

Medical Marijuana Sunset Date Stakeholder Meetings Overview

Odor Mitigation

- Filters and fans required to adequately mitigate odor in cultivation facilities are very expensive and potentially cost prohibitive to some businesses.
- Business owners do not think that odor mitigation regulations should apply to a dispensary and cultivation facility equally. At both meetings, they stated that odor is not an issue at dispensaries, even those with infusion kitchens.
- There were questions at both meetings as to whether an odor mitigation clause would apply equally to indoor and outdoor cultivation facilities. Business owners expressed that it does not make sense to mitigate odor at outdoor cultivation facilities because they are limited to Industrial zones. Any odor generated would not be in proximity to residential areas or commercial activity.
- This led to a question on whether *any* cultivation facility (indoor included) in an industrial or rural zone should be required to mitigate odor.
- Staff and stakeholders agreed that a list of approved equipment for odor mitigation may help clarify the requirement.

Size Restrictions

- The requirement that 25% of the square footage of a dispensary be designated waiting area space limits the retail space available. Especially with the amendment to the ordinance that increased the maximum area allowed, business owners feel it is not necessary to require this percentage of waiting space and that it limits their operations.
- One business owner expressed interest in the limit on size of dispensaries be lifted altogether.
 - Neighborhood associations expressed concern over a rumor of increased size or unlimited size. Suggested solution: if facilities are going to be larger than current size restrictions allow, they must abide by setbacks from residential areas similar to other restricted adult uses.

Parks

- Business owners wondered what the criteria will be for a park if the source is switched from the TSM to MapTucson. They asked whether linear parks will apply. One solution proposed by staff was a possible additional map layer created for those parks applicable to the setbacks from medical marijuana facilities given in the ordinance.

Churches

- In relation to the required setbacks from schools, churches, etc., business owners asked that the definition of a church be clearer. Staff suggested changing the wording in the ordinance to mirror the definition given in the UDC.

Future Recreational Use

- Stakeholders would like wording of the ordinance to facilitate an easy transition to future recreational use.
- Urged the city to consider impacts on traffic, parking, and surrounding neighborhoods and businesses if recreational use becomes legal. Business owners anticipate 4-5x the current occupation based on what has happened in other cities where recreational use has recently become legal.
- Business owners were curious about the city's position and involvement in any conversation to switch to recreational use. Staff responded that it is not part of the conversation yet.

Restrooms

- Business owners asked why public restrooms are not required in medical marijuana facilities when they are required in both retail and medical facilities.
- All agreed that they would like to provide restrooms for patients but might consider limiting use to clients in order to prevent issues (i.e. medicating in restrooms, use by non-patients).