STAFF REPORT

DATE: February 11, 2020

TO: City Council

FROM: Kelly Stachowicz, Assistant City Manager
Carrie Dyer, Management Analyst

SUBJECT: Flavored Tobacco Ban

Recommendation
1. Provide feedback to staff on a potential ban of flavored tobacco products as update to the existing Tobacco Retail License ordinance.

Fiscal Impact
There is no fiscal impact to the City. All costs for administration, implementation and enforcement will be borne by Yolo County, offset by revenue provided to the County by the tobacco retailers as part of the Tobacco Retail License program.

Council Goal(s)
Ensure a safe, healthy, equitable community

Background and Analysis
In 2007, the City of Davis adopted Yolo County’s Tobacco Retail Permit program. This allows Yolo County to regulate the sale of tobacco and tobacco products to minors in the Davis city limits. The City now needs to decide whether it wants to incorporate the ban of flavored tobacco as part of this program.

Steven Jensen, Tobacco Education Program Coordinator from Yolo County, will provide a brief presentation on the flavored tobacco ban. In 2016, the Yolo County Board of Supervisors amended the County’s Tobacco Retail Permit Ordinance (Attachment 1) stating that any tobacco retailer that sells, offers for sale, or exchanges for any form of consideration any flavored tobacco product violates its Tobacco Retail Permit program. The County Board of Supervisors has banned the sale of flavored tobacco products within unincorporated Yolo County.

The City of Woodland has adopted this ban to be effective April 1, 2020 and the City of West Sacramento’s ban will go into effect on April 15. Both cities adopted the Yolo County ordinance.

Yolo County defines Flavored Tobacco Product as “any Tobacco Product that contains a constituent that imparts a characterizing flavor to the tobacco product or smoke produced by the tobacco product, either by the addition of artificial or natural flavors or an herb or spice, including menthol, strawberry, grape, orange, clove, cinnamon, pineapple, vanilla, coconut, licorice, cocoa, chocolate, cherry, or coffee.” The ordinance bans the sale of these products.
Staff is recommending that the City Council amend Section 34.06.010 of the Municipal Code (Tobacco Retail Permit) to officially acknowledge the amendment the County made to its Code, making it a violation of the Tobacco Retail Permit to sell any flavored tobacco product in Davis city limits.

Banning the sale of flavored tobacco and flavored tobacco products within city limits is a start in addressing the concern that flavored tobacco products are primarily marketed to youth. The California Department of Public Health states that that 80.8% of 12-17 year olds who have ever used tobacco started use with a flavored product. Recently, according to the Davis Joint Unified School District website, the district is following the path of many other school districts and has “filed a lawsuit against JUUL Labs, Inc. for the company’s role in cultivating and fostering an e-cigarette epidemic that disrupts the education and learning environment across the District.” E-Cigarettes are often sold in a variety of flavors that appeal to the younger population.

If approved, the ban covers any type of flavored tobacco or nicotine, including cigarettes, e-cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, etc. It does not include FDA-approved nicotine products for use in treating dependence. The proposed ban does not prohibit vaping or prohibit the use or possession of flavored tobacco products, nor does it include non-tobacco products such as cannabis.

There are approximately twenty-one vendors in the City of Davis who sell tobacco and tobacco products. The City sent letters to each vendor explaining the proposed ban and held an informational meeting on January 23. Three retailers, from two establishments, attended the meeting and the City received written feedback from one additional retailer. Comments and suggestions included:

**Comments:**
- Identify if blended pipe tobacco and cigars with cloves are included (Yolo County states that the ordinance does include the banning of menthol, pipe tobacco described with flavors and cigars flavored with cloves or any other spice.)
- Desire to exclude menthol products from the ban.
- Concern that banning flavored tobacco will result in people turning to cannabis.
- Businesses dependent on UC Davis schedule and students. Ban will result in students purchasing in hometowns instead.

**Suggestions:**
- Wait until federal ban to avoid confusion city to city.
- Only sell disposable products with less than 5% nicotine.
- Require all tobacco retailers to have ID scanner to verify legitimacy.
- Do not issue any more tobacco retail licenses in town.
- Limit flavored tobacco sales to specialty shops only.
- Look into restricting the online sales of tobacco products to Davis residents.

Even after consideration of the input from vendors, staff recommends adopting the Yolo County code in its entirety so there is consistency across the county. If, however, Council prefers a more
customized approach for Davis, Council should provide specific direction and staff will return with the appropriate documents.

With Council direction, staff will return with the necessary documents, either to adopt the Yolo County code as is, to reject the ban on flavored tobacco currently included in the Yolo County code, or to provide a Davis-specific version of a ban on flavored tobacco.

Staff will continue to work with Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency to coordinate appropriate enforcement based on Council direction.

**Attachments:**
1. Yolo County Ordinance 6-15.03
2. Yolo County Background Material
Chapter 15
TOBACCO RETAILER PERMIT

Sections:
6-15.01 Purpose.
6-15.02 Definitions.
6-15.03 Tobacco Retailer Permit Required.
6-15.04 Limits on Tobacco Retailer Permits.
6-15.05 Application Procedure.
6-15.06 Fees.
6-15.07 Issuance; Denial; Effect.
6-15.08 Permit Nontransferable.
6-15.09 Permit Term, Renewal and Expiration.
6-15.10 Other Tobacco Retailing Requirements and Prohibitions.
6-15.11 Compliance Monitoring.
6-15.12 Revocation of Permit.
6-15.13 Appeal; Judicial Review.
6-15.14 Enforcement: Tobacco Retailing Without a Permit; Tobacco Retailing in Violation of Chapter.
6-15.15 Additional Enforcement.
6-15.16 Severability

Sec. 6-15.01. Purpose.

