

Oakland Diversity & Equity Cannabis Coalition (OakDECC) consists of individuals, advocates, movement groups, social justice community based organizations, and businesses including existing and potential dispensaries, manufacturers, cultivators, and distributors, represented by employees, managers, and operators, with an emphasis on diversity of gender, class, and race. We are committed to the successful implementation of the current Equity Program and to a prosperous and diverse medical cannabis business community in Oakland. We support the following recommendations from the Cannabis Regulatory Commission.

June 20, 2016

To: The Oakland City Council
From: Matt Hummel, Chairperson, Cannabis Regulatory Commission
Re: Proposed Amendments to Improve Medical Cannabis Equity Permit Program

City Council President Gibson-McElhaney and Honorable Members of the Oakland City Council:

In an effort to refine the recently passed ordinances (5.80 and 5.81) designed to regulate Cannabis cultivation, production, and sales in the City of Oakland, the Cannabis Regulatory Commission discussed and unanimously approved the below recommendations at its June meeting.

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OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND
SEP 15 PM 4:42

Proposed Amendments to 5.80 and 5.81

Expanded Eligibility Criteria

1. Expand to include Oakland residents incarcerated for cannabis offenses anywhere in California, in addition to those arising out of Oakland.
2. Expand to include spouses and children of Oakland residents incarcerated for cannabis offenses anywhere in California.
3. Expand to include individuals incarcerated for cannabis offenses at any point, not just those incarcerated in the last 10 years.
4. Expand included police beats based on a 5 year historical data set, instead of just one year. The broader data set supports inclusion of the following beats as disproportionately impacted by cannabis enforcement: 2x, 2y, 6x, 7x, 19x, 20x, 21y, 23x, 26y, 27x, 27y, 29x, 30x, 30y, 31y, 31z, 33x, 34x, 35x.
5. Modify the language in Item 4 of each Ordinance's Equity Requirement to state that ANY prior conviction shall not be a bar to equity ownership (or employment).

Existing Businesses

1. Clarify that businesses that can prove existing operation in Oakland have a clear path to be issued permits if they meet operating requirements.
2. Add a right to appeal a permit application denial.

Create Economic Benefits for Equity Permits

1. Expedited consideration for the equity permit applicants.
2. Defer first year permit fee, allow for quarterly payment permit fee rather than an upfront lump sum.
3. Waive or reduce the application fee.
4. Temporary partial relief from the 5% cannabis business tax rate.

Cottage Licenses

1. The City of Oakland should take a formal position in favor of AB 2516.
2. Implement permits for cottage cultivation if AB 2516 passes.
3. Include a provision in 5.81 that allows for non-volatile manufacturing of cannabis infused edibles in existing commercial kitchens in commercially zoned areas.