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Ridgewood Village Council bans smoking on sidewalks near schools

By **James Kleimann/NJ.com**

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RIDGEWOOD — Smokers are not permitted to light up in Ridgewood parks, and now they must puff far from school property.

According to a **report in The Ridgewood News**, the village council passed an ordinance that bans smoking on all sidewalks adjacent to property owned by the Ridgewood Board of Education. **The proposal was brought by The Global Advisors on Smokefree Policy (GASP).**

One council member, Tom Riche, opposed the measure.

The village does not have the resources to enforce the ordinance, he said, adding that he has concerns it infringes on personal rights.

"My concern would be that this would be the first step to opening Pandora's Box," Riche said, according to the report. "The next step would be to prohibit [smoking by] people sitting in a sidewalk café in downtown Ridgewood."

http://www.nj.com/bergen/index.ssf/2014/02/ridgewood_bans_smoking_on_side_walks_near_schools.html