

Bartley, Landon

From: Bartley, Landon
Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2018 9:15 AM
To: Bartley, Landon
Subject: Medical Marihuana in Grand Rapids - November 13 Update
Attachments: Proposed Ordinance Amendments 11-8-18 PC.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. 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.

Ordinance Amendments

Last Thursday (11/8/18), the Grand Rapids Planning Commission recommended approval, to the City Commission, of several proposed amendments to the City's pending medical marijuana ordinance. I have attached those proposed amendments once again to this email for your review. Minutes will be available soon, but in the meantime the public hearing can be viewed online at <https://www.facebook.com/CityofGrandRapids/videos/562168577545205/>, beginning around the 1:56:00 mark. The one major proposed amendment **not supported** by the Planning Commission was to remove the requirement for applicants to have received prequalification from the State prior to applying for local approval. Put another way, **if the amendments are adopted according to the Planning Commission's recommendation**, prequalification will continue to be required in order to apply for local approval.

That said, the Planning Commission's decision was a recommendation, subject to City Commission review and adoption. The first reading of the ordinance amendments will take place on December 4, 2018, during which the City Commission will determine whether they would like to host an additional public hearing for the amendments. The public hearing and/or vote to adopt the amendments will take place later in December (at the earliest).

Policies and Administration

Several other policy items, including the VEDA, park separation distance waivers, application process, fees and refunds, etc. will be discussed by the City Commission at a special briefing session **TODAY, November 13, 2018 at 11:00 AM EST**. Information and draft attachments can be viewed online at http://grandrapidscitymi.ig2.com/Citizens/Detail_Meeting.aspx?ID=4713. While public comment will **not** be taken during the briefing, you can view a livestream of the meeting on the City's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CityofGrandRapids/>. Public comment may be made at this evening's City Commission meeting, which begins at 7:00 PM in City Commission Chambers, 9th floor, 300 Monroe Ave NW, Grand Rapids MI 49503. While individual Commissioners are reachable by email, direct communications to them about specific items should be limited during meetings. In general, official correspondence to the City Commission is best made via the City Clerk's office, at cityclerk@grcity.us.

Several of you have emailed or called me recently with specific questions, to which I have not yet been able to respond. As you may know, I receive many emails and phone calls about this topic on a daily basis, and I will continue to respond as I am able. Along these lines, I will not be available at all next week as I will be out of the office. As always, I appreciate your ongoing comments and questions, and encourage you to continue to visit the City's medical marijuana webpage first (<https://www.grandrapidsmi.gov/MedicalMarihuana>). Thank you.

Best wishes,

Landon Bartley, AICP
Senior Planner
City of Grand Rapids
616-456-4499
lbartley@grcity.us