



The Substance Abuse Steering Coalition of the tri-county area promotes drug, alcohol, and tobacco-free environments. We are writing to request that the new Gauche Aquatic Park become a 100% tobacco-free facility. We believe that a family-friendly environment has the responsibility to ensure the safety and health of all its visitors and employees. By making the recreation and aquatic center 100% smoke-free, you will send a message to our children and youth that tobacco use is unacceptable, which will help reduce the number of youth that try tobacco and become addicted to this harmful product.

Moreover, it is shocking that 53,000 people in the United States die each year due to secondhand smoke. Even though people who visit the center will be outside, they still will be in an area which will ultimately lead to breathing the smoke from other people's cigarettes.

Public facilities, such as sports complexes, entertainment venues, and government funded parks throughout California are adopting tobacco-free policies and/or ordinances that prohibit tobacco use in parks, recreation areas and outdoor facilities. For example, the City of Sacramento recently adopted an ordinance that prohibits smoking in all parks within the city limits

Again, the Substance Abuse Steering Coalition urges you to consider a 100% tobacco-free policy at the new Gauche Aquatic Park. If you have any concerns or questions about the issue, please contact the coalition through Dulia Aguilar, Chairperson, at 674-1885 ext. 109. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Substance Abuse Steering Coalition