

## **Memorandum**

**Date:** February 6, 2017  
**To:** Honorable Mayor, and City Council  
**Thru:** Mike Keane, Recreation Services Manager  
**From:** Parks and Recreation Advisory Board  
**Subject:** Students Working Against Tobacco

After watching a presentation from Student Working Against Tobacco of Lake Havasu City (S.W.A.T.-LHC) on May 23, 2016 and discussing at our October and November 2016 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meetings we recommend City Council adopt a city ordinance creating a smoke-free zone encompassing defined areas at Rotary Park. These areas would include all playgrounds, Ramada 13, Ramada B, Ramada C, the skate park, and the bleachers for the ballfields (please see map attached).

### **Background Information**

S.W.A.T. – LHC’s mission is to improve the health of Lake Havasu City students, families, and our community. The goals of SWAT are to educate the community about the dangers of tobacco use and second hand smoke, protect Lake Havasu residents from the harmful effects of tobacco use and second hand smoke through policy work, and encourage teen tobacco users to quit. S.W.A.T. – LHC believes smoke-free parks would reduce butt litter at the parks, change the social norm around tobacco use so that youth do not see tobacco use as the “norm”, and reduce second hand smoke exposure.

Discussions at the Parks and Recreation Advisory board meetings included starting with a pilot park and possibly pilot areas of the park to determine feasibility. Strategic portions of Rotary Park were selected to accomplish the goals of S.W.A.T. – LHC. Adopting this as a park rule or creating a city ordinance was a further discussion and ultimately it was decided a recommendation to City Council adopting an ordinance creating smoke free areas of Rotary Park was best for this program.

