



San Marcos Prevention Coalition

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A NEW LAW IN SAN MARCOS WILL HELP PREVENT MINORS FROM CONSUMING TOBACCO AND ACCESSING DRUG PARAPHERNALIA

San Marcos – A San Marcos ordinance that will require tobacco and electronic cigarettes retailers to get a license from the city was unanimously approved by the City Council. The new law will help pay for compliance checks to ensure tobacco products are not being sold to minors and drug paraphernalia is not being sold.

Community members and various organizations including the San Marcos Prevention Coalition and Vista Community Clinic enthusiastically supported new law. “This law will help ensure our San Marcos youth can’t access tobacco and drug paraphernalia products in our retail stores,” said coalition chairwoman Audra Wallace. The tobacco retailers’ license will require about 60 tobacco and e-cigarettes businesses to pay an annual fee of about \$190, but the fee will be reduced if the stores are found to be in compliance. San Marcos businesses who don’t comply could be fined and/or lose their license.

Other cities in San Diego County that already have a tobacco retailers license in place are San Diego, Solana Beach, El Cajon and Vista. Over 120 cities and counties statewide have tobacco retail license ordinances.

The mission of the San Marcos Prevention Coalition is to reduce youth alcohol and drug use and advocate for safe and healthy neighborhoods by improving environmental norms and community policies and enhancing efforts to promote and deliver effective substance abuse prevention.

The San Marcos Prevention Coalition will meet monthly on the 4th Thursday at 8am at the North County Regional Education Center. For more information call Leticia Robles at 619-392-6963 or email at sanmarcospreventioncoalition@gmail.com.

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