

Cannabis Tax Measure Going to Voters in November

The Sacramento County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution calling for an election to establish a tax on cannabis and hemp business activities in the unincorporated area of the County. The Cannabis Tax Measure will be on the November 8, 2022 ballot.

Should the voters approve the tax measure, County staff will return to the Board a comprehensive cannabis regulatory program.

California voters approved Proposition 64, the Adult Use of Marijuana Act (AUMA) in 2016. The AUMA legalized specified personal use and cultivation of marijuana for adults 21 years or older and included provisions on regulation, licensing and taxation of legalized use.

The new Chapter 3.50 Resolution to Title 3 of the Sacramento County Code will establish a Special Tax on Cannabis and Hemp business activities within the unincorporated area of the County.

The ballot language will read as follows:

“Shall the measure to fund enhanced County homeless services, including those benefitting the American River Parkway, by establishing a special tax on the gross receipts from cannabis and hemp businesses in unincorporated Sacramento County, not exceeding 6% for retail, 4% for manufacturing, 3% for distribution, 2% for testing and, 3% for cultivation or \$10 per canopy square



foot inflation adjustable, generating an estimated \$5,100,000 to \$7,700,000 annually, and levied until repealed by voters, be adopted?”

The measure will require 66 2/3% of voters to vote “yes” on the measure to pass.

If the measure passes, all revenues received from the taxes imposed by Chapter 3.50 shall be deposited in a special fund to be expended for services addressing homelessness,

including on the American River Parkway.

“With the affirmative Board vote, we’re finally taking initial steps to secure a dedicated revenue stream to compassionately assist our unsheltered constituents, address neighborhood impacts, and restore and protect the American River Parkway” said Supervisor Phil Serna, who proposed the measure. He continued by saying, “This November, Sacramento County voters will have an opportunity to tax cannabis business activities to fund what we all know too well; that more can and should be done to address homelessness in our community.”

Sacramento County Board of Supervisors

Phil Serna, *District 1*
Patrick Kennedy, *District 2*
Rich Desmond, *District 3*
Sue Frost, *District 4*
Don Nottoli, *District 5*

Ann Edwards, County Executive
www.saccounty.gov
700 H Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Produced by:
Sacramento County
Public Information Office
Editor: Kim Nava (navak@saccounty.gov)



Board Approves Two Ordinances to Prohibit Camping



The Board of Supervisors approved two ordinances addressing camping and encampments near critical infrastructure such as

levees and government buildings, wildfire and flood risk areas during severe weather, near shelters for persons experiencing homelessness, youth-serving facilities and a separate ordinance prohibiting camping on the entire stretch of the American River and Dry Creek Parkways.

These ordinances going into effect will not result in the wide-scale clearing of encampments. The County has both a legal and moral obligation to identify the highest priority camps, identify the needs of the campers and offer services and shelter as appropriate. The County is committed to applying a thoughtful approach in order to balance the needs of both the campers and the impacted community surrounding encampments.

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"These ordinances provide another tool for County staff and our outreach partners to engage with folks experiencing homelessness camping illegally, assess their needs and determine the best course of action to move them away from critical infrastructure," said Board Chair Don Nottoli. "The time has come to balance the needs of our unsheltered population with the impacts that our communities and environment have been facing for years."

The ordinances provide law enforcement officials with the authority to specifically address the activities in these particular locations because of public health, safety and welfare concerns.

The critical infrastructure ordinance adds Chapter 9.120 to the Sacramento County Code to prohibit camping and encampments in the following priority areas:

- » In, on or within 25 feet of critical infrastructure or the entrance/exit of critical infrastructure;
- » Up to 1,000 feet of a location providing year-round overnight shelter to people experiencing homelessness and the entrance/exit to such locations;
- » Inside of, or within 30 feet of wildfire and flood risk areas during severe weather; and
- » Within 25 feet of a youth-serving facility, defined as public or private primary or secondary schools and public libraries.

Violators would first be subject to verbal and written warnings, and any person who violates the ordinance would be guilty of a misdemeanor. This also authorizes the County Executive or designee to promulgate rules, protocols and procedures for the implementation of the ordinance.

To read the full definitions of each identified priority area, read the full ordinance at [www.saccounty.gov/news/Documents/Critical Infrastructure Ordinance August 2022.pdf](http://www.saccounty.gov/news/Documents/Critical_Infrastructure_Ordinance_August_2022.pdf).

The Board also approved a separate ordinance that addresses the Dry Creek and American River Parkway specifically.

