

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE December 1, 2025

TO Honorable Chair Stewart and Members of the Parks, Trails, and the Environment
Committee

SUBJECT **Vaping Ordinance Update December 2025**

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide a status update to Ordinance No. 32933, known as the Vaping Ordinance.

Background

On December 11, 2024, Dallas City Council unanimously approved amending Chapter 41 of the Dallas City Code by updating the definition of “Smoking” to include the use of an electronic smoking device and updating signage requirements to include electronic smoking devices. The ordinance is set to take effect on December 11, 2025.

Cigarettes and electronic smoking devices have known health and environmental risks. Smoke from cigarettes or electronic smoking devices contain chemicals that are harmful and worsen air quality, even more so in indoor environments. When cigarettes or electronic smoking devices are not properly discarded, these chemicals can enter soils and waterways contaminating valuable resources and poisoning local wildlife. Batteries used inside electronic smoking devices can also leach heavy metals and can even start battery fires. Cigarettes butts and electronic smoking devices cannot be recycled or composted. While cigarettes can be thrown in the garbage, electronic smoking devices should be sealed in clear bags and taken to the local hazardous waste facility.

Smokefree policies successfully eliminate the harms of secondhand smoke and help raise awareness about the detrimental impacts from smoking or vaping.

Progress

The Office of Environmental Quality and Sustainability (OEQS) has been working with the City Attorney’s Office (CAO), Communications & Customer Experience/311, Facilities and Real Estate Management (FRM), and Transportation and Public Works (TPW), to inform the public and internal departments about the latest changes and to assist departments with the signage replacement process.

Since January 2025, OEQS has been working diligently to provide the public with advance notice on the latest vaping requirements. Public messaging about the

ordinance has been published in various media including local magazines, newspapers, online streaming services, and radio in both Spanish and English channels. Dallas Water Utility customers also received a water bill insert explaining the latest change this past July. The most recent announcement will be displayed on 20 Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) buses for eight weeks and even includes digital displays inside the buses for passengers. Billboard announcements are also already on display in high traffic locations, such as the Dallas N. Tollway, until January 2026.

Department directors were recently given another notice about the ordinance's upcoming effective date. The notification also provided a vaping signage installation form, which provided instructions and information on how departments are to submit signage replacement requests for an easier transition. City of Dallas departments are responsible for covering the cost of fabrication and installation of the required vaping and no-smoking signage in accordance with the City of Dallas ordinance. Likewise, private entities, such as businesses, within city limit are also responsible for updating their own signage at their own expense.

Next Steps

OEQS will continue to work with departments and the public to ensure an easier transition as the vaping ordinance comes into effect. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Angela Hodges Gott, Director of the Office of Environmental Quality and Sustainability, at 214-670-1642 or angela.hodgesgott@dallas.gov.

Service First, Now!



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