

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2 - 14

**DIRECTING THE COMMISSIONER OF PARKS AND RECREATION
TO MAKE ALL PHILADELPHIA PARKS AND RECREATION CENTERS SMOKE-
FREE**

WHEREAS, parks and recreation centers provide open space and facilities for Philadelphia residents—including tens of thousands of children—to be physically active, engage in educational and recreational endeavors, and enjoy the outdoors;

WHEREAS, patrons of parks and recreation centers expect to have healthy, safe, and clean environments for use;

WHEREAS, parks and recreation centers represent natural resources worth protecting for future generations of Philadelphians;

WHEREAS, it is a common habit of smokers to discard cigarette butts and/or packages on City property where smoking is permitted;

WHEREAS, smoking in parks and recreation centers increases the risk of fire;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Surgeon General has concluded that there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke; and that when individuals inhale cigarette smoke, either directly or secondhand, they are inhaling more than 7,000 chemicals: hundreds of these are hazardous and at least 69 are known to cause cancer;

WHEREAS, outdoor secondhand smoke is often an irritant to non-smokers and can be both an acute and chronic health hazard to individuals;

WHEREAS, if children see adults smoking, they are more likely to become smokers themselves and believe that tobacco use is typical and widely accepted;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Surgeon General has concluded that smoke-free policies and norms are effective in reducing the initiation, prevalence, and intensity of tobacco use among youth;

WHEREAS, smoking contributes to 2,100 deaths per year in Philadelphia;

WHEREAS, among the 10 largest U.S. cities, Philadelphia has the highest rate of adult smoking and among the highest rates of regular smoking among youth;

WHEREAS, the tobacco epidemic afflicts every Philadelphia community, leading to disability, productivity loss, and premature death;

WHEREAS, it is critical for the City of Philadelphia to address and, when possible, prevent the negative impacts of tobacco on residents and communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael A. Nutter, by the powers vested in me by the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter, hereby **ORDER** as follows:

Section 1. The Commissioner of Parks and Recreation shall take all necessary action to make all lands and facilities under the jurisdiction of Philadelphia Parks and Recreation smoke-free.

Section 2. The Department of Parks and Recreation shall maintain notifications for the public concerning this policy in appropriate locations within lands and facilities under the jurisdiction of Philadelphia Parks and Recreation.

Section 3. This **ORDER** shall take effect immediately.

4/29/14
DATE



MICHAEL A. NUTTER, MAYOR
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA