

Smokefree Housing Policies Including Electronic Cigarettes

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California is at the forefront of protecting its citizens from the dangers of secondhand smoke. Throughout California, communities have adopted smokefree multi-unit housing policies to shield their residents from breathing in secondhand smoke drifting from neighboring units, balconies and outdoor areas. In addition, many communities have taken steps to also protect their residents from the secondhand emissions produced by electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes). According to the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), an e-cigarette is a battery powered device that allows users to inhale a vapor containing nicotine or other substances. The safety of these devices is still unknown, and initial studies have found carcinogens and other toxic chemicals, including formaldehyde and benzene, in the secondhand emissions. Furthermore, the FDA has not found e-cigarettes to be safe and effective in helping smokers quit and has [proposed regulations](#) that will extend basic regulatory authority found in the Tobacco Control Act to e-cigarettes.

As a result of concerns about the health effects of e-cigarettes, advocates throughout California have taken steps to ensure that the use of e-cigarettes is regulated and monitored in multi-unit housing in their communities.

Below is a list of the **29** cities and counties in California that prohibit the use of e-cigarettes in multi-unit housing through special language in the definition of smoke and smoking in their smokefree air laws. This language can be found in [Changelab Solutions' document](#) on addressing electronic smoking devices' vapor.

For specific questions about a city or county policy, please contact the Center. Additional resources on electronic cigarettes produced by the Center are available on our website at www.Center4TobaccoPolicy.org/electronic-cigarettes/.

Scotts Valley (April 2014)**
Fremont (March 2014)*
Long Beach (March 2014)**
San Francisco (March 2014)**
Richmond (December 2013)*
Walnut Creek (October 2013)
Glendale (May 2013)
Arcata (July 2013)*
Contra Costa County (April 2013)*
Petaluma (January 2013)

Daly City (October 2012)
Milly Valley (September 2012)
Marin County (May 2012)
Huntington Park (April 2012)
Baldwin Park (November 2011)
Tiburon (July 2011)
Fairfax (May 2011)
Carpinteria (February 2011)*
Union City (November 2010)
Menlo Park (October 2010)*

Sebastopol (August 2010)
South Pasadena (August 2010)
Eureka (July 2010)*
Martinez (April 2009)*
Glendale (October 2008)***
Novato (April 2008)
Belmont (October 2007)
Emeryville (December 2006)*
Murrieta (October 2006)**

*Only applies to all common areas

**Only applies to indoor common areas

***Only applies to new multi-unit housing and common areas of old multi-unit housing