The purpose of this Chapter is to discourage violations of tobacco-related laws, particularly those which prohibit or discourage the sale or distribution of tobacco products to minors, by requiring a tobacco retailing permit in the unincorporated areas of the County of Yolo as set forth in this Chapter. (§ 2, Ord. 1350, eff. June 15, 2006)

Sec. 6-15.02. Definitions.

As used herein:
(a) "Arm's Length Transaction" means a sale in good faith and for valuable consideration that reflects the fair market value in the open market between two informed and willing parties, neither of which is under any compulsion to participate in the transaction. A sale between relatives, related companies or partners, or a sale for which a significant purpose is avoiding the effect of the violations of this Chapter, is not an Arm's Length Transaction.

(b) "Cigar" means (1) any roll of tobacco wrapped entirely or in part in tobacco or in any substance containing tobacco; or (2) any paper or wrapper that contains tobacco and is designed for smoking or ingestion of tobacco products. For the purposes of this subsection, "cigar" includes, but is not limited to, tobacco products known or labeled as "cigar," "cigarillo," "tiparillo," or "little cigar."

(c) "Department" means the Department of Health and Human Services.

(d) "Director" shall mean the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services or her/his written designee.

(e) "Electronic smoking device" means an electronic device which can be used to deliver an inhaled dose of nicotine, or other substances, including any component, part, or accessory of such a device, whether or not sold separately. "Electronic smoking device" includes any such electronic smoking device, whether manufactured, distributed, marketed, or sold as an electronic cigarette, an electronic cigar, an electronic cigarillo, an electronic pipe, an electronic hookah, or any other product name or descriptor.

(f) "Flavored Tobacco Product" means any Tobacco Product that contains a constituent that imparts a characterizing flavor to the tobacco product or smoke produced by the tobacco product, either by the addition of artificial or natural flavors or an herb or spice, including menthol, strawberry, grape, orange, clove, cinnamon, pineapple, vanilla, coconut, licorice, cocoa, chocolate, cherry, or coffee.

(g) "Person" means any natural person, partnership, cooperative association, corporation, personal representative, receiver, trustee, assignee, or any other legal entity.

(h) "Proprietor" means a Person with an ownership or managerial interest in a business. An ownership interest shall be deemed to exist when a Person has a ten percent (10%) or greater interest in the stock, assets, or income of a business other than the sole interest of security for debt. A managerial interest shall be deemed to exist when a Person can or does have or share ultimate control over the day-to-day operations of a business.

(i) "Self-Service Display" means the open display of Tobacco Products or Tobacco Paraphernalia in a manner that is accessible to the general public without the assistance of the retailer or employee of the retailer. A Vending Machine is a form of Self-Service Display.

(j) "Significant Tobacco Retailer" means any Tobacco Retailer whose principal or core business is selling Tobacco Products, Tobacco Paraphernalia, or both, as evidenced by any of the following: (i) twenty percent (20%) or more of floor area and display area is devoted to the sale or exchange of Tobacco products, Tobacco Paraphernalia, or both; (ii) fifty percent (50%) or more of completed sales transactions include a Tobacco Product or Tobacco Paraphernalia; or (iii) sixty-seven percent (67%) or more of gross sales receipts are derived from the sale or exchange of Tobacco Products, Tobacco Paraphernalia, or both.

(k) "Smoking" means possessing a lighted Tobacco Product, lighted Tobacco Paraphernalia, or any other lighted weed or plant (including a lighted pipe, cigar, hookah pipe, or cigarette of any kind), or the lighting of a Tobacco Product, Tobacco Paraphernalia, or any other weed or plant (including a pipe, cigar, hookah pipe, or cigarette of any kind).

(l) "Tobacco Paraphernalia" means cigarette papers or wrappers, pipes, holders of smoking materials of all types, cigarette-rolling machines, and any other item designed for the smoking,
preparation, storing, consumption or ingestion of Tobacco Products.

(m) "Tobacco Product" means: (1) any substance containing tobacco leaf, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, hookah tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, dipping tobacco, bidis, or any other preparation of tobacco; (2) any product or formulation of matter containing biologically active amounts of nicotine that is manufactured, sold, offered for sale, or otherwise distributed with the expectation that the product or matter will be introduced into the human body, but does not include any product specifically approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for use in treating nicotine or tobacco product dependence; and (3) any electronic device that delivers nicotine or other substances to the person inhaling from the device, including but not limited to an electronic cigarette, cigar, pipe, or hookah;

(n) "Tobacco Retailer" means any Person who sells, offers for sale, or does or offers to exchange for any form of consideration, tobacco, Tobacco Products, or Tobacco Paraphernalia, or who distributes free or low cost samples of Tobacco Products or Tobacco Paraphernalia, without regard to the quantity of tobacco, Tobacco Products, or Tobacco Paraphernalia sold or offered for sale, exchanged or offered for exchange, or distributed or offered for distribution. "Tobacco Retailing" means the doing of any of these things.

