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**June 1, 2010**  
**Press Release**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CITY BANS TOBACCO SALES IN PHARMACIES - STRENGTHENS  
HEALTHY COMMUNITY INITIATIVE.**

*Everett becomes the first Metro-North city to institute new regulations.*

On Monday, May 24th the Everett Board of Health unanimously passed a new Tobacco Regulation. With bans on tobacco sales already in effect in pharmacies in Boston, Uxbridge and Needham, Everett leads the metro-north area with this new Regulation on the Sale of Tobacco.

The regulation, which will take effect June 15th, will impact four pharmacies in the City: Walgreens, Rite-Aid, Stop and Shop and Costco. The Board of Health was interested in sending a strong public health message to the retail pharmacies in the City: by allowing the sale of tobacco in pharmacies and retail stores with pharmacies a mixed message is sent to consumers who generally patronize these pharmacies for health care services.

The Everett Board of Health believes that it is important that the sale of tobacco products be banned in health care institutions including pharmacies in the City of Everett to further its mission to protect, promote and preserve the health and well-being of all Everett residents.

Mayor Carlo DeMaria is a strong supporter of this effort by his Director of Public Health, Heidi Porter and the three member Board of Health comprised of Dr. Sean Connolly, Chairman and members Judith Murphy, RN and Luisa Dello Iocono. Mayor DeMaria's directive is to enact and promote public health regulations and programs to further the overall health of the community. DJ Wilson, the Tobacco Control Director for Massachusetts Municipal Association and Jason Dodd of the 5 City Tobacco Collaborative provided regulatory and enforcement reporting support for this regulatory revision.

Additionally, during the hearing process, testimony from Teens in Everett Against Substance Abuse (TEASA) included some powerful statements and personal stories of how the use of tobacco in their families has impacted their lives as youth and TEASA provided statistics on the negative health impacts of tobacco on people's health.

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For additional information please contact Matt Laidlaw, Director of Communications, City of Everett.

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