
AC Transit BOARD POLICY

Policy No. 172

**Category: Board & General
Administrative Matters**

SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENT

I. PURPOSE

A. The United States Surgeon General's report, "The Health Effects of Involuntary Smoking," concludes that:

- Involuntary smoke is a cause of disease, including lung cancer in healthy non-smokers;
- The simple separation of smokers and non-smokers within the same air space may reduce, but does not eliminate, the exposure of non-smokers to environmental tobacco smoke.
- The health risks of e-cigarettes are not fully known. E-cigarettes include an electronic and/or battery-operated device, the use of which may resemble smoking, which can be used to deliver an inhaled dose of nicotine and/or other substances. It includes devices known as electronic cigarette, electronic cigarillo, an electronic pipe, an electronic hookah, or any other product name or descriptor for an electronic smoking or vapor device.

In light of these findings, the District has determined a Smoke-Free Workplace policy should be established.

B. The perceived benefits of a smoke-free policy would be to: (1) reduce a potential health risk for our workers and passengers; (2) reinforce the District's concern for the overall health of all workers; and (3) potentially decrease the District's health care costs.

II. POLICY

All AC Transit facilities are established as Smoke-Free Workplaces. Smoking is prohibited at all AC Transit facilities. Facilities include all real and personal property, equipment, rights or interests owned or to be acquired by the District for transit service. Smoking means engaging in an act that generates smoke or vapor and includes any lighted cigarette, cigar, pipe, hookah pipe, operating an electronic cigarette or other electronic smoking device or any other smoke inhalation device of any kind except for medical inhaler devices prescribed for breathing conditions.