

2014 Fall Smoking Ban Expansion Survey

On September 30, 2014, 133 downtown restaurant contacts received the email survey invitation with a 12% response rate.

On October 1, 2014, 1,156 downtown business contacts received the email survey invitation as well.

As of October 7, 2014, 48 downtown businesses have completed the survey:

- 33% Restaurants
- 27% Retail
- 40% Office/Personal Services/Other

The following pages contain the overall survey results as well as comments that are separated by restaurant, retail, office/personal services / other. Below is each of these categories overall results:

Restaurants (16 responses):

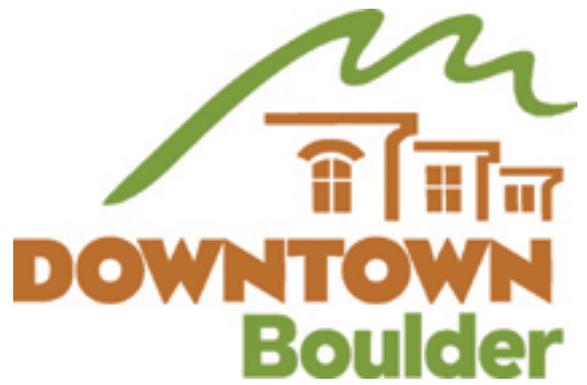
- 69% in favor of an expanded smoking ban that would include ALL public properties downtown. (31% opposed)
- 69% in favor of requiring smokers on private property to be at least 25 feet from the nearest entrance to a building (expansion from the current 15 feet minimum). (31% opposed)
- 44% are concerned about the inconvenience to employees, residents or tourists from the expanded scope of the smoking ban. (56% are not concerned)
- 31% believe expanding the smoking ban would be good for business, 44% believe would have little to no effect and 25% believe it would be bad for business.

Retail (12 responses):

- 67% in favor of an expanded smoking ban that would include ALL public properties downtown. (33% opposed)
- 50% in favor of requiring smokers on private property to be at least 25 feet from the nearest entrance to a building (expansion from the current 15 feet minimum). (50% opposed)
- 33% are concerned about the inconvenience to employees, residents or tourists from the expanded scope of the smoking ban. (67% are not concerned)
- 33% believe expanding the smoking ban would be good for business, 42% believe would have little to no effect and 25% believe it would be bad for business.

Office / Personal Services / Other (18 responses):

- 50% in favor of an expanded smoking ban that would include ALL public properties downtown. (50% opposed)
- 45% in favor of requiring smokers on private property to be at least 25 feet from the nearest entrance to a building (expansion from the current 15 feet minimum). (50% opposed. 5% unsure.)
- 50% are concerned about the inconvenience to employees, residents or tourists from the expanded scope of the smoking ban. (50% are not concerned)
- 45% believe expanding the smoking ban would be good for business, 5% believe would have little to no effect and 50% believe it would be bad for business.



Constant Contact Survey Results

Survey Name: Fall 2014 Smoking Survey

Response Status: Partial & Completed

Filter: None

10/7/2014 1:49 PM MDT

TextBlock:

We need to hear from you!

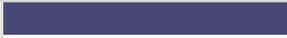
There is currently a smoking ban in place for the Pearl Street Mall and the Municipal Campus downtown. City Council will soon be considering expanding the outdoor smoking ban to include: All of the downtown district as defined by the map below. The ban will cover all public property including sidewalks, parking facilities, parks and alleys. Expanding the allowable distance for smoking to a minimum of 25 feet from any building entrance from the current 15 feet on private property.

The City Council wants to hear from downtown businesses with employees and customers that might be impacted by this expanded ban. Please take a few minutes to answer the following questions by Friday, October 3, 2014. All who respond by the deadline will have a chance to win a \$25 Downtown Boulder Gift Card via random drawing.

Do you favor the expanded smoking ban that would include ALL public properties downtown?

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes			30	62.5 %
No			18	37.5 %
No Response(s)			0	0.0 %
Totals			48	100%

As mentioned above, the ban would require smokers on private property to be at least 25 feet from the nearest entrance to a building. Do you favor this expansion from the current 15 feet minimum?

