

Does Vista Need More Alcohol Sales?

Reducing the number of stores that sell alcohol is an effective strategy for **reducing excessive alcohol use and related harm***

THE ISSUE

- ◆ The **7-11 located at 902 S. Santa Fe** in Vista applied for a **Special Use Permit to sell beer and wine**. There are already **5 other businesses nearby** where alcohol is sold.
- ◆ City staff initially **recommended denying the application**, stating in a staff report *“The sale of beer and wine for off-site consumption will be **detrimental to the health, safety and welfare of persons residing in the vicinity** of site because statistical data from the United States Department of Justice shows that **there is a direct correlation between facilities that sell alcoholic beverages for off-site consumption and increase in crime**. Considering the findings regarding the availability of other alcohol outlets in the surrounding area, the location of the project site at a busy intersection, and the incidence of people congregating within the project area, the sale of beer and wine at this site would lead to loitering and other alcohol-related crimes in the area.”*
- ◆ Both the Planning Commission and City Council denied the request earlier this year. The applicant reapplied and was denied again by the Planning Commission on August 19. **The item will go back to the City Council, likely on September 23.**



WHY WE CARE

- ◆ **Alcohol is associated with the leading causes of death for teens and young adults**, including motor vehicle crashes, homicides, and suicides; and **alcohol is the most abused drug by teens**.
- ◆ Vista already has nearly 70 stores licensed to sell alcohol, the **highest ratio per population of all neighboring cities**.



Sample alcohol displays in local 7-11 stores.



WHAT YOU CAN DO

- ◆ **Call or write to Vista Councilmembers to share your opinion.**
- ◆ **Attend the Vista Council meeting — email or call for details:**
⇒ info@northcoastalpreventioncoalition.org or 760-631-5000 x7174

***Recommendation from the U.S. Task Force on Community Preventive Services**

The mission of the North Coastal Prevention Coalition (NCPC) is to reduce the harm of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana and other drugs in the cities of Carlsbad, Oceanside and Vista through community action, education, support and collaboration. Funded in part by the County of San Diego, HHS, Behavioral Health Services.

www.northcoastalpreventioncoalition.org

