

San Francisco Smoke-Free Outdoor Events Guidelines

Pursuant to Article 19L of the San Francisco Health Code and Article 6 of the San Francisco Transportation Code, Division 1, smoking at all outdoor events that require approval for the temporary use or occupancy of a public street by the Interdepartmental Staff Committee on Traffic and Transportation (ISCOTT) is prohibited, with the exception of neighborhood block parties.

Pursuant to Article 19N, electronic cigarette usage is prohibited wherever traditional cigarette usage is prohibited. This prohibition went into effect on February 28, 2013.

City law requires Event Producers to notify the public that an outdoor event is smoke-free by doing the following:

- 1) All electronic or print promotional materials, including but not limited to, website, electronic promotional materials, print advertisements, radio, television, internet, newspaper, media, shall state that the outdoor event is a smoke-free event pursuant to SF Health Code Article 19L.
- 2) Events with amplified sound must make an announcement at the start of the event and at least one announcement every two hours at each stage during an event that the event is a smoke-free event.
- 3) Each outdoor event shall have at least one “No Smoking” sign at one point of entry and exit.

“No Smoking” signs must include the international “No Smoking” symbol. They must be at least 3 inches in diameter and must read “SF Health Code Article 19L” in font no less than 1/8 inch in height.

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height 1/8 inch {

Resources:

“No Smoking” signs that meet the minimum requirements may be printed on styrene material, or can be purchased from the SFMTA for \$2.39. The signs are 8 by 10 inches and read “Smoke-Free Event – SF Health Code Article 19L”. For more information contact: Nick Chapman, SFMTA Special Events Coordinator at Nick.Chpaman@sfmta.com and 415-646-2414.

More information can be found at: www.ggbreathe.org/tobacco+control

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Frequently Asked Questions

How will this policy be enforced?	Regulation of the sign posting requirement falls under ISCOTT’s current policy and procedures for regulating ISCOTT permitted events. -
What MORE can I do to promote a smoke-free environment at my event?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Post more signs to let people know that it is a smoke-free event. - Ask that people leave cigarettes and smoking equipment for tobacco or any other weed or plant outside of the event.
Are Neighborhood Block Parties included in the ordinance?	No. Neighborhood Block Parties, which means a neighborhood gathering that is a one block closure in a residential neighborhood, does not block or affect intersections, and is sponsored by a neighborhood organization or individual who lives on the block to be closed, are not included in the outdoor event smoking ban.
What is an “Outdoor Event”?	An “outdoor event” means an outdoor assembly regardless of the number of people gathering on property owned by the City and County of San Francisco, including sidewalks and streets that requires approval for the temporary use or occupancy of a public street by the Interdepartmental Staff Committee on Traffic and Transportation (ISCOTT), such as street fairs, athletic events, performances, competitions, arts and crafts events and food events, except for Neighborhood Block Parties.
Besides Smoking, what else is banned?	City law also prohibits lighted smoking equipment for tobacco or any other weed or plant.
Why ban smoking at outdoor events?	Secondhand smoke is deadly and is responsible for 3,000 deaths from lung cancer and 46,000 deaths from heart disease among nonsmokers each year in the United States. Levels of secondhand smoke outdoors can reach levels attained indoors depending on air currents, as well as the number and proximity of smokers. Regulation of smoking at outdoor events is necessary to protect the health, safety, welfare, comfort, and environment of nonsmokers.



SF Health Code Article 19L