(o) "Tobacco Retailing Permit Hearing Authority" or "Hearing Authority" means one or more persons assigned by the County Administrative Officer the responsibility of conducting a hearing pursuant to this Chapter, and may hereafter be referred to as the Hearing Authority. The County Administrative Officer shall assign hearing responsibility to any of the following: (1) County management personnel whom the County Administrative Officer finds to be qualified by training and experience to conduct such hearings; (2) any person(s) qualified by training or experience whom the County Administrative Officer may employ or who are retained by contract to conduct such hearings; or (3) Administrative Law Judges assigned by the State Office of Administrative Hearings. The County Administrative Officer is hereby authorized to contract in the name of the County for the retention of hearing services at rates that do not exceed the financial limitations established by the County's annual budget and contracting rules, regulations and policies.

(p) "Vending Machine" means a machine, appliance, or other mechanical device operated by currency, token, debit card, credit card, or any other form of payment that is designed or used for vending purposes, including, but not limited to, machines or devices that use remote control locking mechanisms.

(§ 2, Ord. 1350, eff. June 15, 2006, as amended by § 2, Ord. 1474, eff. May 1, 2017)

Sec. 6-15.03. Tobacco Retailer Permit Required.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any Person to act as a Tobacco Retailer without first obtaining and maintaining a valid Tobacco Retailer’s Permit pursuant to this Chapter for each location at which that activity is to occur. A Tobacco Retailer Permit is invalid unless the appropriate fee has been paid in full and the term of the Permit has not expired.

(b) A Tobacco Retailer or Proprietor without a valid Tobacco Retailer Permit, including but not limited to a person whose Permit has been revoked:

(1) Shall keep all Tobacco Products and Tobacco Paraphernalia out of public view.

(2) Shall not display any advertisement relating to Tobacco Products or Tobacco Paraphernalia that promotes the sale or distribution of such products from the Tobacco Retailer’s location or that could lead a reasonable consumer to believe that such products can be obtained at that location. (§ 2, Ord. 1350, eff. June 15, 2006)
Sec. 6-15.04. Limits on Tobacco Retailer Permits.

(a) The following locations are eligible to apply for a tobacco retailer license:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RETAILER</th>
<th>STREET ADDRESS</th>
<th>COMMUNITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ZAMORA MINI MARKET</td>
<td>9920 COUNTY RD 99 W</td>
<td>ZAMORA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PILOT TRAVEL CENTER #168</td>
<td>30035 COUNTY RD #8</td>
<td>DUNNIGAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FARMERS MARKET</td>
<td>29020 COUNTY RD 6</td>
<td>DUNNIGAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUNNIGAN MARKET</td>
<td>3660 COUNTY RD 99W</td>
<td>DUNNIGAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNITED TRUCK STOP</td>
<td>29770 COUNTY RD # 8</td>
<td>DUNNIGAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUNNIGAN CHEVRON</td>
<td>4040 COUNTY RD 89</td>
<td>DUNNIGAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EL CHINO MINI MARKET</td>
<td>2501 COUNTY ROAD 88</td>
<td>DUNNIGAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUNNIGAN EXPRESS</td>
<td>29029 COUNTY RD 6</td>
<td>DUNNIGAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASA RUIZ</td>
<td>15190 STATE HIGHWAY 113</td>
<td>WOODLAND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILLOW OAK GROCERY</td>
<td>37030 HWY. 16</td>
<td>WOODLAND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOLLAND MARKET</td>
<td>52945 NETHERLAND AVE</td>
<td>CLARKSBURG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPARTO SUPERMARKET</td>
<td>17343 FREMONT ST</td>
<td>ESPARTO</td>
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<tr>
<td>EL TORO FOODS - ESPARTO</td>
<td>16939 YOLO AVE</td>
<td>ESPARTO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPARTO GRAB &amp; GO</td>
<td>16814 FREMONT ST</td>
<td>ESPARTO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOLLAR GENERAL STORE #16171</td>
<td>26875 STATE HIGHWAY 16</td>
<td>ESPARTO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GUY'S CORNER</td>
<td>17776 COUNTY ROAD #89</td>
<td>MADISON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KNIGHTS LANDING GROCERY STORE</td>
<td>9518 LOCUST ST</td>
<td>KNIGHTS LANDING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAYSIDE MARKET</td>
<td>9696 LOCUST ST</td>
<td>KNIGHTS LANDING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLUG AND JUG MARKET</td>
<td>9425 LOCUST ST</td>
<td>KNIGHTS LANDING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORNER STORE</td>
<td>7530 STATE HIGHWAY 16</td>
<td>GUINDA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROAD TRIP BAR AND GRILL MARKET</td>
<td>24989 STATE HIGHWAY 16</td>
<td>CAPAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YOLO MARKET</td>
<td>14212 1st STREET</td>
<td>YOLO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERIC'S ARCO</td>
<td>16435 CR 99</td>
<td>WOODLAND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBD (ONE RETAIL LOCATION)</td>
<td>30056 COUNTY ROAD 8</td>
<td>DUNNIGAN</td>
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In addition, any other retail location that was legally selling tobacco products as of May 1, 2017 may receive or renew a tobacco retailer license. No tobacco retailing licenses may otherwise be
issued or renewed.

