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MOTION PLANNING & LAND USE MANAGEMENT

Regardless of any debates on the merits / benefits of the use of marijuana for medicinal and even for recreational purposes, the fact remains that this issue has caused great consternation in our residential neighborhoods, and in many commercial areas. Effective regulation of marijuana dispensing facilities has proved elusive for the City, and many of them, both legal and illegal have been associated with increased nuisance; and even criminal activities which menace the peaceful and safe daily lives of our residents, children, and other local businesses.

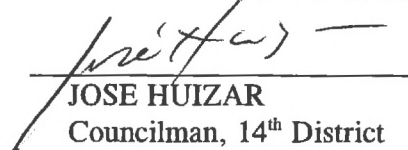
Following the explosive growth of medical marijuana dispensaries, Proposition D was passed by Los Angeles voters in May, 2013 for the regulation of medical marijuana dispensaries. Prop D aims to strike a balance between the needs of patients and the desire of neighborhoods to regulate the proliferation of medical marijuana dispensaries. The City has aggressively enforced the provisions of Prop D and more than 500 of the unlawful dispensaries throughout the City have been shut down.


Yet this is an ever evolving and changing field and new legislation is constantly bringing to bear new provisions and features which will affect how the City regulates marijuana. Just this January, new state legislation went into effect - the Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety (MMRS) Act — consisting of three bills, AB243 AB 266 and SB643 — which creates a comprehensive state licensing system for the commercial cultivation, manufacture, retail sale, transport, distribution, delivery, and testing of medical cannabis and all licenses must also be approved by local governments. And even this measure is being adjusted with new legislation: AB21 (Wood), a "clean up bill" on MMRSA, AB 1575, and AB 2385 .

It is important that the City analyze what State measures and legislation are currently in place and are being proposed regarding medical as well as recreational marijuana.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Attorney, with the assistance of the Chief Legislative Analyst be requested to report within thirty days on already enacted as well as proposed state legislation regarding medical as well as recreational marijuana including the following: 1) the status of these bills; 2) how they affect or could affect Proposition D and the City; and 3) how we could further protect neighborhoods and ensure local control should the City move away from Proposition D.

PRESENTED BY:   
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SECONDED BY: 



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