
Please Consider the Impact of the Proposed Tobacco Retailer Rezoning Request

From Kimberly Heisler <[REDACTED]>

Date Wed 5/13/2026 8:41 PM

To [REDACTED]

Cc [REDACTED]

 1 attachment (88 KB)

Madison Heights 2026 Tobacco Retailers.pdf;

Good evening, Planning Commissioners,

I respectfully ask the Planning Commission to carefully consider whether the proposed rezoning for Smokin Bear Tobacco aligns with Madison Heights' long-term vision and identity.

The proposed location is directly next to a boba tea shop and an area where high school students frequently gather and walk after school. In addition, the location is just over 1,000 feet from the Madison Heights Library and less than one mile from Lamphere High School, placing it within a highly youth-centered corridor of our community.

As the Executive Director of the Madison Heights Community Coalition (MHCC), I believe this concern is not about opposing business growth, but about balancing development with youth wellness, community environment, and thoughtful planning.

Madison Heights already has a significant number of tobacco and vape retailers operating throughout the city. In fact, MHCC recently visited all 34 tobacco retailers in Madison Heights to provide tobacco prevention education and verify compliance with proper signage. I have attached the list of these retailers to demonstrate the current level of saturation in our community. Here is a link to the 34 reporting forms we will be sharing with the State.

 [MHCC SYNAR VENDOR EDUCATION Invoice and 34 Reporting Forms 1.pdf](#)

Prevention research consistently shows that repeated exposure to nicotine and substance-oriented retail environments contributes to normalization and lower perceptions of harm among youth.

Madison Heights proudly uses the slogan "Creating Community." Creating community should also include creating environments where youth and families can thrive.

Additionally, communities across Michigan are beginning to address concerns surrounding emerging intoxicating products such as kratom, recognizing the importance of proactive, prevention-focused community planning.

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Kind Regards,

Kimberly Heisler
Executive Director

Madison Heights Community Coalition, "MHCC"
Direct: 248-837-2665

**My email address has changed to kheisler@madisonheightsmi.gov.
Please update my contact information.**



Additional Resource Regarding Tobacco Density

From Kimberly Heisler <[REDACTED]>
Date Thu 5/14/2026 3:58 PM
To Matt Lonnerstater <Mlonnerstater@Madisonheightsmi.gov>
Cc [REDACTED]

Good afternoon, Matt,

I respectfully ask the Planning Commission to further consider the cumulative impact of tobacco retailer density within Madison Heights as you review the proposed rezoning request for Smokin' Bear Tobacco.

As a follow-up to my previous email, I wanted to share an additional resource: a web-based application that visually details tobacco retailer density by zip code and population. The data provides helpful context regarding the concentration of tobacco retailers already operating within Madison Heights and surrounding communities. [Oakland County Tobacco Retailers Web App](#).

Given the proposed location's proximity to youth-centered spaces, including the Madison Heights Library, Lamphere High School, and a popular student after-school gathering area, I believe this information is important to consider in the rezoning discussion.

Thank you again for your time, service, and thoughtful consideration.

Kind Regards,

Kimberly Heisler
Executive Director

Madison Heights Community Coalition, "MHCC"
Direct: 248-837-2665

**My email address has changed to kheisler@madisonheightsmi.gov.
Please update my contact information.**



Fw: Tobacco Shops

From Mary Daley <Mdaley@Madisonheightsmi.gov>

Date Tue 6/16/2026 8:06 AM

To Matt Lonnerstater <Mlonnerstater@Madisonheightsmi.gov>

This email came in after the start of yesterday's meeting. I just received it this morning.

Mary P. Daley

Business Services Coordinator

City of Madison Heights

300 W. 13 Mile Road

Madison Heights, MI 48071

Direct: 248-837-2623

Main Office: 248-583-0826

My email address has changed to Mdaley@madisonheightsmi.gov as part of the City's shift to a .gov domain. After June 18, 2026, I will no longer be able to receive emails from the MaryDaley@madison-heights.org account, and that email address will no longer be monitored.

Sent: Monday, June 15, 2026 6:34 PM

To: Clerks <clerks@madisonheightsmi.gov>

Subject: Tobacco Shops

Warning: Unusual sender <lambullarde77@stu.lamphereschools.org>

You don't usually receive emails from this address. Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Dear City of Madison Heights officials,

It has come to my attention that there is a plan in place to put a tobacco shop next the Gong Cha on John R Road. I disagree with the notion of tobacco shops anywhere, but one right next to the boba place not even a full mile from Lamphere High School is absolutely absurd. Our school already has a vaping problem within teens so I believe this would just make our problem worse. The placement of this tobacco shop is right by 2 major hot spots of our high school students. Gong Cha and Savvy Sliders. Many students choose to go here after school, or just in general. Placing a tobacco shop there will increase the influence these substances already have on teens. I hope you consider the details I have provided.

Lamphere High School student (grade 10)

Fw: Vape shop opening.

From Mary Daley <Mdaley@Madisonheightsmi.gov>

Date Tue 6/16/2026 8:07 AM

To Matt Lonnerstater <Mlonnerstater@Madisonheightsmi.gov>

This email also came in after the start of yesterday's meeting. I just received it this morning.

Mary P. Daley

Business Services Coordinator

City of Madison Heights

300 W. 13 Mile Road

Madison Heights, MI 48071

Direct: 248-837-2623

Main Office: 248-583-0826

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Sent: Monday, June 15, 2026 6:19 PM

To: Clerks <clerks@madisonheightsmi.gov>

Subject: Vape shop opening.

Warning: Unusual sender <lmyaqom99@stu.lamphereschools.org>

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Madison Heights is a diverse city that has countless shops that offer a wide range of products and goods. One of those should not be a vape shop. I value our cities safety, and the wellness of the people who reside here. Opening another shop that sells vapes, and other similar products, would not be beneficial. It will allow more exposure to tobacco products, which is something that should be avoided especially considering the amount of schools in the city. Having more accessibility to these types of products will only do harm to people. Tobacco products are extremely harmful to the human body and addictive. With the large community that resides in Madison Heights ranging from kids to elderly, these products will only have a negative impact which is why another shop shouldn't be opened.

- Lamphere Student, grade 10