NYC to raise cigarette prices to highest in the US

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(HealthDay)—A proposal to boost the base price of a pack of cigarettes

from $10.50 to $13.00 would make cigarettes in New York City the most expensive in the country.

Mayor Bill de Blasio announced that and other proposed measures Wednesday at an anti-smoking event, *USA Today* reported. "When it comes to New Yorkers' health, big tobacco is public enemy number one," he said. "Today, we are taking a stand against these companies to not only reduce smoking and tobacco usage in New York City, but also save lives."

The proposed anti-smoking measures include: raising the minimum price for all tobacco products; reducing through attrition the number of tobacco retailers; creating a license for electronic cigarettes and limiting the number of sellers; banning tobacco sales at pharmacies; and requiring all residential building to implement smoking policies and informing all current and would-be tenants about it.

The objective is to reduce the 900,000 smokers in the city by 160,000 over the next three years, *USA Today* reported. The City Council's Health Committee will review the bills on April 27.

 More information: More Information

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