(b) A tobacco retailer license may be renewed for any location covered by subsection (a), above, so long as: (1) no permanent revocation (as opposed to temporary suspension) of a license previously held for the location has occurred; (2) tobacco retailing has not ceased at the location for sixty (60) consecutive days or longer, whether due to a business closure or otherwise; (3) the licensee does not substantially change the business premises or business operation; and (4) the licensee retains the right to operate under other applicable laws, including without limitation the zoning ordinance, building codes, or other applicable codes. (§ 2, Ord. 1350, eff. June 15, 2006, as amended by § 3, Ord. 1474, eff. May 1, 2017, and Ord. 1512, eff. August 8, 2019)

Sec. 6-15.05. Application Procedure.

(a) An application for a Tobacco Retailer’s Permit shall be submitted in the name of each Proprietor proposing to conduct retail tobacco sales and shall be signed by each Proprietor or an authorized agent thereof. It is the responsibility of each Proprietor to be informed regarding all laws applicable to Tobacco Retailing, including those laws affecting the issuance of a Tobacco Retailer’s Permit.

(b) All applications shall be submitted on a form supplied by the Department, shall be accompanied by the application and permit fee established pursuant to this Chapter, and shall contain the following information:

1. The name, address, and telephone number of each Proprietor of the business that is seeking the Permit.

2. The business name, address, and telephone number of the single fixed location for which the Permit is sought.

3. The name and mailing address authorized by each Proprietor to receive all permit-related communications and notices (the Authorized Address). If an Authorized Address is not supplied, each Proprietor shall be understood and deemed to consent to the provision of notice at the business address specified in subparagraph (2) above.

4. Proof that the location for which a Tobacco Retailer’s Permit is sought has been issued a valid State tobacco retailer’s license by the California Board of Equalization.

5. Whether or not any Proprietor has admitted violating, or has been found to have violated, this Chapter, or whose proprietorship has admitted violating, or has been found to have violated, this Chapter, and, if so, the dates and locations of all such violations within the previous six years.

6. Such other information as the Department deems necessary for the administration or enforcement of this Chapter.

(c) Each Tobacco Retailer who has been issued a Permit shall update with the Department all information required to be submitted in order to apply for the Permit whenever the information changes. A Tobacco Retailer shall provide the Department with all such updates within ten (10) business days of a change.

(d) The information specified in subparagraphs (b)(1), (2) and (3) shall be available to the public. (§ 2, Ord. 1350, eff. June 15, 2006)
Sec. 6-15.07. Issuance; Denial; Effect.

(a) Upon the receipt of an application for a Tobacco Retailer’s Permit and the application and permit fee, the Department shall issue a permit unless substantial evidence in the record demonstrates one or more of the following bases for denial:

(1) The application is incomplete or inaccurate.

(2) The application seeks authorization for Tobacco Retailing by a Proprietor or other Person to whom this Chapter prohibits a Permit to be issued.

(3) The application seeks authorization for Tobacco Retailing at a location for which this Chapter prohibits a Permit to be issued.

(4) The application seeks authorization for Tobacco Retailing by a Proprietor or other Person for whom, or at a location for which, a Permit revocation is in effect pursuant to this Chapter.

(5) The application seeks authorization for Tobacco Retailing that is prohibited pursuant to this Chapter (e.g., mobile vending), that is unlawful pursuant to this Code (e.g., the zoning code), or that is unlawful pursuant to any other law.

(b) If the Department denies a Permit application, the Department shall notify the applicant in writing of the denial. A notice of denial shall be personally served on, or sent by certified mail to, the Permit holder. The notice shall state the basis of the Department’s determination(s) and denial, and shall include an advisement of the right to appeal as set forth in Section 6-15.13.

(c) Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to grant any Person obtaining and maintaining a Tobacco Retailer’s Permit any status or right other than the right to act as a Tobacco Retailer at the location in the County identified on the face of the Permit. For example, nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to render inapplicable, supercede, or apply in lieu of, any other provision of applicable law, including but not limited to County zoning ordinances, building codes, and business Permit requirements, and any condition or limitation on smoking in enclosed places of employment made applicable to business establishments by California Labor Code Section 6404.5 or any other law or regulation. Obtaining a Tobacco Retailer Permit also does not make the Retailer a “retail or wholesale tobacco shop” for the purposes of California Labor Code Section 6404.5.

(d) The issuance of a Permit does not constitute a determination by the County that the Tobacco Retailer or Proprietor has complied with all laws applicable to Tobacco Retailing. Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to vest in any Person obtaining and maintaining a Permit any status or right to act as a Tobacco Retailer in contravention of any provision of law.

(e) A Permit issued in error, contrary to this Chapter, contrary to any other law, or on the basis of false or misleading information supplied by a Proprietor may be revoked pursuant to Section 6-15.12. (§ 2, Ord. 1350, eff. June 15, 2006)
Sec. 6-15.08. Permit Nontransferable.

