

**TOWN OF CARMEL  
LOCAL LAW #3 OF 2024  
A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING A MORATORIUM IN REGARD TO THE ISSUANCE OF  
PERMITS FOR “SMOKE SHOPS” AND “VAPE SHOPS” UNDER CHAPTER 156 OF  
THE TOWN CODE OF THE TOWN OF CARMEL**

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Carmel, Putnam County,  
State of New York as follows:

**SECTION 1: PURPOSE**

The purpose of this local law is to establish a temporary moratorium on the issuance of building permits and/or certificates of occupancy by the Town of Carmel Building Department for the construction, establishment and/or operation of any additional or new “smoke shops” or a “vape shops” within the limits of the Town of Carmel.

**SECTION 2: LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS**

The Town Board of the Town of Carmel has received numerous complaints regarding the operation of “smoke shops” and “vape shops” as defined herein, specifically concerning their detrimental effects on the health, safety, welfare and quality of life of the residents and citizens of the Town of Carmel. The Town Board has decided to review the current Zoning Chapter of the Town Code and consider the potential regulation of such “smoke shops” and “vape shops”. In order to allow the Town Board time to complete its review, draft proposed new legislation and enact any such legislation for these types of establishments, the Town Board deems it in the best interest of the general health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Town of Carmel to impose a moratorium on the issuance of any further building permits and/or certificates of occupancy by the Town of Carmel Building Department for the construction, establishment and/or operation of any additional or new “smoke shops” or “vape shops” within the limits of the Town of Carmel which are not currently in existence or operation.

**SECTION 3: MORATORIUM**

Chapter 156 of the Town Code of the Town of Carmel is hereby amended by the amendment/addition of subparagraph/section 156-39.6. which shall read as follows:

Notwithstanding the foregoing, no building permits and/or certificates of occupancy permitting the construction, establishment and/or operation of any additional or new “smoke shops” or “vape shops” which are not currently in existence or operation at the time of the enactment of this law shall be issued by the Town of Carmel Building Department as a permitted retail use or other use within any zone within the Town of Carmel, from the effective date of this Local Law through and including September 15, 2024. For purposes of this section “smoke shop” or “vape shop” shall mean any business, facility or establishment with its main, primary or specialized purpose being the on-premises use and/or retail sale of tobacco and tobacco-related products, smoking equipment and/or electronic cigarette products

and related products and paraphernalia.

**SECTION 4: HOME RULE**

Nothing in this Local Law is intended, or shall be construed (a) to limit the home rule authority of the Town under State Law to limit the Town's discretion in setting fees and charges in connection with any applications requiring Town approval.

**SECTION 5: SEVERABILITY**

If any part or provision of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person or circumstance be adjudged invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall be confined in its operation to the part or provision or application directly involved in the controversy in which judgment shall have been rendered and shall not affect or impair the validity of the remainder of this Local Law or the application thereof to other persons or circumstances, and the Town Board of the Town of Carmel hereby declares that it would have passed this Local Law or the remainder thereof had such invalid application or invalid provision been apparent.

**SECTION 6: EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the office of the Secretary of State in accordance with Section 27 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.