"The American River Parkway is our region's most treasured recreational and ecological asset" said First District Supervisor Phil Serna. "As the stewards responsible for its protection, we are obligated to see that it is a clean and safe place for everyone to enjoy while ensuring those who feel their only option is to reside on the Parkway, have housing opportunities and access to services elsewhere in the county."

The following are key provisions of the ordinance:

- » Prohibition on camping or constructing, maintaining or inhabiting any structure or camping facility in the American River Parkway or Dry Creek Parkway, except with written permission from the Director.
- » Prohibition on modifying the parklands (e.g. dirt, landscaping) or accumulating furniture, household goods, or other items in order to create a structure.
- » Bans the use or maintenance of a container with flammable or combustible liquid or a generator, except when issued a permit by the Regional Parks Director.

The intent of the ordinance is to provide the County with an additional enforcement tool to address camping and the proliferation of unpermitted structures used as makeshift shelters in the Parkways and reduce public safety concerns relating to the use of flammable or combustible liquids and generators in parks. However, the ability to enforce the proposed ordinance, like the existing Code provisions, is dependent on law enforcement capacity and prioritization as well as availability of shelter, as outlined in the proposed Park Rangers' Action Plan. In addition, the Action Plan describes the County's commitment to conduct outreach efforts to offer alternative shelter and other services to individuals camping in the Parkways.

Read the full ordinance to learn more about Parkway-specific rules at www.saccounty.gov/news/Documents/Parkway%20Ordinance%20August%202022.pdf.



Be Prepared – Sign up for Sacramento Alert

Have you signed up for local emergency alerts through Sacramento Alert? A great way to prepare for disasters is by signing up at [Sacramento-Alert.org](https://www.sacramento-alert.org)!

By signing up for Sacramento Alert, you will receive location-based emergency alerts quickly at work and at home by providing all your typical locations as well as your phone numbers, email addresses, and TTY device information.

We recommend downloading the Everbridge app onto your smartphone to make receiving location-based notifications even easier while away from home or work. The Everbridge app can be downloaded from Google Play and Apple's App Store.

"Signing up for Sacramento Alert is a great way for you to help us help you in an emergency," said Mary Jo Flynn-Ne vins, Sacramento County Chief of



Emergency services. "When you sign up, it lets local officials, public safety and emergency personnel provide you with real-time information so you and your family will know what to do or where to go in the event of a flood, neighborhood evacuation, major road closure, severe weather or other dangerous situation."

All information in the Sacramento Alert Self-Registration Portal is kept strictly confidential and you will only receive alerts that are critical and time-sensitive, including severe weather, wildfires, flooding, unexpected road closures, missing persons, and evacuations of

buildings or neighborhoods in specific geographic locations.

You can choose how you want to be contacted – by phone call, text, push notification or email, and you can sign up for multiple locations that mean the most to you by registering your home address, work address, your parent's address or your children's school location in the counties of Sacramento, Yolo and Placer.

Register now on the region's mass notification system: [Sacramento-Alert.org](https://www.sacramento-alert.org), [Yolo-Alert.org](https://www.yolo-alert.org) or [Placer-Alert.org](https://www.placer-alert.org) or by downloading the Everbridge app to your smartphone.

For additional information about how to prepare for emergencies, go to the **Sacramento Ready website** at www.sacmentoready.org or the **Sacramento County Emergency and Preparedness website** at www.saccounty.net/Government/Pages/EmergencyPreparedness.aspx.

Overdose is on the Rise in Sacramento County

According to the CDC, there were 107,622 overdose deaths nationwide in 2021, the highest annual death toll on record from drug overdose fatalities, and a 15% increase from the year prior. Fentanyl poisoning is also now the leading cause of death for adults aged 18-45 in the United States, surpassing suicide, gun violence and car accidents.

To combat this growing epidemic, Sacramento County along with community partners created the Sacramento County Opioid Coalition, a collaboration of healthcare professionals, community-based organizations, law enforcement, county agencies, and concerned citizens determined to turn the tide of the local opioid epidemic. The



coalition is committed to saving lives by preventing overdoses through expanding treatment access, promoting safe disposal, encouraging early intervention, treatment and recovery, enhancing opioid surveillance, and expanding public education. Learn more about the coalition at www.sacopioidcoalition.org.

