

December 3, 2019

Re: Notice of Proposed Tobacco Ordinance Changes

Dear Licensee:

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 461.19, this letter constitutes notice of, and enclosed please find a copy of, the proposed changes to the City of Northfield's (City) Tobacco Ordinance, Northfield Code, Chapter 30 – Health and Sanitation, Article II. – Tobacco, Divisions 1 and 2. The City Council discussed these proposed changes at their November 19, 2019 meeting and approved a motion to have the first reading of the proposed ordinance on January 7, 2020. During the discussion, the City Council also asked staff to research and report back to Council with additional information related to restrictions on flavored tobacco products as well as raising the minimum age for sales of tobacco products from 21 as proposed in the ordinance to 25. These two additional changes are not included in the enclosed draft and may be discussed by Council on January 7, 2020.

It is anticipated that the City Council will be considering the first reading of the enclosed, proposed tobacco ordinance changes at their Tuesday, January 7, 2020 meeting. The meeting starts at 6:00 pm and will be held in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 801 Washington Street. City meeting information is available through the City Meeting Portal button on the City's website at <a href="https://northfield.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx">https://northfield.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx</a>. The agenda and related document for the January 7 meeting will be posted no later than 5 pm on Friday, January 3.

You will have the opportunity to comment on the ordinance changes at the meeting. Persons are allowed to speak for two minutes. Please see the information below from the Northfield City Council Rules of Business regarding speaking at a meeting:

Persons that wish to speak on a regular agenda item must provide name and address by completing & submitting a sign up card. Persons may also use the electronic register to speak option on the City's website or contact the City Clerk no later than 12:00 noon on the day of the meeting. Persons may also provide comments through the eComment (electronic comment) system no later than 12:00 noon on the day of the meeting. These comments are automatically sent to the Council when they are submitted through the eComment system. The comments are available on the City's website as well as in paper form at the meeting for the public. The Mayor will call up individuals to speak, based on preregistration and cards submitted, after the staff report on an item. Please be respectful of the public's and the City Council's time. Members of the public wishing to speak must adhere to the following guidelines:

- Speak only once for no more than two minutes (not including interpreter's time) on the topic unless the speaker is addressed by the City Council;
- Identify your relationship to the topic;

- Have a spokesperson or two for your group to present your comments;
- Persons wanting a response to a question must submit the question in writing to the City Clerk, including name and how you would like to be contacted. You may use the backside of the comment cards available in the meeting room.
- Questions will not be responded to during the comment period.

If you have questions regarding the proposed changes, please do not hesitate to contact Police Chief Monte Nelson at 507-645-4477 or via e-mail at <a href="mailto:monte.nelson@ci.northfield.mn.us">monte.nelson@ci.northfield.mn.us</a> or me at <a href="mailto:deb.little@ci.northfield.mn.us">deb.little@ci.northfield.mn.us</a>.

Sincerely,

Deborah Little City Clerk

**Enclosures** 

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