(a) A Tobacco Retailer’s Permit may not be transferred from one Person to another or from one location to another. Whenever a Tobacco Retailing location has a change in Proprietors, a new Tobacco Retailer’s Permit is required.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Chapter, prior violations at a location shall continue to be counted against a location and Permit ineligibility periods shall continue to apply to a location unless:

1. The location has been fully transferred to a new Proprietor or entirely new Proprietors; and,

2. The new Proprietor(s) provide the Department with clear and convincing evidence that the new Proprietor(s) have acquired or is acquiring the location in an Arm’s Length Transaction. (§ 2, Ord. 1350, eff. June 15, 2006)

Sec. 6-15.09. Permit Term, Renewal and Expiration.

(a) The term of a Tobacco Retailer Permit is one (1) year.

(b) Each Tobacco Retailer shall apply for the renewal of his or her Tobacco Retailer’s Permit and submit the Permit fee no later than thirty (30) days prior to expiration of the term.

(c) A Tobacco Retailer’s Permit that is not timely renewed as set forth above shall expire at the end of its term.

(d) To reinstate a Permit that has expired, or to renew a Permit not timely renewed as set forth above, the Proprietor(s) must:

1. Submit the Permit fee plus a reinstatement fee of ten percent (10%) of the Permit fee.

2. Submit a signed affidavit affirming that the Proprietor:

   A. Has not sold and will not sell any Tobacco Product or Tobacco Paraphernalia after the Permit expiration date and before the Permit is renewed; or

   B. Has waited the appropriate ineligibility period established for Tobacco Retailing without a Permit, as set forth in Section 6-15.14(a) of this Chapter, before seeking renewal of the Permit. (§ 2, Ord. 1350, eff. June 15, 2006)

Sec. 6-15.10. Other Tobacco Retailing Requirements and Prohibitions.

(a) Each Proprietor shall prominently display each Permit at the location where Tobacco-Retailing is permitted by the Permit.

(b) In the course of Tobacco Retailing or in the operation of the business or maintenance of the location for which a Permit issued, it shall be a violation of this Chapter for a Proprietor or Tobacco Retailer, or any of the Proprietor’s or Tobacco Retailer’s agents or employees, to:

1. Violate any Federal, State or local law applicable to Tobacco Products, Tobacco Paraphernalia, or Tobacco Retailing.

2. Violate any Federal, State or local law regulating exterior, storefront, window, or door signage.
(c) No Person who is younger than eighteen (18) years of age shall engage in Tobacco Retailing.

(d) No Tobacco Retailer shall display Tobacco Products or Tobacco Paraphernalia by means of a Self-Service Display or engage in Tobacco Retailing by means of a Self-Service Display.

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Chapter, it shall be a violation of this Chapter for any licensee or any of the licensee's agents or employees to sell, offer for sale, or exchange for any form of consideration:

(1) Any Flavored Tobacco Product.

(§ 2, Ord. 1350, eff. June 15, 2006; as amended by § 4, Ord. 1474, eff. May 1, 2017, as amended by § 2, Ord. 1477, eff. December 22, 2016)

Sec. 6-15.11. Compliance Monitoring.

(a) Compliance with this Chapter shall be monitored by the Yolo County District Attorney.

(b) The District Attorney shall check the compliance of each Tobacco Retailer an average of at least three (3) times per twelve (12) month period. The District Attorney may check the compliance of Tobacco Retailers previously found to be in compliance with the laws regulating access to Tobacco and Tobacco Paraphernalia of persons under the age of eighteen (18) years of age a fewer number of times, so that they may check the compliance of Tobacco Retailers previously found in violation of this Chapter a greater number of times. Nothing in this subsection shall create a right of action in any Tobacco Retailer, Permittee or other Person against the County or its agents if the number of compliance checks varies from the foregoing.

(c) Compliance checks shall determine, at a minimum, if the Tobacco Retailer is conducting business in a manner that complies with Federal, State and local laws regulating access to Tobacco and Tobacco Paraphernalia of persons under the age of eighteen (18) years of age. When deemed appropriate by the District Attorney, the compliance checks shall determine compliance with other laws applicable to Tobacco Retailing.

(d) The County shall not enforce any law establishing a minimum age for tobacco purchases or possession against a Person who otherwise might be in violation of such law because of the Person’s age (hereinafter “Youth Decoy”) if the potential violation occurs when either of the following conditions exist:

(1) The Youth Decoy is participating in a compliance check supervised by a peace officer or a code enforcement official of the County; or

(2) The Youth Decoy is participating in a compliance check funded in part, either directly or indirectly through subcontracting, by the Yolo County Health Department or the California Department of Health Services. (§ 2, Ord. 1350, eff. June 15, 2006)

Sec. 6-15.12. Revocation of Permit.

(a) In addition to any other penalty authorized by law, a Tobacco Retailer’s Permit shall be revoked if any court of competent jurisdiction determines, or if the Director finds after the Tobacco Retailer or Permittee is afforded notice and an opportunity to be heard, that the Tobacco Retailer or Permittee, or any of the Tobacco Retailer’s or Permittee’s officers, agents or employees, has violated any of the requirements, conditions, or prohibitions of this Chapter or, in a different legal proceeding, has pleaded guilty, “no contest” or its equivalent, or admitted to, a violation of any law designated in Section 6-15.10.
(b) A Tobacco Retailer’s Permit shall be revoked if the Department finds, after the Permitee is afforded reasonable notice and an opportunity to be heard, that one or more of the bases for denial of a Permit under Section 6-15.07 existed at the time the Permit application was submitted or at any time thereafter and before the Permit issued. The revocation shall be without prejudice to the filing of a new Permit application.

