



WILLOWS UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT

February 4, 2016

Dear Willows City Council Members,

We are writing in support of tobacco-free park and recreational areas in the city of Willows. A tobacco-free policy sends a clear message that we care about the health of the community, especially our youth. Willows Unified School Districts are in close proximity to several city parks. Many of our students and families use the park areas. Since our school district already prohibits tobacco use at our buildings and grounds, including the playground and athletic fields, a city-wide policy will create a consistent tobacco-free policy for all park and recreational facilities in our community.

Tobacco use not only exposes participants and spectators to the harmful effects of secondhand smoke, but it is also a nuisance and safety concern. We strive to teach our students the value of a clean, healthy community by not littering, and the tobacco-free policy will help reduce litter and support the healthy message that we teach. Tobacco use in a park setting also sends a negative message to our youth that tobacco use is an acceptable behavior within our community.

We support Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) at WHS and encourage you to prohibit tobacco use at all city-owned parks and recreation facilities.

Thank you for considering a tobacco-free policy.

Thank you,

Willows Unified School District Board of Education