

Government of the District of Columbia
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3F

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Resolution in Support of Protecting Residents from Second-Hand Smoke in Multi-Unit Housing in Washington, DC

WHEREAS, there is no safe level of exposure to second-hand smoke and;ⁱ

WHEREAS, second-hand smoke causes lung cancer, heart disease, stroke, respiratory infections, asthma, reproductive health problems, and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, and;

WHEREAS, the American Lung Association has documented the dangers of second-hand smoke in multi-unit housing, where smoke can transfer between units, hallways, and common areas, putting residents at risk;ⁱⁱ

WHEREAS, implementing smoke-free policies in multi-unit housing improves indoor air quality, benefits the health of residents, reduces the risk of catastrophic fires, and lowers maintenance costs for property owners, and;ⁱⁱⁱ

WHEREAS, numerous 3F residents expressed to ANC Commissioners suffering and health problems related to second-hand smoke in their multi-unit residential buildings.

WHEREAS, residents of privately owned and managed multi-unit housing in Washington, DC deserve the same health protections as those in public housing, where smoke-free policies have been in place since 2018 under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD);^{iv}

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3F urges the DC Council and relevant agencies, including the DC Department of Health and the DC Housing Authority, to consider ways to extend smoke-free protections to privately-owned and managed multi-unit residential buildings in Washington, DC;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ANC 3F supports policies that:

- Prohibit smoking in all living units, common areas, and within 25 feet of residential buildings.
- Require proper notification and lease amendments to inform tenants of smoke-free policies.
- Encourage the use of mechanical ventilation systems to improve indoor air quality.
- Provide enforcement mechanisms similar to those in public housing to ensure compliance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Commissioner Rofman is authorized to speak on behalf of ANC 3F regarding this matter.

ANC 3F _____ this resolution at its meeting on March 18, 2025 which was properly noticed and at which a quorum was present, by a vote of _____ in favor, _____ opposed, and _____ abstaining.

Courtney Carlson
Chair, ANC 3F

i source: <https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/secondhand-smoke/health.html>

ii source: <https://www.lung.org/policy-advocacy/tobacco/smokefree-environments/multi-unit-housing>

iii source: <https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/campaign/tips/partners/hud/index.html>

iv source:
<https://www.hud.gov/smokefreepublichousing#:~:text=PIH's%20Smoke%2DFree%20Public%20Housing,later%20than%20July%2031%2C%202018>