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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **City Council Recommends Prohibiting the Sale of All Tobacco Products in Beverly Hills**

**Beverly Hills, CA (May 7, 2019)** – The Beverly Hills City Council tonight supported a draft ordinance that would prohibit the sale of tobacco products in the City of Beverly Hills starting on January 1, 2021.

The unanimous decision comes following public input and recommendations from the City's Health and Safety Commission.

"This reflects the values of our community," said Mayor John Mirisch. "We are a City that has taken the lead on restricting smoking and promoting public health. Somebody has to be first, so let it be us."

Under the proposed ordinance:

- Cigar lounges will be exempt.
- Hotels may only sell tobacco products to guests through concierge services.
- All other tobacco retailers (including gas stations, convenience stores, pharmacies and newsstands) shall not sell tobacco products starting on January 1, 2021.
- The City Council will revisit the ordinance again in three years from the effective date.

First reading of the ordinance and formal Council vote will take place on May 21<sup>st</sup> with a second reading and final vote expected on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

Restricting the sale of tobacco products differs from restricting smoking activity. For more information on current tobacco regulations in Beverly Hills, please visit [www.beverlyhills.org/smoking](http://www.beverlyhills.org/smoking).

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