Fentanyl poisoning impacts Sacramento residents of all socioeconomic groups and ages. In Sacramento County, 116 people lost their lives in 2021 due to fentanyl poisoning and 50 have died in the first 7 months of 2022. Fentanyl has been found in virtually all street drugs today including Cocaine, Meth, Heroin, Xanax, Oxy, Percocet, Adderall, Marijuana and vape pens. Illicit fentanyl is highly addictive and can cause sudden death.

Education and awareness is the best tool we have to save a person from overdosing. Naloxone/Narcan is a medicine that can be given to a person to reverse an opioid or fentanyl overdose. It can be obtained through local pharmacies,

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2022/23 Adult & Family Free Flu and COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics

Immunization Assistance Program | (916) 875-SHOT (7468)

Loaves & Fishes

Tuesday, October 18
9:00am–1:30pm
1351 North C Street
Sacramento, 95811

River Delta Unified School District

Tuesday, October 18
2:30pm–5:30pm
Bates Elementary
180 Primasing Avenue
Courtland, 95615

Citrus Heights Community Center

Wednesday, October 19
10:00am–3:00pm
6300 Fountain Square Drive
Citrus Heights, 95621

Mission Oaks Community Center

Wednesday, October 19
10:00am–1:00pm
4701 Gibbons Drive
Carmichael, 95608

Folsom Cordova Unified School District

Thursday, October 20
2:00pm–6:00pm
Cordova High School
2239 Chase Drive
Rancho Cordova, 95670

Oak Park Community Center

Friday, October 21
9:00am–1:00pm
3425 Martin Luther King Jr.
Boulevard
Sacramento, 95817

Folsom Cordova Unified School District

Friday, October 21
2:00pm–5:00pm
Folsom High School
1655 Iron Point Road
Folsom, 95630

Natomas Unified School District

Wednesday, October 26
2:00pm–5:00pm
Service Center
1931 Arena Boulevard
Sacramento, 95834

Robla School District

Thursday, October 27
1:00pm–4:00pm
Taylor Street Elementary
4350 Taylor Street
Sacramento, 95838

Hagginwood Community Center

3271 Marysville Boulevard
Sacramento, 95815
Friday, October 28
11:00am–3:00pm

Sacramento City Unified School District

Luther Burbank High School
Tuesday, November 1
2:00pm–5:00pm
3500 Florin Road
Sacramento, 95823

Elk Grove Unified School District

Wednesday, November 2
1:30pm–4:30pm
John Reith Elementary
8401 Valley Lark Drive
Sacramento, 95823

Rio Valley Charter School – Broadway

Thursday, November 3
10:00am–12:00pm
(Flu Shots ONLY)
3301 Broadway
Sacramento, 95817

Folsom Cordova Unified School District

Thursday, November 3
2:00pm–6:00pm
Cordova High School
2239 Chase Drive
Rancho Cordova, 95670

Twin Rivers Unified School District

Wednesday, November 9
1:30pm–4:30pm
Grant High School
1400 Grand Avenue
Sacramento, 95838

Twin Rivers Unified School District

Wednesday, November 16
1:30pm–4:30pm
Highland High School
6601 Guthrie Street
North Highlands, 95660

Twin Rivers Unified School District

Wednesday, November 30
1:30pm–4:30pm
Foothill High School
5000 McCloud Drive
Sacramento, 95842

Healthy Sacramento Day – Cal Expo

1600 Exposition Boulevard
Sacramento, 95815
Check back for updated date/time

Overdose is on the Rise, *Continued*

the County Health Department or the DHCS Naloxone Distribution Project.

Sacramento County is committed to continued investment and prioritization of programs and services that meet the needs of those struggling with addiction. This includes expanding Substance Use Disorder (SUD) residential treatment by 50 beds with an additional \$11.2 million of County investment to further increase SUD residential treatment capacity. Additionally, the County expanded Medication-Assisted Treatment programs to include new medication and service array, helping those with substance use disorders to maintain their recovery through the use of medications that help prevent relapse.

For more information and resources, visit the One Pill Can Kill website at www.1pillcankillsac.com and www.songforcharlie.org.

If you or someone you know is struggling with addiction to alcohol or drugs, you can find help, support and treatment services on the Department of Health Services website at dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/Pages/SUPT/Substance-Use-Prevention-and-Treatment.aspx.

We're Hiring!

As the region's second largest employer, Sacramento County has more than 13,000 employees working across 40 departments. If you're looking for a career with purpose, visit www.SacCountyJobs.net to view a list of all positions currently accepting applications and subscribe to emails to be alerted when a specific job is available.