

Public Meeting Overview from October 19, 2018 Related to the Medical Marijuana Ordinance Sunset Date

On October 17 and October 19, 2018 the Planning and Development Services Department (PDS) staff conducted two public meetings related to the Medical Marijuana Ordinance Sunset Date. At these meetings, staff gave a presentation to help everyone understand the Medical Marijuana ordinance, and facilitated a discussion for participants to share their opinions, observations and suggestions regarding proposed changes and improvements. The following is an overview of the Feedback received at those meetings:

- One of the participants asked a question about the number of children or if an instructional school, like a dance or gym would require a setback from a medical marijuana pharmacist. Staff responded that a medical marijuana pharmacist does not have a setback requirement because it is considered a medical office use.
- A representative from the Feldman's Neighborhood Association stated that they supported the extension of the Sunset Date with modifications to restrict dispensaries next to homes.
- A participant stated that we need to expand the distance between schools and uses, churches – this is a community based on family and the location of the cultivation facility will change that culture. They stated that we need to provide notice to the residents.
- The owner of the proposed cultivation facility going in near Rita Ranch stated that the concerns of the community are valid and should be discussed. He also stated that he moved the site away from the schools and the youth. He mentioned that while he is not wanting to draw attention to the project, he is not hiding either and is accessible for people to contact him.
- One woman stated that he should be striving to set the standard for transparency. The reason she moved to Rita Ranch was because it had low crime, tranquility. She stated she was concerned about loss of that safety.
- The owner of the proposed cultivation facility stated he wished he would have reached out to the community. He also stated that it is not fair to categorize the business he is in – It is fully regulated and safe as possible.
- One woman stated that in regards to employees for these facilities, everyone in the industry must be fingerprinted, have a background check and be at least 21.
- One woman asked how the cultivation facility works and if it can be transferred to a dispensary. Staff clarified that these facilities are only allowed in the Commercial Zones, so this facility would not be able to convert to a dispensary.
- The aide from Ward 4 stated that Councilmember Scott will ask to include notice similar to the Liquor Mitigation Plan and that staff should look include this in our revisions. They also stated that they did conduct outreach to areas that have existing cultivation facilities and there were no appeared to be no complaints related to them. There will be no signage for this facility on the streets. They also asked staff to clarify the notification process for the text amendment. Staff stated that for the text amendment, staff is required by code to place a legal ad in the

newspaper and notify all registered neighborhood associations in the City. Additionally, staff notifies all interested parties who have been a part of the process – that includes all who have provided their information at these public meetings.

- One attendee asked about the zoning regulations and who makes the final call. Staff clarified that the final call on all zoning changes and UDC text changes is the Mayor and Council.
- It was clarified that the cultivation facility does meet the zoning by right, so notice is not needed.
- One woman from Rita Rank stated that the even though the cultivation site will not cease, it still should have been noticed to the public. It needs to be more remote of a site and out of reach.
- The owner of the proposed cultivation facility stated that teenage and criminal activity will be addressed and it is a good thing that people came out to the meeting. He also clarified what good the facility will bring:
 - Jobs for 50 people, tax revenue, LEED water facility – while it requires 2800 gallons a day, the facility will only be using 280 from the city because of reuse.
 - They also stated that there will be an intensive odor mitigation plan that will be submitted to the City and they believe it will set a standard for the industry.