  Street Pedestrian and Transit Mall, as prohibited by section 38-9.

Article I of Chapter 38, D.R.M.C. shall be amended by adding a new section 38-9

Include: *Electronic smoking device*16<sup>th</sup> Street Pedestrian and Transit Mall

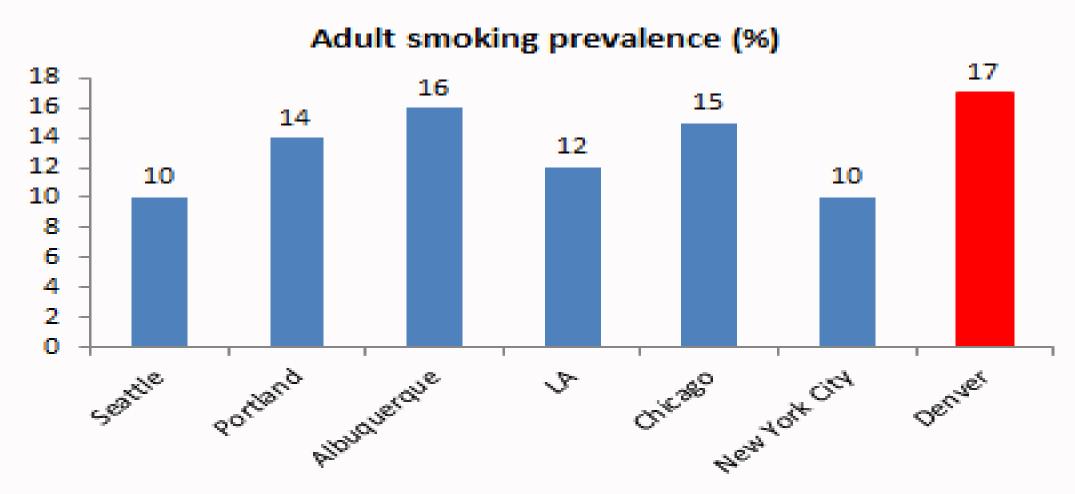
#### Penalty:

Violating this ordinance is a non-criminal offence
Violators upon admission of guilt will be subject to a fine that shall not exceed \$100



# How is Denver doing with tobacco? Comparison to other big cities





2015 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/



- Tobacco secondhand smoke contains at least:
  - 172 toxic substances, including 3 regulated outdoor air pollutants,
  - 33 Hazardous Air Pollutants,
  - 47 Chemicals restricted as Hazardous Waste, and
  - 67 Known Human or Animal Carcinogens.
- True regardless of inhaled indoors or outdoors<sup>1</sup>

### Secondhand Smoke Exposure

- Smoke-free Parks
  - 1,497 municipalities in US
  - 19 municipalities in CO<sup>2</sup>
- Smoke-free Patios & Outdoor dining
  - 448 municipalities in US
  - 11 municipalities in CO<sup>2</sup>
- Smoke-free Public Transit
  - 515 municipalities in US
  - 9 municipalities in CO<sup>2</sup>
- Denver has <u>none</u> of these protections for the public



## Other Smoking Prohibitions in Colorado



#### **Boulder, CO**

Prohibits smoking of electronic smoking devices in public spaces.

#### Golden, CO

Prohibits smoking within 25 feet of the public right of way and public sidewalks in the Washington Street Downtown Area.



## 16th ST. MALL

BREATHE EASY
ON THE
16TH STREET MALL

**SMOKE-FREE ZONE** 



**NO VAPING** 

**NO SMOKING** 

DENVER ORDINANCE SECTION 24-304 (b)(5); (b)(6), D.R.M.C. NO SMOKING OR VAPING FINE UP TO \$100



## Organizations in Support of Breathe Easy

**American Cancer Society American Lung Association American Heart Association** Colorado Health Foundation Downtown Denver Partnership Denver Health Downtown Residences GASP for Air National Jewish Health RTD Visit Denver





### Tentative Legislative Timeline

Sept. 13 – Present to SAFEHOUSE

Oct. 11 – SAFEHOUSE for vote

Oct. 17 – Mayor-Council

Oct. 23 – First Reading

Oct. 30 – Second Reading, Final Vote