

*BOS Policy No. 28*

*Title: NO SMOKING POLICY IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS*

*Accepted/approved on: December 24, 1997*

*Amended on: June 3, 2008*

*Amended on: June 17, 2008*

The Town of Charlton is dedicated to providing a healthy and productive work environment for all employees. The United States Surgeon General, in his 1986 report, *The Health Effects of Involuntary Smoking* concluded that:

1. Secondhand smoke (ETS) is a cause of disease, including lung cancer, in healthy nonsmokers.
2. The simple separation of smokers and nonsmokers within the same air space may reduce, but does not eliminate, the exposure of nonsmokers to environmental tobacco smoke.
3. The success of this policy will depend upon the thoughtfulness, consideration and cooperation of smokers and nonsmokers. All employees share in the responsibility for adhering to and enforcing the policy. Any problems should be brought to the attention of the appropriate supervisor, who is responsible to ensure compliance.
4. In accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 270 Section 22, The Town of Charlton has a No Smoking Policy in Public Buildings including no smoking in all offices of all buildings that are open to the public.
5. Massachusetts General Law Chapter 270 Section 22(3) states in part “A person shall not smoke in the state house or in a public building or in a vehicle or vessel, owned, leased, or otherwise operated by the commonwealth or a political subdivision thereof,…”
6. Further because the fenestration of the building allows the entrance of smoke into the workplace there will be no smoking within twenty (20) feet of an entranceway normally used by the public for access to Town Buildings, except that this shall not apply to a smoker transiting through such twenty (20) feet area nor to a smoker approaching an entranceway with the intention of extinguishing a tobacco product.
7. Employee smoking area will be only at the north rear entrance of the George C. McKinstry building, providing it is not being actively used for access to the building for programs within the building.
8. The Town of Charlton through the Employee Assistance Program will assist in smoking cessation.