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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **City of Dallas Amends Definition of Smoking to Include Electronic Smoking Devices**

**Dallas (January 13, 2025)** – Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) commends the City of Dallas for its 100% smoke-free ordinance. On December 11, 2024, the Dallas City Council approved an amendment to Chapter 41 of the Dallas City Code, broadening the definition of smoking.

The updated definition now includes electronic smoking devices and plant products such as marijuana or cannabis. Smoking, as redefined, is prohibited in all areas where it was previously banned, including indoor enclosed spaces, within 15 feet of entrances to such spaces, and on park property. The ordinance requires entities to update their existing “No Smoking” signage to include a ban on electronic smoking devices. A one-year grace period has been provided for compliance, with the ordinance set to take full effect on December 11, 2025.

“I applaud the City of Dallas for taking this important step toward a healthier future for our residents,” said Dr. Philip Huang, Director of DCHHS. “The updated smoke-free ordinance is a significant victory in our ongoing efforts to protect public health. By expanding the definition of smoking to include electronic devices and plant products, we are creating a more equitable and protective environment for all.”

The mission of DCHHS is to optimize and protect the health and well-being of all Dallas County residents and support the achievement of better health outcomes for all. Adopting comprehensive tobacco-free policies has proven to be an effective strategy in reducing tobacco-related illnesses and fostering healthier communities. The DCHHS Chronic Disease Prevention Division actively promotes the adoption and implementation of tobacco-free campus policies. These policies aim to reduce secondhand smoke, prevent tobacco use initiation, and assist individuals in quitting tobacco.

If your multiunit housing complex, education institution, church, faith-based organization, or workplace needs to implement a new, comprehensive indoor and outdoor tobacco-free campus policy or update an existing one, please contact DCHHS for technical assistance through the [Tobacco-Free Campus Policy Implementation Technical Assistance Request Form](#) or call us at 214-819-5115.

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