

Proclamation

Good Neighbor Shared Air Awareness Month (Smoke-Free in Multi-Unit Housing)

WHEREAS, the American Public Health Association has designated the week of April 3-9, 2023 as 'National Public Health Week' to share public health topics important to friends, family and community members;

WHEREAS, second hand smoke poses serious health threats to children and adults. For residents of multi-unit housing (e.g., apartment buildings and condominiums), secondhand smoke can be a major concern. It can migrate from other units and common areas and travel through doorways, cracks in walls, electrical lines, plumbing, and ventilation systems;

WHEREAS, California residents are protected from secondhand smoke in virtually all workplaces and public places including outdoor venues;

WHEREAS, Garden Grove has the distinction of having one of the lowest per capita smoking rates at 5.6 percent throughout California, and is committed to further lowering the per capita smoking rate by supporting, educating, and referring residents to cessation programs and services;

WHEREAS, 31.2 percent of households in Garden Grove live in multi-unit housing, yet the number of voluntary smoke-free residential multi-unit housing is limited;

WHEREAS, surveys indicate a significant number of Garden Grove residents living in multi-unit housing are vulnerable to being exposed to secondhand smoke with 84 percent of residents preferring to live in a smoke-free environment if the choice existed;

WHEREAS, a 'Good Neighbor' effort to increase smoke-free multi-unit housing options will reduce the number of residents involuntarily exposed to secondhand smoke that will positively impact overall health outcomes, especially for those with chronic diseases; and

WHEREAS, the American Lung Association, American Heart Association, American Cancer Society and key multi-unit housing stakeholders are working to educate and raise awareness of the demand for smoke-free options among housing providers.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Garden Grove City Council does hereby proclaim April 2023 as Good Neighbor Shared Air Awareness Month, and hereby recognizes the need to promote awareness and services to help residents quit smoking and encourage those continuing smokers to refrain from smoking within any shared housing or public common areas.

April 11, 2023