



One year ago, Shreveport City Council voted to extend the Smoke-free Air Act to include workplaces like bars and gaming facilities, because no one should have to choose between their health and a paycheck. A year's extension was granted to allow businesses time to adapt to this new policy. However, with weeks left until implementation, an amendment was introduced to potentially repeal the expansion and puts the health of hundreds of workers at risk.

We need your help to make sure the Shreveport City Council keeps their promise to make Shreveport smoke-free and protect the health of everyone who lives and works here.

Here is how you can help (additional information on each opportunity is below):

- Attend the council meeting at City Hall on July 13, 2021 at 3 p.m. ([RSVP on Healthier Air For All's Facebook page](#))
- Send a letter to the council members and Mayor Adrian Perkins by noon on July 13, 2021.
- Update your Facebook profile with #SmokefreeShreveport profile picture frame
- Share information with your friends, family, and community
- Share #SmokeFreeShreveport's social media posts from Healthier Air For All and Tobacco-Free Louisiana and tag @MayorOfShreveport
- Sign the [petition](#)
- Upload a "Keep Your Promise" video to social media

Attending Council Meeting:

Contact Feamula Bradley at fbradley@lphi.org or 318-402-3702 to let her you will attend. Wear a blue shirt to the meeting to let them know we stand together and are all there for the same reason.

Sending a Letter:

A letter template can be found [here](#). Send your letter using the City Council's [website](#).

INSTRUCTIONS

- Go online to the Citizen Request to Speak form
- Select Tuesday, City Council Regular Meeting
- Select this topic is an agenda item
- In "I wish to speak about:" write: Smoke-free ordinance

- Fill in your personal information
- Upload attach the Word document with your public testimony
- Fill in your email address
- Hit Submit or Submit and Print button at the bottom.
- Also, go to your email. Copy and paste the text of your statement into an email and send to the following:

Adrian.perkins@shreveportla.gov

Tabatha.Taylor@shreveportla.gov

JamesFlurry@shreveportla.gov

Jerry.Bowman@shreveportla.gov

Grayson.Boucher@shreveportla.gov

James.Green@shreveportla.gov

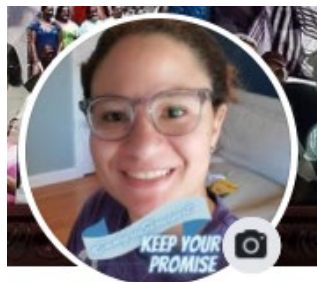
LeVette.Fuller@shreveportla.gov

Grayson.Boucher@shreveportla.gov

Updating your Facebook profile frame:

- Go to www.facebook.com/profilepicframes.
- Search for a frame by entering: Smoke-free Shreveport and select the frame.
- Click your profile picture.
- Click Use as Profile Picture.

See example:



Some #SmokefreeShreveport Talking Points to share with your friends, family, community:

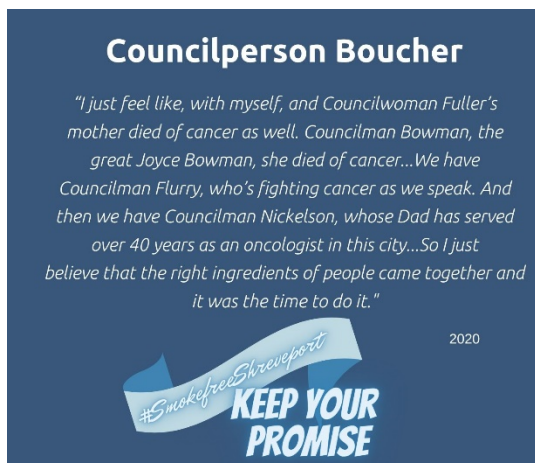
- The hospitality industry heavily employs people of color, especially in Shreveport. Allowing smoking in casinos disproportionately exposes local Black and Brown communities to cancer-causing chemicals.
- Allowing exposure to secondhand smoke to continue will further force local members of communities of color expose themselves to unhealthy environments to support themselves and their families, while lining the pockets of outside interests.

