



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PERMANENT REGULATIONS ON MARIJUANA-RELATED USES – PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE TACOMA MUNICIPAL CODE

PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

Wednesday, December 3, 2014 5:00 p.m. City Council Chambers
Tacoma Municipal Building, 747 Market Street, 1st Floor

WHAT IS BEING CONSIDERED?

The Planning Commission is seeking public comment on proposed amendments to Tacoma's land use regulations concerning the production, processing, and retail uses of recreational marijuana. The proposed amendments to Tacoma Municipal Code, Chapter 13.06 – Zoning, **Section 13.06.565 Marijuana Businesses** (and potentially other sections for consistency) would replace the existing interim code, effective through May 2015, with permanent regulations. The proposal would retain the current requirements of the interim code, and make four key additions and modifications. Both the current requirements and proposed changes are summarized here.

WHAT IS THE PROPOSAL INTENDED TO ACHIEVE?

The proposal is intended to provide regulatory guidance to facilitate the City's review of marijuana license applications forwarded from the Washington State Liquor Control Board (WSLCB). In response to the voter approved Initiative 502, the City Council enacted the Recreational Marijuana Interim Regulations in November 2013, effective for one year, from November 17, 2013 to November 16, 2014, then extended the interim regulations, effective through May 16, 2015, to further evaluate the operations and impacts of licensed recreational marijuana businesses. The proposed code amendments would make the regulations permanent as well as address issues raised through community discussions.

Current (Interim) Marijuana Regulations Summary

- Adopts state standards and definitions per RCW 69.50;
- Establishes locations where marijuana businesses are permitted:
 - ✓ Prohibited in residential and shoreline districts;
 - ✓ Producers and processors permitted outright in intensive industrial zones;
 - ✓ Retailers permitted outright in most commercial, mixed-use, industrial, and downtown zones;
 - ✓ Prohibited within 1,000 feet of public parks, playgrounds, recreation/community centers, libraries, child care centers, schools, game arcades, and public transit centers, pursuant to WAC 314-55;
 - ✓ Retail prohibited within 1,000 feet of correctional facilities, court houses, drug rehabilitation facilities, substance abuse facilities, or detoxification centers;
- Requires compliance with standards including odor controls, size, hours of operation, display, signage and advertisement.

Proposed Modifications and Additions

1. Clarify that all new marijuana businesses must comply with City requirements.
2. Further limit marijuana retail open hours:
Closed between 9 p.m. and 10 a.m., Sunday-Thursday, and
Closed between 10 p.m. and 10 a.m., Friday-Saturday.
3. Prohibit new marijuana retail uses within 1,000 feet of any existing marijuana retail use(s).
4. Establish an administrative review process to coordinate city review; provide public notification of proposed retail marijuana uses; and, grant the City authority to deny an application based on noncompliance with City code.

HOW TO PROVIDE COMMENTS?

You can provide oral testimony at the public hearing on December 3, 2014 or provide written comments using the return address on this card no later than 5:00 p.m. on December 5, 2014, by facsimile at (253) 591-5433 or via e-mail to planning@cityoftacoma.org

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A Preliminary Determination of Nonsignificance (DNS) has been issued based on the completion of an environmental checklist. Comments on the DNS must be submitted by December 5, 2014. Unless modified by the City, the DNS will become final on December 12, 2014. The DNS, the environmental checklist, and additional information associated with the proposal are available at the Planning and Development Services Department, 747 Market Street, Room 345; and on the following website:

www.cityoftacoma.org/Planning

(and click on “Recreational Marijuana Permanent Regulations”)

STAFF CONTACT

If you have additional questions or comments please feel free to contact Elliott Barnett at (253) 591-5389 or elliott.barnett@cityoftacoma.org

The City of Tacoma does not discriminate on the basis of disabilities in any of its programs or services. Special accommodations can be provided upon request within five (5) business days prior to the hearing. To arrange for these accommodations please contact the Planning and Development Services Department at (253) 591-5030 (voice) or (253) 591-5153 (TDD).



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
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