

Bartley, Landon

From: Bartley, Landon
Sent: Wednesday, December 05, 2018 3:47 PM
To: Bartley, Landon
Subject: Medical Marihuana in Grand Rapids - December 5 Update

Good afternoon,

I'm including you on this email because you have contacted me or another Planning staff member at some point about medical marihuana. If you no longer want to be on this list, please respond to let me know. If there are others that you think might want to be on the list, please forward this to them and have them contact me directly with questions or to be added to the list. Thank you.

Two email updates in less than a week – something must be happening in Grand Rapids! Yesterday the City Commission adopted or moved forward several items. I have posted several items to [the City's marihuana webpage](#) today, including videos of the Commission's meetings, links to the policies and amendments, and, soon, a copy of this email. Even so, there may be some confusion about what exactly was approved and the next steps, so I want to briefly attempt to clarify.

Practitioner Workshop on January 3

First off, I want to remind you that I will be hosting another workshop for practitioners, in which I will discuss many details that have now been firmed up since the previous workshop. The workshop is free to attend and will also be livestreamed on [the City's Facebook page](#). It will be on **Thursday, January 3, 2019, beginning at 1:00 PM**, in **City Commission Chambers on the 9th floor of City Hall**. City Hall is located at [300 Monroe Avenue NW, Grand Rapids MI 49503](#), with paid garage parking available in the Government Center garage beneath the building. I expect the workshop to last roughly 2 hours, and will address the ordinance, the MIVEDA, application process and timeline, and other policies, leaving time for questions. **Please let me know by email if you intend to come to the workshop so I have an idea of how many to expect, and if you have any particular questions so I can be sure to address those.** Thank you again for your assistance in this regard.

Ordinance Amendments

The City Commission moved forward zoning ordinance amendments last night for a final vote to adopt on December 18, 2018. A couple of notable items in these amendments were:

- 1) To continue to **require prequalification** prior to application for **growers, processors, and provisioning centers**;
- 2) To eliminate for **safety compliance facilities** and **secure transporters** the requirements for Special Land Use review, the separation distance requirements, and prequalification (although application for prequalification is required prior to local application);
- 3) A revised timeline, with **application acceptance for growers, processors, and provisioning centers beginning March 4, 2019** (and January 22, 2019 for safety compliance facilities or secure transporters).

We do not expect any of these provisions to change prior to the vote on December 18, 2018. However, you can still submit comment to the City Commission, either in person at their meeting that evening, or via email to cityclerk@grcity.us.

Policies

Last night the City Commission approved two policies:

- 1) A final contract form for the MIVEDA (Marihuana Industry Voluntary Equitable Development Agreement) – which can be found here:
http://grandrapidscitymi.iqm2.com/Citizens/Detail_LegiFile.aspx?Frame=&MeetingID=4574&MediaPosition=&

[D=7809&CssClass=](#). I also received some questions last night about the General Target Area mentioned in the MIVEDA, and I have posted a map and address list of the that area to [the Medical Marihuana webpage](#).

- 2) A policy describing standards to be used by the City Commission and Planning Commission when determining whether to grant a waiver from the separation distance requirements for publicly-owned parks and playgrounds. That policy can be found here:

http://grandrapidscitymi.ig2.com/Citizens/Detail_LegiFile.aspx?Frame=&MeetingID=4574&MediaPosition=&D=7753&CssClass=. FYI both the City of Wyoming and Grand Rapids Township have expressed that they will not support any waivers of the separation distance from parks within their boundaries ([Marquette Park](#) and [Grand Rapids Township Park](#), respectively). If you believe that a property in which you are interested may be located within 1,000 feet of a park or playground and will need a waiver, please let me know.

A Final Note

Several of you have expressed gratitude to me for the work that I and other staff have done on this topic. Thank you. I appreciate your kind words, and I also continue to appreciate your comments on the ordinance, policies, maps, and many other facets of the work we are doing to provide regulations for this industry that – we hope – are reasonable, predictable, and attainable. Along those lines, though, some of you have told me that you would like to send any sort of gift(s) to me and other staff. That's very thoughtful, but please know that [we generally cannot accept any sort of gift or favor](#), and in fact will return any gift having a value of \$10 or more. So, we appreciate the gesture, but ask that if you are so inclined to please direct such kindness towards a deserving charity.

Thank you for your continued comments and questions. As always, I encourage you to visit [the City's medical marihuana webpage](#) often, to be sure to stay as up-to-date as possible.

Best wishes,

Landon Bartley, AICP

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