

San Mateo County Smoking & Tobacco-Related Policy Matrix

Available for online viewing at www.smchealth.org/TEC

Underlined: Click to access the jurisdiction's Smoking or Tobacco Retail Permit Policy. Last Updated: July 7, 2025



Jurisdictions										
	Atherton	Belmont	Brisbane	Burlingame	Colma	Daly City	East Palo Alto	Foster City	Half Moon Bay	Hillsborough
Tobacco Retail Environment										
Tobacco Retail Permit/License (TRL) - Administered and enforced by SMC EHS	N/A									
Tobacco Retail Permit/License (TRL) - Self-administered and enforced	N/A					*See notes			*See notes	
Policy Provisions:										
Delivery	N/A									
Electronic Cigarettes	N/A							*See notes		
Flavored Tobacco Products	N/A							*See notes		
Tobacco Sampling Coupons	N/A									
Tobacco-Free Pharmacies	N/A									
Smoke-free Housing										
Individual Units In Multi-Unit Housing		*Shared floors or ceilings				*Condos exempt				
Multi-Unit Housing Common Areas							*Elevators			
Smoke-free Outdoor Air										
Outdoor Eating Areas								*See notes		
Sports Fields, Activities, & Other City Events			*Sel. city outdoor sports facilities			*Special events				*Enc mtg/public assembly place
Ticket Area, Indoor or Sheltered Boarding, Waiting Areas of Public Transit Depots				*Enc				*Enc		
Services Lines				*Indoor			*Enc. business establishments	*Indoor		
Sidewalks				*See notes		*See notes				
Parks	*Rooms in parks		*Sel. city parks							
Beaches			*Sel. city beaches							
Lagoons & Waterways										

Key:

Enc: Enclosed
Sel. city ____: Select city-owned ____

Notes:

Burlingame sidewalk throughout the Downtown Burlingame and Broadway Pedestrian Retail Districts.
Daly City Sidewalks: In/adjacent to common interest development, apt, shopping centers, & commercial properties w/retail establishments, except while actively passing to another destination
Foster City Outdoor Eating and Electronic Cigarettes: Current restaurants that allow smoking will be grandfathered in
Foster City Flavored Tobacco: Does not apply to Premium Cigars sold in Cigar Lounges where Tobacco Products are purchased and consumed only on the premises of a Cigar Lounge. Current restaurants that allow smoking will be grandfathered in. Does not apply to Flavored Shisha by a Hookah Tobacco Retailer if certain conditions are met.
Daly City & Half Moon Bay TRL: Refers to San Mateo County as the enforcement agency, however the jurisdiction has not adopted the updated County TRL of 2023

Jurisdictions											
	Menlo Park	Millbrae	Pacifica	Portola Valley	Redwood City	San Bruno	San Carlos	San Mateo	South San Francisco	Woodside	Unincorporated areas
Tobacco Retail Environment											
Tobacco Retail Permit/License (TRL) - Administered and enforced by SMC EHS											
Tobacco Retail Permit/License (TRL) - Self-administered and enforced				*See notes	*See notes						
Policy Provisions:											
Delivery											
Electronic Cigarettes											
Flavored Tobacco Products			*See notes		*See notes						
Tobacco Sampling Coupons											
Tobacco-Free Pharmacies											
Smoke-free Housing											
Individual Units In Multi-Unit Housing		*See notes									
Multi-Unit Housing Common Areas											
Smoke-free Outdoor Air											
Outdoor Eating Areas									*See notes		
Sports Fields, Activities, & Other City Events		*Enc			*Enc		*City-owned	*Enc			
Ticket Area, Indoor or Sheltered Boarding, Waiting Areas of Public Transit Depots		*Enc			*See notes			*Enc		*Enc	
Service Lines		*Enc			*Enc		*Enc			*Enc	
Sidewalks						*See notes		*See notes			
Parks							*City-owned				
Beaches											
Lagoons & Waterways											

Key:

Enc: Enclosed

Sel. city ____: Select city-owned __

Notes:
Pacifica: Adult-only retailers can sell flavored tobacco products for use with a hookah pipe or hookah products

Redwood City Ticket Area etc.: Max 50% waiting area as smoking area & separate waiting areas of equal size for smokers & nonsmokers

Redwood City Flavored Tobacco Products: Permitted businesses selling flavored tobacco for on-site hookah as of 11/22/2021 are permitted

Millbrae Individual Units In Multi-Unit Housing: Owner-occupied duplexes and triplexes are exempted

San Bruno Sidewalks: unless actively moving to another destination

San Mateo Sidewalks: grounds surrounding the buildings, facilities or areas owned or leased by City

S. SF Outdoor Eating: on City-owned property if designated by City Manager

Portola Valley, Redwood City- Refers to San Mateo County as the enforcement agency, however the jurisdiction has not adopted the updated County TRL of 2023