

October 6, 2026

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

Dear Commissioners:

The Sandy City Council writes to express our support for adopting an ordinance prohibiting the retail sale of flavored tobacco and synthetic nicotine in Clackamas County.

Our Council believes reducing youth access to flavored tobacco and nicotine products is an important public health priority. Flavored products play a significant role in youth tobacco initiation, and Clackamas County continues to experience concerning rates of youth e-cigarette use. With Washington and Multnomah counties having already adopted similar restrictions, we recognize the value of a consistent regional prohibition on the sale of these products.

While banning flavored tobacco and synthetic nicotine sales is a worthwhile policy, it is important to note it will have impacts on businesses that currently sell such items. We encourage the County to work with affected retailers as an ordinance is developed and implemented, giving particular consideration to clear requirements, adequate notice, and a reasonable implementation period. These considerations should not prevent action, but they can help ensure that the transition is fair and workable for local businesses.

We also believe the Board should consider whether a countywide prohibition would benefit from being placed directly before Clackamas County voters. While the Sandy City Council supports the proposed prohibition, referring the question to the voters could provide an opportunity for broader public discussion and participation in this important decision.

Reducing youth access to flavored tobacco and nicotine products is an important public health priority that warrants timely attention. We respectfully ask the Board of County Commissioners to take up this matter in the near future and move the discussion forward toward meaningful countywide action as soon as possible.

Thank you for your consideration and for your work on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Walker, Mayor of Sandy

On behalf of the Sandy City Council