


January 28, 2026

MEMO TO: City Council
Janine Jordan, City Manager 

FROM: Eric Nelson, City Attorney
Shane Chaney, Chief of Police

SUBJECT: Prohibiting Vaping in Indoor Public Places and Restricting Sale of Hemp
and THC Products to Persons Under 21

Meeting Type & Date

Work Session
February 10, 2026

Action Type

Direction Requested

Recommendation

Staff requests that City Council review staff's recommended changes to the Casper Municipal Code to prohibit vaping in indoor public places and to prohibit the sale, delivery, or distribution of hemp-derived and THC-containing products to persons under the age of twenty-one (21).

Summary

The Casper Municipal Code "Code" currently prohibits smoking in indoor public places, places of employment and established enforcement mechanisms through Chapter 8.16. However, Chapter 8.16 of the Code does not explicitly address electronic cigarettes or vaping devices, resulting in inconsistent application and enforcement within establishments where smoking is otherwise prohibited.

Additionally, Chapter 9.40 of the Code prohibits the sale of nicotine products to persons under the age of twenty-one (21) and provides a clear regulatory and enforcement framework. Hemp-derived and THC-containing products are not presently regulated under the same age-restriction structure, despite similar access, marketing, and public health considerations.

Staff has worked to develop recommended amendments that modernize the Code, align with evolving public-health standards, and provide clarity for businesses, the public, and enforcement personnel.

If Council agrees with the recommended Code changes, the proposed Code amendments will move forward for public comment at a Public Hearing and First reading of an ordinance to amend the Code.

Financial Considerations

None.

Council Priorities**Safe and Healthy Community:**

These proposed amendments promote public health by reducing indoor exposure to aerosolized substances and limiting youth access to age-restricted products, supporting long-term community wellness.

Community Engagement:

The proposed changes respond to increasing community concerns regarding indoor air quality, youth vaping, and access to hemp and THC products. Clarifying the Code demonstrates responsiveness to evolving community expectations and public-health concerns.

Good Governance:

Updating the Code provides for clarity, consistency and enforceability, reducing ambiguity for businesses, citizens and law enforcement.

Oversight/Project Responsibility

Shane Chaney, Chief of Police
City Attorney's Office

Attachments

None