(c) A decision to revoke a Permit is appealable to the Tobacco Retailing Permit Hearing Authority pursuant to Section 6-15.13. If such an appeal is made within the time provided in that Section, it shall stay enforcement of the appealed action.

(d) A notice of revocation shall be personally served on, or sent by certified mail to, the Permit holder. The notice shall state the basis of the Department’s determination(s) and the revocation, and shall include an advisement of the right to appeal as set forth in Section 6-15.13.

(e) During the period that any permit is revoked, the Proprietor shall prominently display a notice advising the public of the revocation, in the form and in the manner designated by the Department.

(f) After revocation pursuant to subsection (a) above, a new permit may be issued only in accordance with the following:

1. After revocation for a first violation of this Chapter at any location within any sixty- (60) month period, no new Permit may issue for that location, or that Proprietor or other Person, until not less than ten (10) days have passed from the date of revocation.

2. After revocation for a second violation of this Chapter at any location within any sixty- (60) month period, no new Permit may issue for that location, or that Proprietor or other Person, until not less than ninety (90) days have passed from the date of revocation.

3. After revocation for a third violation of this Chapter at any location within any sixty- (60) month period, no new Permit may issue for that location, or that Proprietor or other Person, until not less than one (1) year has passed from the date of revocation.

4. After revocation for four or more violations of this Chapter at any location within any sixty- (60) month period, no new Permit may issue for that location, or that Proprietor or other Person, until not less than five (5) years have passed from the date of revocation. (§ 2, Ord. 1350, eff. June 15, 2006)

Sec. 6-15.13. Appeal; Judicial Review.

(a) Except as otherwise provided by law, any decision made appealable to the Hearing Authority pursuant to this Chapter shall be subject to the following requirements and procedures.

(b) Any appeal must be in writing, shall state the specific reasons therefore and the grounds asserted for relief and the specific relief requested, and shall be filed with the County Administrative Officer within ten (10) calendar days of personal service of the notice of the action being appealed, or within fifteen (15) calendar days of mailing if the notice is only served by mail. If any Person to whom the notice of violation was given does not file a written appeal within the time and in the manner set forth above, the right to review of the Department’s determination shall be deemed to have been waived, and the Department’s decision shall be final.

If a written appeal is filed within the time and in the manner set forth above, the matter shall be heard by the Hearing Authority.

(c) Not later than fifteen (15) days after receipt of the appeal, the County Administrative Officer shall provide written notice to the parties of the date, time, and place of the hearing, in the manner
specified above for a notice of revocation.

(d) The provisions of the Administration Procedure Act (commencing with Section 11500 of the Government Code of the State) shall not be applicable to such hearing, nor shall formal rules of evidence in civil or criminal judicial proceedings be so applicable.

A record of the hearing shall be made by any means, including electronic recording, so long as a reasonably accurate and complete written transcription of the proceedings can be made. Technical rules of evidence shall not apply to the hearing, but relevant evidence may be admitted and given probative effect only if it is the kind of evidence upon which reasonable persons are accustomed to rely in the conduct of serious affairs.

A decision of the Hearing Authority shall be supported by substantial evidence. The Hearing Authority shall sustain the Department’s decision if the Hearing Authority finds that any lawful basis for the Department’s action exists.

(e) Following the conclusion of the hearing, the Hearing Authority shall prepare a written decision that either grants or denies the appeal, contains findings of facts and conclusions of law, and includes notification that the time limit within which a judicial review shall be sought is governed by Code of Civil Procedure Section 1094.6. Notice of the written decision, including a copy thereof, shall be filed with the County Administrative Officer and served upon all parties not later than seven (7) days following the date on which the hearing is closed.

The Hearing Authority’s written decision shall be the final decision of the County, and shall become final upon the date that notice thereof is mailed to the appellant by certified mail.

(f) Any determination of the Hearing Authority shall be subject to judicial review pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 1094.5. (§ 2, Ord. 1350, eff. June 15, 2006)

Sec. 6-15.14. Enforcement: Tobacco Retailing Without a Permit; Tobacco Retailing in Violation of Chapter.

(a) In addition to any other penalty authorized by law, if the Department finds or any court of competent jurisdiction determines, after notice and an opportunity to be heard, that any Person has engaged in Tobacco Retailing at a location without a valid Tobacco Retailer’s license, either directly or through the Person’s agents or employees, the Person shall be ineligible to apply for or be issued a Tobacco Retailing license for that location as follows:

(1) After a first violation of this Chapter at a location within any sixty- (60) month period, no license may issue for the Person at the location until not less than thirty (30) days have passed from the date of the violation.

(2) After a second violation of this Chapter at a location within any sixty- (60) month period, no license may issue for the Person at the location until not less than ninety (90) days have passed from the date of the violation.

(3) After of a third or subsequent violation of this Chapter at a location within any sixty- (60) month period, no license may issue for the Person at the location until not less than five (5) years have passed from the date of the violation.

