

Bartley, Landon

From: Bartley, Landon
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 9:58 AM
To: Bartley, Landon
Subject: Marijuana in Grand Rapids - March 11, 2019 Update
Attachments: 3 1 19 Information Meeting Handout.pdf

Good morning,

I'm including you on this email because you have contacted me or another Planning staff member at some point about medical marijuana in Grand Rapids. 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.

As we begin the second week accepting applications for the draw, we've only received a handful, and yet we have still been very busy, mostly fielding questions from applicants, although we have certainly been reviewing those applications that have been submitted. I appreciate your patience as we do our best to respond to your many questions, and I hope this update helps. Please know that I will be exceptionally limited in my ability to respond (and even less available for any meetings) next week.

Here are some answers to commonly asked questions:

Practitioner meeting video

I hosted another informational meeting for practitioners on Friday March 1 and covered a lot of last minute items about the application process. Quite a bit of this information was also in the last update I sent on February 21, which I would suggest reviewing again (you can also find that and previous emails online at <https://www.grandrapidsmi.gov/Government/Programs-and-Initiatives/Medical-Marihuana/Contacts...> MANY common questions are answered in those updates!). View the video of the presentation online here: <https://youtu.be/ncnCgzV1m6o> I have also attached the presentation slides to this email in handout form.

Rejection of Competing Applications

REMEMBER, only one application can be processed per parcel; **competing applications for the same parcel will be rejected**. Take care to be sure your application is the only one being submitted for a property. If we receive another application for a parcel, the **competing applicants will be given 2 business days to figure it out or they will both (all) be rejected**. To avoid this, if you believe that this may be the case for the property at which you're intending to submit an application, you'll want to coordinate with the seller/landlord ASAP.

MIVEDA Clarifications

1. For determining **residency** points, you may claim one or more points if at least 25% of your entire company is owned by one or more residents living in one of the four areas outlined in the MIVEDA for at least one of the last five years. **This timeline is five years prior to your application date, and REMAINS THAT WAY even for future monitoring purposes**. We previously thought the timeline would change as time progresses. **It does not**. Make sure to carefully and effectively prove the residency of your owners and their share of the company's ownership if you claim one or more of these points. The ownership of your company must match the records that LARA has for your entity. We will be verifying all information with LARA.
2. For the local hiring, MicroLBE, and 30+ employees points, these are commitments that must be proven at monitoring points 1, 2, and 3 years after your date of licensing by LARA. For the MicroLBE point, "participation" **DOES NOT INCLUDE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH UTILITIES OR PURCHASE OF INVENTORY**.

3. As with all other conditions of approval, failure to meet MIVEDA points may result in potentially severe consequences. Do not claim points that you cannot support for three years!

Waivers

Remember, all waivers are granted by the Planning Commission, not the sensitive land use for which you might need to request a waiver. Your responsibility is to notify the sensitive land use of (1) your intent to submit an application and (2) that you'll be requesting a waiver. You need to be able to prove that you have notified them of this... we *suggest* a copy of the mailing and a certified mail receipt, but if there's another way to prove this, that's OK too. (Note: you do not need your mailings to neighboring properties to be certified!) For parks waivers, simply call this out in your application, as by doing so you are notifying City staff of the need for that waiver. We cannot guarantee that sensitive land uses on our online map are still there, nor can we guarantee that the map contains ALL such sensitive uses. Be sure to review your surrounding areas extremely carefully, as it is ultimately your responsibility to prove that your property is suitable!

Governor Whitmer's Executive Order

On Friday, March 1, the Governor signed an Executive Order that, among other things, dissolves the Medical Marijuana Licensing Board (MMLB). We do not believe that this will affect our process. At this time we are still requiring prequalification **by the time of the draw**, and our most recent conversations with BMR staff includes a reasonable expectation that the MMLB will continue to meet as scheduled.

Insurance

A letter of intent is acceptable at the time of application, instead of a policy currently in effect. This letter should still cover all the points outlined in the requirement, and name the applying entity specifically. Your insurer needs to show that they are licensed to do business in Michigan and have an AM Best rating of B++ or better (not B+++; this was a typo).

Applications

There is no advantage or disadvantage to applying online over in-person. If you choose to apply online, please know that the transaction limit for application fees is \$5,000.00. For co-located or stacked applications, this means that you will need to contact the Development Center to pay for the additional application fees. If you are applying in person/on paper, you do not need to include two copies of everything. Just one is OK, as well as digital copies of all files, preferably on a flash drive or something similar. That said, two copies of everything is OK too... we don't mind.

Map & Table online

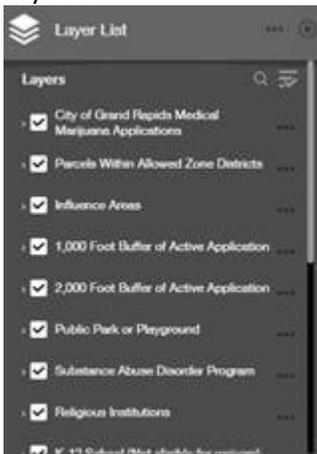
Check the [City's marijuana webpage](#) for a table with some information about applications that have been received so far. This table is still in process, and will be made sortable next week. We've also set up a mini-map for quick review of where applications have come in. Please note that buffers on the mini-map are currently only showing up as 1,000 feet. The [main online marijuana map](#)'s buffers are correct, although we do realize that they are not matching up perfectly to parcel lines. It's a work in progress. If on the main map, you're having trouble seeing the application icons, the buffers, or any other information on the map, remember that you can turn layers on and off, and also adjust the background using the "Layers" menu and "Basemap Gallery" tools, respectively.

Those menus look like this in the map:

Basemap Gallery (I personally recommend "Light Gray Canvas")



Layer List



Have a Great Week

I know that many of you are finalizing your application(s) this week. I hope it goes well. Please continue to contact me as needed with questions and I will do my best to respond as I am able. As always, I encourage you to visit [the City's medical marijuana webpage](#) often, to be sure to stay as up-to-date as possible.

Best wishes and good luck,
Landon

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