

Potential Changes to Cannabis Regulations Portland City Council

Sept. 6, 2017



- **Cannabis Program Background & Recent History**
- **Changes to PCC 14B.130**
 1. Delineating between Processors license types
 2. Allowing Retailers to continue operating if a school opens
 3. Allow ability to inspect applicants, not just licensees
- **Future of Portland Cannabis Regulations**



Cannabis Policy Background & Recent History

The City of Portland's Cannabis Program:

We're committed to adapting to the evolving cannabis industry as the cannabis landscape and the needs of our City grow and change, and as the cannabis industry and the City learn more about the impacts of cannabis regulation. We seek to serve in the following ways, among others:

- **Serves as a resource for cannabis information**
- **Provide options for consumers**
- **Reduce the illegal cannabis market**
- **Promote collaborative regulation**
- **Providing clear guidelines and expectations**
- **Offer support for the legal and regulated industry**



Cannabis Policy Background & Recent History

Since January 2017 (1/4)

- Began licensing Dispensaries, Retailers, and Wholesalers without requirement that buildings are up to code and all permits are final.
- Cannabis Program added blog and redesigns website (portlandoregon.gov/cannabis) to make it more easily navigable (particularly on mobile).
- Bureau of Development Services (BDS), in collaboration with the cannabis industry, releases [Cannabis Facilities Code Guide](#).



Cannabis Policy Background & Recent History

Since January 2017 (2/4)

- Began convening meetings with **cannabis industry representatives and trade organizations** about their members' needs and concerns.
- Began convening meeting with **minority cannabis business owners and consultants** about how Portland can help correct some of the inequities created by the war on drugs.
- Began regular one-on-ones with **licensees and applicants** to better understand licensing/permitting struggles, get feedback directly from owners, and connect business owners with City resources.



Cannabis Policy Background & Recent History

Since January 2017 (3/4)

- Cannabis Program met with **Oregon Retailers of Cannabis Association** and the **Craft Cannabis Alliance** to discuss the needs of their members, how the City can help support local craft cannabis businesses, and how to reduce regulatory pinches.
- Cannabis Program worked with representatives of the **Oregon Cannabis Association's "Summer Fair"** to give guidance on how to allow for consumption of cannabis congruent with State/local laws.
- Cannabis Program, Fire Bureau, and BDS made cannabis business site visits to discuss permitting, safety, and how to expedite the permitting and buildout process.



Cannabis Policy Background & Recent History

Since January 2017 (4/4)

- Portland City Code changed to allow Producers and Processors (*businesses that carry a greater level of potential risk*) to use a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (TCO) from BDS to satisfy commercial building permit requirements.
- City of Portland Office of Government Relations, Mayor's Office, and Cannabis Program under Commissioner Eudaly testified in support of social consumption of cannabis (SB 307).
- BDS began holding reserved, weekly meetings for cannabis business owners who are seeking information and assistance with the building permitting process.



Changes to PCC 14B.130



Changes to PCC 14B.130

- **Three major changes:**
 1. Delineating between Processors license types;
 2. Allowing Retailers to continue operating if a school opens within 1000 feet;
 3. Allowing Cannabis Program ability to inspect applicants, not just licensees.



Changes to PCC 14B.130

1. Delineating Between Processor license types:

The OLCC has **FOUR** endorsement types for Processors:

- Cannabinoid Extracts
 - Cannabinoid Concentrates
 - Cannabinoid Topicals
 - Cannabinoid Edibles
- **Proposed change:** Make change so **ONLY Cannabinoid Extract Processors** will need to show final Certificate of Occupancy (*or TCO*), as well as all additional final permitting, before obtaining license from Cannabis Program.
 - Other Processor types (*concentrates, topicals, and edibles*): **NO LONGER** need to show final permitting needed for initial license (*will still need at renewal*).



Changes to PCC 14B.130

2. Allowing Retailers to continue operating if a school opens within 1000 feet

- **Proposed change:** Allow legal, licensed Retailers, Dispensaries, and Retail Couriers to remain licensed, EVEN IF a new school opens within 1000ft.
- OLCC rules have an allowance for this; will not apply if the licensed is revoked or if ownership changes.



Changes to PCC 14B.130

3. Allowing Cannabis Program ability to inspect applicants, not just licensees:

- **Proposed change:** Allow Cannabis Program staff to inspect applicants, not just licensees.
- This change reflects our application process, in which an inspection is necessary to get licensed. It also allows staff to request to inspect locations that are required to get licensed, but have not yet done so.
- Staff will **NOT** have the authority to perform an inspection without business owner or property owner consent.



Future of Portland's Cannabis Policy



Future: PDX as a Cannabis Leader

- The City has convened a ***Cannabis Policy Oversight Team (CPOT)*** - made of community and industry members - to help inform the conversation about the City's cannabis policy moving forward.
- The City supported **SB 307**, and supports a regulatory framework to allow for the social consumption of cannabis.
- We will begin convening meetings with **women-owned cannabis business owners and consultants** about the challenges faced by women in the cannabis industry.
- We seek to meaningfully lower the barriers to entry to the legal cannabis industry, without comprising public safety and livability, in order to:
 - Support Portland's and Oregon's craft cannabis industry so that it's well-positioned to take advantage of future interstate commerce opportunities.
 - Protect the legal, regulated cannabis industry from the illegal market.
 - Establish programs to incentive illegal market business owners to join regulated industry.
 - Collaborate with other jurisdictions in Oregon, the US, and around the world toward cannabis policies that support the craft cannabis industry.

THANK YOU!

