

**Benchmark Activity #14.1: The local health department shall disseminate information relative to public health needs to elected and appointed officials.**

**Durham County Board of Health  
Agenda Item Summary**

Meeting Date: April 13, 2017

Agenda Item Subject: Surgeon General's Report on E-Cigarettes

Attachment (s): PowerPoint Presentation

Staff or Board Member Reporting: Natalie Rich

Purpose: \_\_\_\_\_ Action  
\_\_\_\_\_ Information only  
 X  Information with possible action

**Objectives:**

- To present the findings from the most recent Surgeon General's Report, entitled "E-cigarette Use Among Youth and Young Adults"
- To present for discussion the Call to Action included in the Surgeon General's Report

**Summary Information:**

- E-cigarettes are a rapidly emerging and diversified product class. These devices typically deliver nicotine, flavorings, and other additives to users via an inhaled aerosol. These devices are referred to by a variety of names, including "e-cigs," "e-hookahs," "mods," "vape pens," "vapes," and "tank systems."
- E-cigarettes are now the most commonly used tobacco product among youth, surpassing conventional cigarettes in 2014. E-cigarette use is strongly associated with the use of other tobacco products among youth and young adults, including cigarettes and other burned tobacco products.
- E-cigarette use among youth and young adults has become a public health concern. In 2014, current use of e-cigarettes by young adults 18-24 years of age surpassed that of adults 25 years of age and older.
- The use of products containing nicotine poses dangers to youth, pregnant women, and fetuses. The use of products containing nicotine in any form among youth, including in e-cigarettes, is unsafe.
- E-cigarette aerosol is not harmless. It can contain harmful and potentially harmful constituents including nicotine. Nicotine exposure during adolescence can cause addiction and can harm the developing adolescent brain.

- E-cigarettes are marketed by promoting flavors and using a wide variety of media channels and approaches that have been used in the past for marketing conventional tobacco products to youth and young adults.
- Action can be taken at the national, state, local, tribal and territorial levels to address e-cigarette use among youth and young adults. Actions could include incorporating e-cigarettes into smoke free policies, preventing access to e-cigarettes by youth, price and tax policies, retail licensure, regulation of e-cigarette marketing likely to attract youth, and educational initiatives targeting youth and young adults.

**Recommended Action:**

- Approve
- Approve & forward to Board of Commissioners for action
- Approve & forward to \_\_\_\_\_
- Accept as information
- Revise & schedule for future action
- Other (details): \_\_\_\_\_