SANDY
GATEWAY TO MT. HOOD

39250 Pioneer Blvd
Sandy, OR 97055
503-668-5533

October 20, 2026

Board of County Commissioners
Clackamas County
2051 Kaen Road
Oregon City, OR 97045

Dear Commissioners:

The Sandy City Council recognizes the serious public health concerns associated with the use of flavored tobacco and nicotine products by young people, and appreciates the County's efforts to address this important topic.

However, rather than decide this issue at the Commission level, we urge the Board to consider whether placing a countywide prohibition directly before Clackamas County voters would be a more appropriate course of action. While protecting youth from harmful products is important, referring the question to the voters would provide an opportunity for broader public discussion and participation in this significant decision.

Additionally, it is important to note that a sales prohibition would have meaningful impacts on businesses that currently sell such items. We encourage the County to work with affected retailers as a proposal is developed, giving particular consideration to clear requirements, adequate notice, and a reasonable implementation period to ensure the transition is fair and workable for local businesses. It may also be appropriate to consider more significant penalties on businesses that do not comply with established sales restrictions.

Thank you for your continued leadership and consideration of these important matters; we appreciate your service.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Walker, Mayor of Sandy

On behalf of the Sandy City Council