

March 10, 2010:Members of the HWC, along with a County Council Member reviewed the smokefree ordinance that the City of Rock Hill had recently passed. There was discussion regarding how it could apply in Lancaster County as well as brainstorming about how to garner support.

Feb 8, 2012: County Council champion involves County Attorney to ensure the language of the proposed ordinance is acceptable.

Sept 2012:The 2nd reading of the Lancaster County ordinance occurred on September 10, and a public hearing was held on September 24. In the weeks leading up to this, the HWC members made a final PR push to show support. Flyers were designed to recognize businesses that have gone smoke-free. Signs that read "Proud to be Smoke Free" were delivered to businesses that have already adopted a smoke-free policy.

Dec 12, 2012: Now that the tobacco-free ordinance passed, the HWC and the County Administrator discuss education efforts for the public and businesses. Efforts included: Sign delivered to businesses that says "Proud to be Smoke Free" (10/2013) A flyer designed to recognize businesses that have gone smoke-free, as well as a complaint notice (10/23) Another Great American Smokeout Contest that ran January 11 through 17, 2015

June 13, 2015 thanks County for the ordinance

July 14, 2010: HWC receives detailed input from SC DHEC concerning specific talking points focusing on businesses and workplaces and the detrimental effects of secondhand smoke. Health care costs related to smoking related diseases was also addressed. A petition and letters of support were created to garner support. Businesses were approached to see if they would display "no smoking" signs on their property. HWC works with the Lancaster County School District to develop a Great American Smokeout Essay Contest with students. HWC members decide who will approach various stakeholders to ask them to put their support in writing

August 27, 2012: The 1st reading of the Lancaster County ordinance

Nov 26, 2012: The 3rd reading of the Lancaster County ordinance occurred on October 22. The ordinance passed with a vote of 4-2.

March 1, 2013: The Lancaster County Smokefree ordinance 2012-1167 goes into effect.

March 19, 2013 recognition of first county in South Carolina to put a comprehensive ordinance in

LANCASTER COUNTY'S JOURNEY TO BECOMING TOBACCO-FREE

The Lancaster County Health & Wellness Commission (HWC) worked for years to help Lancaster County achieve a smokefree status in 2013 and tobacco-free status in 2020. Below are the major milestones contributing to the outcome. HWC is made up of all volunteers with no paid staff and meets every other month or, for special meetings, by call of the Chair.

2013: HWC publicly
ity Council for passing
ce.

Oct/Dec 2014: HWC reviewed a
copy of a model ordinance
prohibiting smoking that includes a
reference to e-cigarettes. Concerns
expressed that if the current
ordinance is revised to include e-
cigarettes, there may be backlash
from opponents and the outcome
might not be positive. HWC
decides to table revisiting the
current smoking ordinance for
now.

April 29, 2019:
Lancaster County
Council has 1st
reading of Ordinance
2019-1590 regarding
Amending Section 23-
52 of the Lancaster
County Code Related
to Smoking to include
e-cigarettes, which
passes unanimously.

May 29, 2019:
Lancaster County
Council has 3rd
reading of Ordinance
2019-1590 regarding
Amending Section 23-
52 of the Lancaster
County Code Related
to Smoking to include
e-cigarettes, which
passes unanimously.

May 6, 2020:
Tobacco-free
ordinance for the
Town of Van Wyck
passed.

2014: HWC receives
from the SC Tobacco-
rative about being the
in South Carolina to
ehensive smoking
place.

Feb 2019: HWC agrees to pursue updated
policies and to pursue the three
remaining entities needed to achieve
tobacco-free status. HWC worked with
DHEC to understand the difference
between smokefree and tobacco-free
and gathered the right language/sample
policies to include e-cigarettes. In
conjunction to policy updates, the HWC
worked on educating and informing the
community on the dangers of e-
cigarettes. HWC also educated and
Informed policymakers on local, state,
and federal policy updates regarding
tobacco, such as S. 492 preemption bill,
T21, Section [59-1-380](#) regarding school
districts, and ban on flavors.

May 13, 2019:
Lancaster County
Council has 2nd
reading of Ordinance
2019-1590 regarding
Amending Section 23-
52 of the Lancaster
County Code Related
to Smoking to include
e-cigarettes, which
passes unanimously.

Dec 2019: The
Lancaster satellite
campus of the
University of South
Carolina passed a
tobacco-free policy.

July 28, 2020: The
Lancaster County
School District passes
a tobacco-free policy,
causing Lancaster
County to be the first
100% tobacco-free
county. A public
information campaign
is developed with
signage, billboards,
etc.

achieve
successful
ings, at the