

SOCIAL HOST ORDINANCE for RICHMOND

RISKS OF YOUTH ALCOHOL & DRUG USE

Youth alcohol and drug use can have serious, long term impacts on teen health, including:

- Alcohol poisoning, depression, and long-term substance use disorders.

Youth alcohol and drug use can also result in an increase in:

- Car crashes
- Fights
- High-risk sexual practices and sexual assaults.



WHAT IS A SOCIAL HOST ORDINANCE (SHO)



A Social Host Ordinance (SHO) is a local law that helps reduce youth alcohol and drug use. Social host laws hold adults responsible for alcohol, cannabis, or other drugs served to underage individuals on the adult's property.

BENEFITS OF SOCIAL HOST

A SHO sends a strong community-wide message to adults that youth alcohol and drug use is unhealthy, unsafe and unacceptable. Local social host policy can act as a deterrent to help stop underage substance use at kick backs or parties before they cause harm.



RECCOMENDATIONS FOR SOCIAL HOST

While many social host ordinances are driven by large fines and fees, for a first time offenses, we propose the following:

- An 3-6 hour educational diversion course for adults who have permitted the use of alcohol or drugs by youth on their property
- A revenue neutral fee that covers the cost of administration and the cost of the course



Continue for Community Social Host Data



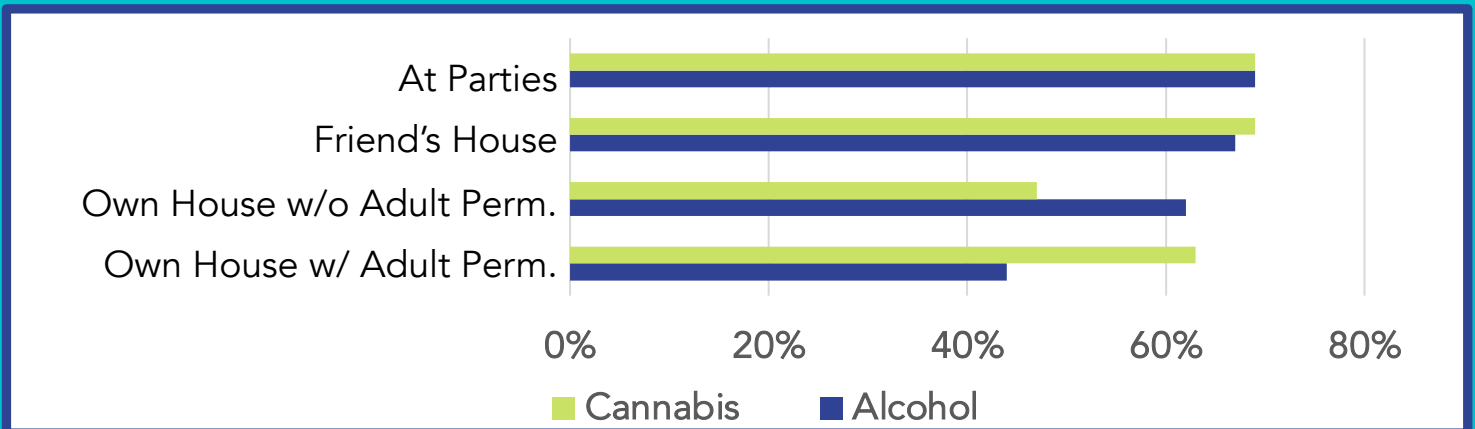
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COMMUNITY SURVEY DATA

Over 100 West County residents were surveyed at community events about their thoughts on youth alcohol and cannabis access and whether or not they would support a social host ordinance in their community. Below are survey highlights.



WHERE ADULTS THINK YOUTH GET ALCOHOL & CANNABIS



CURRENT

63% of West County adults believe consequences for adults who provide alcohol or cannabis to minors are weak and enforced inconsistently

84% of West County adults report they would support a local policy to prevent underage alcohol and cannabis use

RECOMMENDATION FOR SOCIAL HOST

West County residents are in favor of having a social host ordinance in their city.



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