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes			27	56.2 %
No			20	41.6 %
No Response(s)			1	2.0 %
Totals			48	100%

Are you concerned about the inconvenience to employees, residents or tourists from the expanded scope of the smoking ban?

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes			20	41.6 %
No			28	58.3 %
No Response(s)			0	0.0 %
Totals			48	100%

Do you think this expanded smoking ban will:

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Be good for business			18	37.5 %
Have little or no impact			14	29.1 %
Be bad for business			16	33.3 %
No Response(s)			0	0.0 %
Totals			48	100%

What type of business are you involved with downtown?

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Retail			13	27.0 %
Restaurant			16	33.3 %
Personal Service			1	2.0 %
Office			14	29.1 %
Other			4	8.3 %
No Response(s)			0	0.0 %
Totals			48	100%

RESTAURANT COMMENTS		
Do you favor the expanded smoking ban that would include ALL public properties downtown?	As mentioned above, the ban would require smokers on private property to be at least 25 feet from the nearest entrance to a building. Do you favor this expansion from the current 15 feet minimum?	Are you concerned about the inconvenience to employees, residents or tourists from the expanded scope of the smoking ban?
Until 9pm	Make it 50.	Long walk to a smoking area during a break
Love it.	that is a fair compromise; however the decision should be left to the businesses.	If the city were to take enough of a stand this could actually be a boon to tourism.
e cigarettes should NOT be included in this ban. furthermore, if you wish to ban behavior that is socially acceptable in most other parts of the free world, you should lead by example, and ban the SALE of these items you wish to ban, as you cannot have cake and eat it too. please ditch the tax revenue you enjoy from the sale of these items if you plan on fining the citizens for what you consider aberrant behavior in the burgeoning nanny state boulder is becoming.	"private" property speaks for itself.	As of right now my employees go in the back alley to smoke on their breaks, if this ban was put into place I'm not sure where they would go, however i wouldn't mind it because it's not professional coming in and dealing with guests while smelling like smoke.
you can't make valuable customers of all these businesses leave town to smoke. They will stop coming down here.		I have already heard complaints from tourists all summer long about the current ban.
not necessary.		we can't make employees leave work for extensive periods to go to a far away place to smoke.
Can we include E Cigarettes		

RETAIL COMMENTS	
<p>Do you favor the expanded smoking ban that would include ALL public properties downtown?</p>	<p>As mentioned above, the ban would require smokers on private property to be at least 25 feet from the nearest entrance to a building. Do you favor this expansion from the current 15 feet minimum?</p>
<p>I think it is absolutely ridiculous to ban vaporizing. I don't care about the actual smoke, but to ban vaporizing is extremely ignorant. You are banning HOT AIR! And i don't even smoke or vaporize.</p>	<p>with actual smoke yes that is great. with vaporizing, because it is only hot air it doesn't matter because it doesn't affect anyone or anything around it.</p>
<p>We often have people (mostly transient) sit outside of our store door and smoke comes directly into the store. Customers complain, we complain, but nothing much can be done as it's pretty close to the current 15 foot law. This would improve the shopping and hanging out experience downtown for customers and business owners.</p>	<p>Not sure this is possible in many downtown locations.</p>
<p>I am a non-smoker and do not like cigarette smoke, but I think it is overreach and too much regulation. I agree that Pearl Street Mall should have the ban in effect but the alleys are a better way to accommodate the workers who smoke.</p>	<p>I honestly don't think it's that important either way... 15 feet does the trick. is 25 better? Yes, but might it be that one straw that breaks the camels back for public support?</p>
<p>Smoking is legal and this goes too far. You are going to drive more people out of town because we are so nasty.</p>	<p>yes, but they still smoke within the 15 ft minimum even now what will prevent them from moving 25 ft from the entrance door. they have no consideration for other people.</p>
<p>People smoke by my store entrance or near my entrance bring the smell into my store and clothes. Also they leave their buds by my store.</p>	<p>Where will the hordes of transients need to go to smoke? My only concern is that we're pushing them onto private property.</p>
<p>There's virtually no police presence downtown anyway, so I doubt there will be any enforcement.</p>	

