From:	Abby Huseth
To:	Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject:	Please vote to BAN all flavored tobacco products
Date:	Monday, October 26, 2020 9:26:31 AM

Dear Council Members,

I'm writing to ask you to end the sale of all flavored tobacco products in Missoula. As a Missoula parent, I believe this is a commonsense action that will directly reduce opportunities for our community's youth to become addicted to nicotine.

To be successful, this ban must include ALL flavored e-cigarettes and menthol cigarettes, including mint and menthol. Fueled by thousands of flavors, youth e-cigarette use remains at epidemic levels. The latest CDC data shows that 3.6 million U.S. kids, including 1 in 5 high school students are vaping. An overwhelming majority of them say flavors are why.

Meanwhile, menthol makes it easier to start smoking and harder to quit. In addition, flavored little cigars – in grape, chocolate, etc. – make up more than half of the U.S. cigar market.

And now, health experts are warning that smoking and vaping can worsen COVID-19.

We must put a stop to this, protect our kids, and make our city a leader in Montana.
We as taxpayers and community members should not be forced to subsidize this public health crisis, as big tobacco finds more creative and insidious ways to promote their products.

Please do everything you can to make sure all flavored tobacco products are off the shelves without exception. Thank you for prioritizing the health of our kids and community over big tobacco.

Sincerely,
Abby Huseth
1726 Sherwood St.
Missoula, MT