Agenda Item 1048

15

### TESTIMONY

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

# MARIJUANA LICENSE REGULATIONS

IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO CITY COUNCIL, PRINT YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND EMAIL.

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· Lynnae Berg	200 Sumarket St Cuik 150 Portland 9720	
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- SAMUEL GROSZ Robert Burn Robert Burn	400 N Thompson St. POX 97227 5456 NE Sam Yerst Er. Portud OR 97213 Store The Sam Yerst Ter. Portud OR 97213	
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V JASON MCGrew	916 WE 160th AVE Port or	Jason McGrew bld Ognal . con
Date <u>10-14-15</u>	97230	Page of

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	NAME (print)	ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE	Email
1	MARGO WCAS	Dregon	alternothereliefelinicognicilie
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-	NFCW Local 555		
V	Sondra Storm	2530 NE Killingsworth 97211	Sondra, Storm @multro.ug
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Date 10-14-15

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**TO:** Commissioner Fritz, Mayor Hales and Portland City Councilors

- FR: Portland's Cannabis Business Community
- DA: October 14, 2015
- RE: City licensing of retail cannabis businesses

Dear Commissioner Fritz, Mayor Hales and City Commissioners,

We are small business owners, job providers and taxpayers in the city of Portland who are licensed and compliant with state regulation. While we generally support the City's proposed regulations for cannabis businesses, we are distressed and concerned about regulatory actions that city staff have put forward to govern the local licensing of our businesses. **We are asking the Council to help us work toward a fair and comprehensive resolution.** 

Under the current proposal, many of our businesses could unfairly be forced to close because of arbitrary dates imposed by the rules. These rules seem inconsistent with the City's stated goals of developing a fair, transparent and reasonable licensing process, and they come as a surprise to many of us who participated on rulemaking committees, attended community meetings, and provided feedback to staff at other public meetings.

As business owners and community members, we support fair and reasonable time, place and manner regulations from the city. **But the unintended consequences of the staff's proposal could be devastating for our businesses, our employees and our families.** We have worked very hard to comply with all of the laws, rules and regulations in order to operate in a frequently changing legal and regulatory environment. Many of us have invested our life savings in order to enter into serve Portlanders in this new market.

It seems unfair that despite following all of the rules and regulations that were in place at the time we applied for licensing with the state, and despite having complied with every state licensing requirement, we could be denied the chance to operate in Portland because we are unable to secure a city license that did not even exist when we received our state licenses.

We ask you to consider our petition and work out a licensing process that is fair, transparent and reasonable, and ensures an orderly transition as Portland's retail cannabis market expands to include adult-use sales.

Sincerely,

27 licensed and compliant Portland dispensary owners and operators

### **Portland Dispensary Owners and Operators**

- 1. Michelle Barnes, Little Amsterdam Wellness Centers, SW Portland 32 employees
- 2. Adrien Alvarez, Qi Company, LLC, North Portland 10 employees
- 3. Ramin Ojani, Alberta Green House, NE Portland, 1 employee
- 4. Vincent Porpiglia, Sweet Leaf, SE Portland 20 employees
- 5. Ben Contreras, Local Herb Collective, SE Portland, 20 employees
- 6. Adrienne Garcia, Pakalolo PDX, SE Portland 5 employees
- 7. Phillip Chen, Puddletown Organics, SE Portland 15 employees
- 8. Sandra Kahl-butler, One Draw Two, NE Portland 8 employees
- 9. Paul Pedreira, Portland's Best Buds, North Portland 5 employees
- 10. Eli Bilton, Attis Trading Company, NE, SE and NW Portland 22 employees
- 11. Megan Marchetti, Oregon's Finest, NW and NE Portland 40 employees
- 12. John Anderson, Herbalist Farmer, NE Portland 7 employees
- 13. Jeremy Plumb, Farma, SE Portland 17 employees
- 14. Aron Arel, Rose City Wellness, NW Portland 11 employees
- 15. John Conley, MindRite, NW Portland 12 employees
- 16. Clint Rogers, Greener Grasses, NE Portland 4 employees
- 17. Meghan and Matt Walstatter, Pure Green, NE Portland 14 employees
- 18. David Kline, Kline Cultivation, SW Portland 1 employee
- 19. Margaret Sperry, Urban Farmacy, NE Portland 10 employees
- 20. Ryan Flegel, Slabtown, NW Portland 5 employees
- 21. Christopher Olson, Rooted Northwest LLC, NE Portland 2 employees
- 22. Rodney Smith, Portland Medicine Pot, NW Portland 12 employees
- 23. Nick Isaac, Calyxes, SW Portland 10 employees
- 24. John Bayes, Green Bodhi, SW Portland 15 employees
- 25. Trevor Reed, Hi Casual Cannabis, SE Portland 8 employees
- 26. Jeremy Pratt, Nectar, NE, SE and North Portland 85 employees
- 27. Richard Reichard, Trigenx Research Group, NE and SE Portland

#### And these businesses who work with them

- 1. Christopher Malott, Phyre Holdings, SW Portland 12 employees
- 2. Jason Wasserman, Udoxi Scientific, SE Portland 7 employees
- 3. Sally Alworth, Luminous Botanicals, North Portland 2 employees
- 4. Dru Perez, D&L Securities, LLC, NE Portland 4 employees
- 5. Todd Foster, Oregon Cannabis Insurance, NW Portland 1 employee
- 6. Scott Kveton, Odava, Inc., SW Portland 2 employees
- 7. Mark Swain, Canna Builders, LLC 25 employees
- 8. Lisa Lewis, Custom Cannabis

### Testimony of Lynnae Berg Portland Business Alliance Before Portland City Council Regarding Marijuana Dispensaries in the Central City October 14, 2015

Good morning, Mayor Hales and Commissioners.

My name is Lynnae Berg, Executive Director of Downtown Clean & Safe and the Vice President of Downtown Services at the Portland Business Alliance. I'm here to testify regarding the proposed amendment to lift the 1,000 ft. ban on marijuana dispensaries in Portland's central city.

The Downtown Clean & Safe District is a 213 block area of downtown and is one of the most successful business improvement districts in the nation. As you know, businesses within this area pay a fee to raise money that supplements publicly-financed services for neighborhood improvement, including cleaning, security, community justice services, and retail recruitment in the District. Unfortunately, there has been little, if any, outreach to any of the participating businesses within the District. We urge that you pull this amendment for further consideration to ensure that it is property vetted by the many residents and businesses including retailers and hoteliers in the Clean & Safe District and in our broader central city.

We feel because of the nature of this industry, this proposal should be fully vetted by neighborhood associations, retailers, and other businesses in the central city before enacting a special rule that may adversely impact them.

Thank you for your consideration.