

**CITY OF LA VISTA
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORT
NOVEMBER 5, 2019 AGENDA**

Subject:	Type:	Submitted By:
TOBACCO FREE AREA DESIGNATION – LA VISTA PARKS, SPORTS COMPLEX AND SWIMMING POOL	RESOLUTION ORDINANCE RECEIVE/FILE ◆ DISCUSSION	JASON ALLEN PARKS SUPERINTENDENT

SYNOPSIS

As a follow up to the February 16, 2019 City Council Work Session, the potential designation of all City parks as tobacco free areas has been placed on the agenda as a discussion item.

FISCAL IMPACT

N/A

RECOMMENDATION

N/A

BACKGROUND

In July of 2012 the City Council passed a resolution designating areas where sports fields are located, specifically at City Park, Kelly McMahon Park, and the Sports Complex, as tobacco free. Since that time the City has been approached by the Tobacco Education & Advocacy of the Midlands group (TEAM) requesting that all City parks be designated as tobacco free areas. TEAM would provide the necessary signage free of charge to the City.

This was a topic brought up at the February 2019 City Council Work Session, and the Mayor and Council asked for additional information. Specifically, what have other area communities done in their parks? The cities of Bellevue, Papillion, Springfield, and Louisville have all designated their parks as tobacco free areas. Additionally, a number of larger cities have also adopted this designation in their parks including Fremont, Grand Island, Hastings, Kearney, Lincoln, Norfolk, North Platte and Scottsbluff.

The premise of the request from TEAM is that second hand smoke or exposure to tobacco smoke can cause adverse health risks in children and adults; that there is no safe level of exposure to second hand smoke, whether it is indoors or outdoors; and that children who observe adults using tobacco products may choose to emulate unhealthy behaviors. Tobacco products would include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, smokeless tobacco, electronic nicotine delivery systems and alternative nicotine products.

Staff is looking for direction from Council as to whether they would like to see all of the City’s parks designated as tobacco free areas. If so, a resolution would be brought back at the next meeting.