



NURY MARTINEZ
COUNCILWOMAN, SIXTH DISTRICT

August 14, 2017

Dear Colleagues:

On March 7, 2017 the voters of Los Angeles overwhelmingly passed Measure M that gave the City of Los Angeles the power to regulate cannabis activity within city limits. This measure was initiated in response to the dismal enforcement of controls intended under Proposition D and to deal with the recently passed statewide initiative - Adult Use of Marijuana Act.

No matter my personal feelings about the legalization of cannabis activities in the city, voters have spoken loud and clear that they want strong, common sense legislation that allows for access to cannabis, but that is done equitably throughout the City of Los Angeles and protects communities through regulation and enforcement of our city ordinances in a manner that does not burden certain communities with impacts greater than others.

With regard to these key points, I would ask that we use community plan areas – our guides for the protection of our diverse neighborhoods as a framework in which to meet those goals. Using our community plans will allow us to responsibly allow fair access while ensuring an equitable distribution of all of these activities (retail, cultivation, manufacturing and testing facilities) rather than allowing for an undue concentration of activities in certain communities. I put forward the following limits on cannabis activities per community plan area:

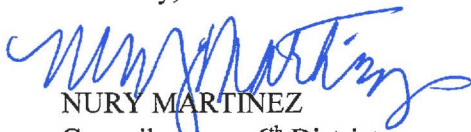
- 1 retail dispensary facility per 10,000 of community plan population
- 1 cultivation facility per 20,000 of community plan population
- 1 manufacturer facility per 20,000 of community plan population
- 1 testing facility per 30,000 of community plan population

In order to accommodate these levels, we will need to ensure that distancing requirements between facilities are practically feasible so as not to create obstacles, while also maintaining the distance requirements from sensitive uses.

Additionally, we must ensure that any of the revenue generated from licensing of these facilities be first dedicated to a significant enforcement detail to ensure the safety and well-being of residential neighborhoods as well as business areas. Once implemented, and upon a review of our enforcement capacity and effectiveness, we can then utilize revenues for other purposes.

It is our duty to enact the voters' will on cannabis, but we also need to act with great care and not allow the mistakes and shortcomings of the past to come back and continue to harm our communities. I look forward to continuing this discussion and bringing forward a set of regulations that will treat all of our communities with respect.

Sincerely,


NURY MARTINEZ
Councilwoman, 6th District

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