(b) Tobacco Products and Tobacco Paraphernalia offered for sale or exchange in violation of this Chapter are subject to seizure by the Department or any peace officer, and shall be forfeited after the licensee and any other owner of the Tobacco Products and Tobacco Paraphernalia seized is given reasonable notice by the Department and an opportunity to demonstrate that the Tobacco Products and Tobacco Paraphernalia were not offered for sale or exchange in violation of this Chapter. The decision by the Department may be appealed pursuant to the procedures set
forth in Section 6-15.13. Forfeited Tobacco Products and Tobacco Paraphernalia shall be destroyed.

(c) Each day after the effective date of this Chapter on which Tobacco Products or Tobacco Paraphernalia are offered for sale in violation of this Chapter shall constitute a violation of this Chapter separate and apart from any other violation of this Chapter.

(d) For a first or second alleged violation of this Chapter within any sixty- (60) month period, the Director may engage in settlement negotiations and, with the County Counsel’s concurrence, may enter into a settlement agreement with a Tobacco Retailer alleged to have violated this Chapter without approval from the Board of Supervisors. Notice of any settlement shall be provided to the Board, and no hearing shall be held. Settlements shall not be confidential and shall contain the following minimum terms:

(1) After a first alleged violation of this Chapter at a location within any sixty- (60) month period:

(A) An admission that the violation occurred and a stipulation that the violation will be counted when considering what penalty will be assessed for any future violations;

(B) An agreement to stop acting as a Tobacco Retailer for at least one (1) day; and;

(C) A settlement payment to the County of at least one thousand dollars ($1,000).

(2) After a second alleged violation of this Chapter at a location within any sixty- (60) month period:

(A) An admission that the violation occurred and a stipulation that the violation will be counted when considering what penalty will be assessed for any future violations;

(B) An agreement to stop acting as a Tobacco Retailer for at least ten (10) days; and,

(C) A settlement payment to the County of at least five thousand dollars ($5,000). (§ 2, Ord. 1350, eff. June 15, 2006)

Sec. 6-15.15. Additional Enforcement.

(a) Causing, permitting, aiding, abetting, or concealing a violation of any provision of this Chapter shall also constitute a violation of this Chapter.

(b) Violations of this Chapter may, in the discretion of the District Attorney, be prosecuted as criminal infractions or misdemeanors.

(c) Violations of this Chapter are subject to a civil action brought by the District Attorney, punishable as follows:

(1) A fine not less than two hundred fifty dollars ($250) and not exceeding one thousand dollars ($1,000) for a first violation in any sixty- (60) month period;

(2) A fine not less than one thousand dollars ($1,000) and not exceeding two thousand five hundred dollars ($2,500) for a second violation in any sixty- (60) month period; or

(3) A fine not less than two thousand five hundred dollars ($2,500) and not exceeding five thousand dollars ($5,000) for a third or subsequent violation in any sixty- (60) month period.

(d) Any violation of this Chapter is hereby declared to be a public nuisance as well as a private nuisance that is presumed to at least nominally damage each and every resident of the community in which the business operates.
(e) In addition to other remedies provided by this Chapter or by other law, any violation of this Chapter may be remedied by a civil action brought by the District Attorney, including but not limited to, administrative or judicial nuisance abatement proceedings, civil or criminal code enforcement proceedings, and suits for injunctive relief.

(f) Any Person, including the County of Yolo , acting for the interests of itself, its members, or the general public (hereinafter “the Private Enforcer”) may bring a civil action to enforce this Chapter.

(1) Upon proof of a violation, a court shall award to the Private Enforcer the following:

(A) Damages in the amount of either:

(i) Upon proof, actual damages; or,

(ii) With insufficient or no proof of the amount of actual damages, five hundred dollars ($500) for each violation of this Chapter (hereinafter “Statutory Damages”). Unless otherwise specified in this Chapter, each day of a continuing violation shall constitute a separate violation. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Chapter, no Private Enforcer suing on behalf of the general public shall recover Statutory Damages based upon a violation of this Chapter if a previous claim brought on behalf of the general public for Statutory Damages and based upon the same violation has been adjudicated, whether or not the Private Enforcer was a party to that adjudication.

(B) Exemplary damages, where it is proven by clear and convincing evidence that the defendant is guilty of oppression, fraud, malice, or a conscious disregard for the public health.

(C) Injunctive Relief.

(i) Notwithstanding any legal or equitable bar against a Private Enforcer seeking relief on his/her/its own behalf, a Private Enforcer may bring an action to enforce this Chapter solely on behalf of the general public. When a Private Enforcer brings an action solely on behalf of the general public, nothing about such an action shall act to preclude or bar the Private Enforcer from bringing a subsequent action based upon the same facts but seeking relief on the Private Enforcer's own behalf.

(ii) Nothing in this Chapter shall prohibit the Private Enforcer from bringing an action in small claims court to enforce this Chapter, so long as the amount in demand and the type of relief sought are within the jurisdictional requirements of small claims court as set forth in California Code of Civil Procedure section 116.220.

(g) Whenever evidence of a violation of this Chapter is obtained in any part through the participation of a Person under the age of eighteen (18) years old, such a Person shall not be required (but shall be permitted) to appear or give testimony in any civil or administrative process brought to enforce this Chapter and the alleged violation shall be adjudicated based upon the sufficiency and persuasiveness of the evidence presented.

