

CONCORD MONITOR

Published on *Concord Monitor* (<http://www.concordmonitor.com>)

[Home](#) > Sale of synthetic drug banned in city

Sale of synthetic drug banned in city

By *Tara Ballenger*

Created 01/05/2011 - 00:00

Franklin

The Franklin City Council decided to ban the sale and possession of K2, a synthetic marijuana product that has popped up in gas stations and head shops across the country.

The council voted unanimously in favor of the ban at its meeting Monday night. The two residents who testified at the public hearing before the vote both supported the ban.

The city's ban coincides with one enacted by the Drug Enforcement Administration that went into effect late last month. The temporary ban, which makes it a criminal offense to sell or possess the substance, will last until December 2011 while the agency investigates its use. After that, it will decide whether or not to make the ban permanent.

"We wanted to send a message that we are being proactive about this issue," said Elizabeth Dragon, city manager and member of the Mayor's Drug and Alcohol Abuse Task Force.

By passing its own ban, the council also ensures that even if the DEA's ban is lifted in a year, Franklin's ban will remain, Dragon said. If that ban is lifted, however, the city's ban will operate like a city ordinance and won't carry the same criminal penalties associated with federal law, according to Franklin police Chief David Goldstein.

K2, along with other brands such as Spice, is a mixture of herbs and spices that is sprayed with a drug that mimics the effects of tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, the active ingredient in marijuana, according to the DEA.

[FRANKLIN \(NH\)](#) [New Hampshire](#)

Source URL: <http://www.concordmonitor.com/article/232375/sale-of-synthetic-drug-banned-in-city>