Recreational Marijuana
Permanent Regulations

City of Tacoma
Planning & Development Services Department

Planning Commission
November 5, 2014
Meeting Objectives

- Cue up the public review draft
  - Issues & analysis
  - Solicit direction on code changes

- Next meeting: set hearing date and approve public review draft
Existing marijuana sites

- Recreational marijuana businesses
  - Initial concerns: Concentration, industrial land capacity
  - Operations: Too new to identify impacts

- Medical marijuana enforcement/issues
  - Suspected dispensary – Proactive in 2012 for initially identified dispensaries
  - Collective gardens – Complaint-based
    - Within 600 feet of school, park, day care, etc
    - Nuisance code (ex. smell)
Potential code changes

LOCATION
- Add to buffers list (e.g., homeless shelters)
- Create retail distribution requirement
  - Limit: One per MUC

PROCESS
- Applicability (to all new marijuana businesses)
- Review process/public notification

STANDARDS
- Hours of operation
- Limits on “bad operators”
Locations

INTERIM CODE

- **Zoning Districts**
  - Retail: Commercial, mixed-use, downtown, light industrial
  - Production and Processing: heavy industrial districts

- **Buffering**
  - 1,000 feet from kids-related uses (per state)
  - Retail: 1,000 feet from sensitive populations (e.g., detox)
  - Not allowed in non-conforming sites

POTENTIAL CHANGES:

- Buffer homeless shelters
- Distribution between retail (500, 1000, 1500 ft …)
- Limit 1 retail per MUC
Process – Potential Changes

- **Applicability**
  - Clarify that all new marijuana businesses must follow rules

- **Local Review**
  - Create new administrative process
City review process – Potential change

- Supplement state license review

- Overview:
  - Non-discretionary review
  - Verify compliance w/ all standards
  - Public notification (retail only?)
  - Backstop & coordination for City review
  - Capture notice/review costs
License Review Process

- Applicant applies to WSLCB:
  - Background check on applicants
  - Location analysis
  - Review of business plan

- WSLCB notifies City:
  - Location analysis (zoning)
  - Review of building
  - Local background and code enforcement check

- City provides letter to WSLCB:
  - Letter will raise no objections or recommend denial
  - State considers City’s comments in making final decision

- Tacoma administrative review/approval
Standards – Potential changes

- Hours of operation
  - Current: closed midnight-8am
  - Potential: closed 9pm (10pm Fri/Sat) – 10am

- Prohibit “bad operators”
  - Supplement state rules & City License Code
  - Potential: Review applications for code enforcement issues (at other sites)
Other issues

- **Industrial capacity**
  - Limit marijuana prod/process to ensure space for major employer to expand
  - Allow prod/processing in M-1, WR

- **Shorelines**: Interim code prohibits marijuana in Shorelines
  - Has not been adopted by Ecology
  - To be submitted as limited SMP amendment
Potential changes - Review

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Next steps

Ongoing – stakeholder outreach

Nov 19th – public review packet & set public hearing

Dec 2nd – Council COW on medical enforcement strategy

Dec 3rd – Public Hearing

Dec 17th – Recommendation to Council

Also:

Dec 4th 11:30 am (tentative) – Spinning Heads tour (RSVP)