Notice of Public Hearing

City of Tacoma

September 14, 2011

On Tuesday, September 27, 2011, at approximately 5:30 p.m., the City Council will conduct a public hearing on the six-month moratorium on the establishment, location, operation, licensing, permitting, maintenance or continuation of medical marijuana collective gardens or medical marijuana dispensaries. 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, 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 747 Market Street, Room 220, Tacoma, WA 98402, by 4:00 p.m., on Tuesday, September 27, 2011.

Ordinance No. 28010, which set 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 August 2, 2011, or by requesting a copy from the City Clerk’s Office at (253) 591-5505.

For more information, please call Ms. Donna Stenger at (253) 591-5210.

Wendy Fowler
Acting 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.
WHAT IS BEING CONSIDERED?
The City Council adopted Ordinance No. 28010 on August 2, 2011 placing a six-month moratorium on the establishment, location, operation, licensing, permitting, maintenance, or continuation of medical marijuana collective gardens or medical marijuana dispensaries. The purpose of the moratorium is to allow the City time to review recent changes in state law and consider potential changes to the City's regulations and requirements.

The City Council referred the moratorium to the Planning Commission to conduct a public hearing and develop findings of fact and recommendations regarding the moratorium. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on September 7, 2011, and has recommended to the Council that the moratorium be extended for an additional six months until August 1, 2012.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING?
The City Council is seeking public input on whether the emergency moratorium should be retained as is, withdrawn, extended for an additional six months as recommended by the Planning Commission, or further modified.

Please Note: This public hearing is on the need for and duration of the emergency moratorium and not to seek comment on permitting, regulating or licensing medical marijuana collective gardens or medical marijuana dispensaries.

HOW DO I PROVIDE COMMENTS TO THE CITY COUNCIL?
You can testify at the public hearing or provide written comments addressed to the City Clerk, 747 Market Street, Room 220, 747 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402, by facsimile at (253) 591-5300 or via e-mail using the following link http://cityoftacoma.org/citycouncil.

WHERE CAN I GET ADDITIONAL INFORMATION?
Additional information, including Ordinance No. 28010 establishing the moratorium and the Planning Commission's Findings of Fact and Recommendation is available from the Community and Economic Development Department, 747 Market Street, Room 1036 and on the Planning Division website:

www.cityoftacoma.org/planning
(click on "Medical Cannabis Moratorium")

If you have additional questions please feel free to contact Donna Stenger at (253) 591-5210 or dstenger@cityoftacoma.org