During the August 16, 2016 Study Session, the City Council decided to pursue a policy regulating smoking for multi-unit housing. The Council tasked the Health and Safety Commission with the project and to report back with their findings and recommendations to the Council at a subsequent meeting. On September 26 and October 26, 2016, the Health and Safety Commission was presented with the initial information on the framework for such a policy (ATTACHMENT #1). As a result of these meetings, two separate community input events were scheduled for November 28th and December 13th (ATTACHMENT #2).

A website has been created to share the progression of the policy with the public. The community meetings will be video recorded and posted on the website, for those unable to attend the events. The website additionally contains an opinion survey to facilitate the understanding of the residents’ desires to smoke freely versus their preferences for the right to be protected from second-hand smoke. Surveys in paper format will also be available to those in attendance at the community input meetings (ATTACHMENT #3). To date, there have been 61 online and 3 paper survey respondents.

To increase awareness of this policy discussion, the City sent postcard mailers, advertised in the local newspapers and posted information on Facebook and Twitter. Postcard mailers were sent out to all multi-unit housing landlords and tenants to publicize the community input meetings, website and survey. Ads were also displayed in the City’s three major local newspapers: the Beverly Press, the Beverly Hills Weekly and the Courier.

During this agenda item, Staff will be providing a general overview on a developing policy regulating smoking in multi-unit housing and the questions that should be answered when crafting such a policy. After the presentation from Staff, it is recommended that the Commission open public comment to solicit community input. During the meeting, copies of the public opinion survey, the zoning map showing the multi-unit housing within the City, and other informational handouts will be made available to the public (ATTACHMENTS #3-7).