(h) The remedies provided by this Chapter are cumulative and in addition to any other remedies available at law or in equity.

(i) Any peace officer may enforce the penal provisions of this Chapter. (§ 2, Ord. 1350, eff. June 15, 2006)

Sec. 6-15.16. Severability.

If any section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Chapter, or its application to any person or circumstance, is for any reason held to be invalid or
unenforceable, such invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases of this Chapter, or its application to any other person or circumstance. The Board of Supervisors of the County of Yolo hereby declares that it would have adopted each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase hereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more other sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases hereof be declared invalid or unenforceable. (§ 2, Ord. 1350, eff. June 15, 2006)
FAQs
About Flavored Tobacco Products & Policy Solutions

Q. **WHAT ARE E-CIGARETTES?**
A. E-cigarettes come in many forms and are known by different names, including "e-cigs," "JUUL," "vape," "e-hookahs," "mods," "vape pens," "tank systems." These products are battery-operated devices designed to deliver nicotine, flavorings and other chemicals in the form of an aerosol that users inhale.

Q. **WHAT IS A FLAVORED TOBACCO PRODUCT?**
A. A flavored tobacco product is defined as a product made of, or derived from, tobacco or nicotine, that includes a characterizing flavor. Examples of characterizing flavor include products having the taste or aroma of menthol, mint, wintergreen, chocolate, vanilla, honey, cocoa, any candy, any dessert, any alcoholic beverage, and fruit, any herb, and any spice.

Q. **ARE E-CIGARETTES TOBACCO PRODUCTS?**
A. Yes! In 2016, California law adopted language that all e-cigarettes are tobacco products. E-cigarettes are noncombustible tobacco products. E-cigarettes contain nicotine derived from tobacco. The liquid is heated to create an aerosol that the user inhales. E-cigarettes may be manufactured to look like conventional cigarettes, cigars, or pipes. Some resemble pens or USB flash drives.

Q. **WHY ARE E-CIGARETTES SO POPULAR WITH YOUNG PEOPLE?**
A. Tobacco companies target their products to youth by selling products in a variety of flavors - such as cotton candy and berry - that appeal specifically to youth. Studies show that 80.8% of 12-17 year olds who have ever used tobacco started tobacco use with a flavored product.

Q. **WHAT IS A FLAVORED TOBACCO SALES BAN?**
A. The ban prohibits Retail Tobacco Permit Holders from selling any nicotine or tobacco products, including but not limited to, smokeless/chew, cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, vape liquid and hookah tobacco, that is manufactured to have an aroma and/or flavor.

Q. **HOW WILL THIS BAN IMPACT YOUTH EXPOSURE TO TOBACCO PRODUCTS?**
A. Eliminating the sale of flavored tobacco products - which are sold in a variety of flavors - will diminish the likelihood that youth consume these products.

Q. **ARE THERE ANY OTHER COUNTIES THAT HAVE A FLAVOR TOBACCO POLICY SIMILAR TO THIS?**
A. Yes! Yolo County unincorporated areas, Sacramento, San Mateo, Contra Costa, San Francisco, and Santa Clara are just a few of the counties that have restricted the sale of flavored tobacco products.

Q. **I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLICY. WHOM MAY I CONTACT?**
A. If you have any questions or concerns about the Restriction of Flavored Tobacco Products ordinance, please contact the Yolo County Tobacco Prevention Program at 530-666-8232.
**Flavored Tobacco in Yolo County**
Results from the 2016 Healthy Stores for a Healthy Community Survey

**WHICH STORES IN YOLO COUNTY DID WE SURVEY?**

85 🛍️  We assessed **85 tobacco retail stores**. Tobacco retail stores are neighborhood stores that have a permit to sell tobacco.

11 🏙️  We surveyed stores in **11 zip codes**, representing neighborhoods throughout Yolo County.

**WHAT ARE OUR FINDINGS?**

In 2016, **73%** of stores sold electronic cigarettes in comparison to **46%** of stores in 2013.  
*E-cigarettes are now the most commonly used tobacco product by teens.*  

**84%** of stores sold little cigars, in kid-friendly flavors such as grape and strawberry - where **80%** sold them individually for less than one dollar.  
*The tobacco industry hooks youth with candy-like flavors and cheap prices of little cigars.*

**80%** of stores sold flavored tobacco products, and **75%** of those stores were located within 1/2-mile from schools.  
*Research shows that schools with more stores within walking distance have higher smoking prevalence than schools with fewer tobacco retailers nearby.*

**DANGERS TO YOUTH**

- Nicotine is one of the most toxic of all poisons. It can rewire the brain, particularly vulnerable in the developing years, from adolescence to mid-twenties.
- Although it is illegal for tobacco products to be sold to youth under age 21, youth rates are on the rise.
- Over 80% of youth who have ever used tobacco started with a flavored product.
- Youth who use e-cigarettes are more likely to smoke traditional cigarettes in the future.

To find out more about flavored tobacco products and voice your concern visit: [www.flavorshookkids.org](http://www.flavorshookkids.org)

If you have questions about flavored tobacco, please contact the Yolo County Health & Human Services Agency Tobacco Prevention Program at: (530) 666-8232