Notice of Public Hearing

City of Tacoma

October 11, 2017

On Tuesday, October 24, 2017, at approximately 5:15 p.m., the City Council will conduct a public hearing on the proposed amendment to Section 13.06.565 of the Municipal Code, relating to Marijuana Uses, as recommended by the Planning Commission. For additional details, please see the reverse side of this notice.

This hearing will take place in the City Council Chambers on the first floor of the Tacoma Municipal Building, located at 747 Market Street, Tacoma, Washington. All persons will have an opportunity to present their oral comments at the meeting. Those wishing to submit written comments may do so at the public hearing, or may submit them to the City Clerk’s Office at cityclerk@cityoftacoma.org or 733 Market Street, Room 11, Tacoma, WA 98402, by 4:00 p.m., on Tuesday, October 24, 2017.

Resolution No. 39837, which sets the public hearing date, can be viewed in its entirety on the City’s website at www.cityoftacoma.org/recentlegis by clicking on the link for October 10, 2017, or by requesting a copy from the City Clerk’s Office at (253) 591-5505.

For more information, please contact Mr. Lihuang Wung, Senior Planner, Planning and Development Services Department at (253) 591-5682.

Doris Sorum
City Clerk

The City of Tacoma does not discriminate on the basis of disability in any of its programs, activities, or services. To request this information in an alternative format or to request a reasonable accommodation, please contact the City Clerk’s Office at (253) 591-5505. TTY or speech to speech users please dial 711 to connect to Washington Relay Services.
CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING
October 24, 2017

SUBJECT
Proposed zoning code amendment concerning marijuana use buffers.

SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSAL
The proposal would amend the Tacoma Municipal Code, Section 13.06.565 Marijuana Uses, Subsection B.3, as follows (where deletions are shown in bold strikethroughs and additions in bold Italic underlines):

3. For purposes of this Section and the standards applicable to state-licensed marijuana uses, the terms and definitions provided in WAC 314-55 shall generally apply unless the context clearly indicates otherwise except for the following definitions:
   (a) "Playground" means a public outdoor recreation area for children, usually equipped with swings, slides, and other playground equipment, owned and/or managed by a city, county, state, or federal government, or a metropolitan parks district.
   (b) "Recreation center or facility" means a supervised center that provides a broad range of activities and events intended primarily for use by persons under twenty-one years of age, owned and/or managed by a charitable nonprofit organization, city, county, state, or federal government, or a metropolitan parks district.

LEGISLATIVE INTENT
By adding local definitions of “playground” and “recreation center or facility” to the City’s zoning of marijuana uses and including “metropolitan parks district” in the ownership paradigm, the proposal would protect these facilities owned by Metro Parks Tacoma to the level of buffering intended by the State, but currently not covered by State definitions found in the Washington Administrative Code (WAC), Section 314-55-010(24)-(27). The proposed amendment would effectively alleviate the problems in permitting marijuana uses resulted from the gap between the state’s intent and definitions and prevent further conflicts from occurring.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Please visit the Planning Services Division’s website at www.cityoftacoma.org/Planning, and click on “Recent and Completed Projects” and then “Marijuana Regulations.”