



**PRESS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FIFE BANS SMOKING AND TOBACCO PRODUCTS IN PUBLIC PARKS**

**Fife, WA** – Fife City Council passed Ordinance 1943 banning all tobacco products, smoking and e-cigarettes/vaping in all public parks at their regular meeting on August 9<sup>th</sup>. The penalty for violations will be a Class 3 Civil Infraction and subject to a \$50 fine. The ordinance will take effect beginning Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

In banning tobacco products, Fife Mayor Winston Marsh said, “Although a divisive issue for the Parks Board and City Council, the ban was debated thoroughly. I think it comes down to giving everyone the opportunity to enjoy our parks. We have joined a growing number of cities such as Seattle and Tacoma who have gone smoke free.”

In early July, the Fife Parks Board voted to recommend the ordinance to Fife City Council after a review and lengthy discussion.

The ordinance prohibits any and all tobacco related products from all Fife public parks and abutting sidewalks and right-of-ways, which is consistent with the Fife School District’s tobacco policy. The City is working to post appropriate signage at all affected facilities. Together, the City and Fife Police Department will focus first on education of the new ordinance.

For more information, or to watch the City Council meeting, visit [CityofFife.org](http://CityofFife.org).

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