- The gaming industry is not only rebounding from the effects of Covid-19 (in March revenue was up 230% compared to the same time last year and up 230% in May), but they have a year to prepare alternative smoking places.
- Offering smoke-free environments would open up the job applicant pool. Businesses are currently missing out on the opportunity to hire individuals with asthma and other underlying respiratory or health concerns.
- Revenue numbers show more people are returning to casinos, we need to protect casino patrons from the toxic chemicals found in secondhand smoke, especially those with underlying health conditions.
- There is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke; even brief exposure can be harmful to health.
- Smoke-free work environments not only eliminates exposure to secondhand smoke, but thirdhand smoke, as well. Thirdhand smoke is the smoke particles that linger on surfaces and in fabrics, including but not limited to (playing tables, chairs, dice, and uniforms).
- Hospitality workers and children are susceptible to thirdhand smoke exposure, as the particles cling to hair, clothing and cars. Young children are particularly vulnerable, because they can ingest tobacco residue by putting their hands in their mouths after touching contaminated surfaces.

Share Posts on Social Media:

Captions and Graphics:

- Elected officials should represent the interest and health of those who elected them. Sign the Smoke-free Shreveport petition if you agree. <https://healthierairforall.org/act-local/petition>
#SmokefreeShreveport #KeepYourPromiseShreveport @MayorofShreveport @TobaccoFreeLouisiana @HealhierAirForAll
- I hope my councilperson doesn't think I should have to risk my life for a paycheck. Does yours?
#SmokefreeShreveport #KeepYourPromiseShreveport @MayorofShreveport @TobaccoFreeLouisiana @HealhierAirForAll
- It's Time! #SmokefreeShreveport starts today. #KeepYourPromise @MayorofShreveport @TobaccoFreeLouisiana @HealhierAirForAll



Councilperson Fuller

"...right now is our best opportunity to open up with clean air in the midst of everything that's happened with respect to everything going on, in particular with respect to COVID-19."

"This is our best chance to open up with clean air for all the employees and citizens and taxpayers in our city."

2020



Councilperson Nickelson

"I really think there's no better time than the present when we're all thinking about our own health and the health of others to take this step to move Shreveport's smoking legislation into the 21st century."

2020



Councilperson Bowman

"It was a tough decision, but at the end of the day it was probably the right thing to do."

2020



Creating and Uploading a "Keep Your Promise" Video:

Filming Your Message

Optional Message for Video:

"Elected officials, it's time to do what we elected you to do. Keep your promise. Protect our neighbors. Protect our friends. Protect our family members. Protect us all from the cancer-causing chemicals found in secondhand smoke. Shreveport can do better. Shreveport must be better. It's time!"

Feel free to make your message personal. Make sure to ask elected officials to keep their promise. Other talking points to consider:

- Casinos have had a year to prep for this change and have failed to do so
- Who decides what jobs are worthy of smoke-free air and which ones are not?
- Healthier environments can help increase our quality of life and attract more workers.

Try to film your video outdoors and hold your phone horizontally when filming.

How to Post Your Video:

- Open the Facebook app on your phone
- Tap "What's on your mind?" to create a post
- Tap Photo/Video
- Select the video
- Tap next

- **Make the video public**

- Under your name, there is a box they will say friends, public, friends except, only me. Select the public option.

Add Your Caption: Tap where it says “Say something about this video” and insert an option below or one of your own.

- Message option #1: It’s time! We’re ready to go smoke-free. #KeepYourPromise #SmokefreeShreveport @healthierairforall @MayorofShreveport @TobaccoFreeLouisiana
- Message option #2: Dear elected officials who do you represent? Us or Them? #KeepYourPromise #SmokefreeShreveport @healthierairforall @MayorofShreveport @TobaccoFreeLouisiana
- Message option #3: No one should have to choose between their health and a paycheck. #KeepYourPromise #SmokefreeShreveport @healthierairforall @MayorofShreveport @TobaccoFreeLouisiana
- Or add a message all your own, but make sure to include: #KeepYourPromise #SmokefreeShreveport @healthierairforall @MayorofShreveport @TobaccoFreeLouisiana

tag your Council Members

James Flurry <https://www.facebook.com/james.flurry.737>

James Green <https://www.facebook.com/jamesegreenforshreveport>
<https://www.facebook.com/jamesegreendistrictf>

Jerry Bowman <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100006664817102>
<https://www.facebook.com/jerry.bowman.92167>

Grayson Boucher <https://www.facebook.com/Grayson4shreveportcitycouncil/>
<https://www.facebook.com/grayson.s.boucher>

Tabatha Taylor <https://www.facebook.com/TabathaTCommunityDistrictA125/>
<https://www.facebook.com/tabatha.taylor.92/friends>

Tell the council members below thank you for supporting a Smoke-free Shreveport.

John Nickelson <https://www.facebook.com/CouncilmanNickelson/>
<https://www.facebook.com/john.nickelson>

LeVette Fuller <https://www.facebook.com/levette.fuller>