RETAIL COMMENTS	
<p>Are you concerned about the inconvenience to employees, residents or tourists from the expanded scope of the smoking ban?</p>	<p>Do you think this expanded smoking ban will:</p>
<p>It will drive them to other areas where they can enjoy their vacations or day off the way they'd like to.</p>	<p>It currently has a negative impact on our business and customer and experience</p>
<p>Smoking is a personal choice and those who choose not to smoke should not be made to suffer</p>	<p>I'm sure it will make some people mad and drive away some business. However, I think it's worth it. i don't want to breathe their smoke (they step outside their offices and smoke in front of my shop), and I'm tired of looking at discarded cigarettes. In this case, I believe in the greater cause, despite the negative impact it may bring.</p>
<p>But not enough to not support the ban... The net benefit and statement is huge.</p>	<p>Long term it may have a positive, but I don't think it'll be of huge impact down on this end of the mall in the near-term.</p>
<p>You are already killing us with too much interference. Stop it.</p>	<p>Not only will people not be able to park - they won't be able to smoke anywhere. How welcoming.</p>
<p>There's no way that this will actually be enforced, so it doesn't matter.</p>	<p>Having a dog on the bricks is illegal, but at least a dozen people per day walk into my business with their pet. I'm lucky if I see a police officer once per day. Clearly all these rules don't matter.</p>

OFFICE/PERSONAL SERVICES/OTHER COMMENTS	
Do you favor the expanded smoking ban that would include ALL public properties downtown?	As mentioned above, the ban would require smokers on private property to be at least 25 feet from the nearest entrance to a building. Do you favor this expansion from the current 15 feet minimum?
As a concert venue, our patrons have the choice to attend the same show at the Boulder Theater in Denver. Although I agree that smoking in healthy Boulder is a bit of a contradiction, I would support a few smoking sections or allow in the alleys. I do not support a total ban as I have staff and patrons that make the choice to smoke and need a place downtown that it is allowed. I'm also concerned that the transient smokers will move to University Hill which will not Revitalize.	I don't know that 25 ft. would make any difference from 15 ft.
You end up having to walk through clouds of smoke on sidewalk on West End of Pearl where ban currently isn't in effect - ugh.	Needs to be enforced. Several benches outside our bank and there can be up to 6 people smoking cigarettes, and often times, especially Friday's - late afternoon, early evening; smoking pot. I can only imagine what happens in that breezeway on the weekends.
Yes, too many people smoke in front of our business, in our breezeway and parking lot. We have cigarette butts everywhere.	
If you do that, how long until you expand it even more and the cost of tax payers.	
While I don't smoke and don't support smoking, I do enjoy my personal freedoms. This is another foot in the door that puts the future of personal freedom at risk. The current restrictions are sufficient.	
Absolutely not! You should not be able to tell people they cannot smoke anywhere.	

OFFICE/PERSONAL SERVICES/OTHER COMMENTS	
<p>Are you concerned about the inconvenience to employees, residents or tourists from the expanded scope of the smoking ban?</p>	<p>Do you think this expanded smoking ban will:</p>
<p>Boulder is known for its healthy lifestyles. Majority of residents and tourists seem to love that about Boulder and are not smokers!</p>	<p>I anticipate losing some business to Denver concert venues and/or patrons spending less time at the venue.</p>
<p>Hopefully people will be happy about the cleaner sidewalks and no smoke smell.</p>	<p>I've had friends and family visit and have them comment favorably about the areas with lack of smoke. Extending won't be a negative for most people - smokers can find other places to smoke and won't stop visiting downtown.</p>
<p>Boulder needs to embrace our image of a healthy lifestyle. This expanded ban would be good for tourism, business, employees, and residents.</p>	<p>Hopefully we will have fewer cigarette butts all over the sidewalk and in our planters, fewer people smoking in front of our door, in our breezeway and parking lot.</p>
	<p>Bolstering Boulder's image as a health-conscious town will increase tourism.</p>