

MOTION

Illegal cannabis businesses pose serious health and safety threats to our communities. Despite efforts to shut them down, more open every day. In order to stop them from opening, and to give the City more tools to shut them down, the Council recently adopted an ordinance allowing for the disconnection of utilities at unlicensed cannabis businesses.

In addition to its enforcement efforts, the City should pursue policies that will defray enforcement costs and hold property owners responsible for harboring illegal cannabis businesses. It is unfair for the City's taxpayers to bear the costs associated with enforcement. These costs include materials used to secure facilities, staff hours generated by those engaged in enforcement, and other costs. The City must establish a policy that seeks full cost recovery from those that lease their property to illegal cannabis businesses.

The City currently assesses property owners and businesses for the costs of other specialized public safety enforcement efforts, such as brush fire hazard abatement. Illegal cannabis businesses pose similar threats to public safety and a similar policy and procedure should be established.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Attorney, with the assistance of the Police Department, the Department of Building and Safety, and the Department of Water and Power, be requested to draft an ordinance which would enable City departments to recover all costs associated with utility disconnection or other actions taken to shut down illegal cannabis businesses from the business owners engaged in illegal commercial cannabis activity and the property owners who lease space to illegal cannabis businesses.

PRESENTED BY:



MONICA RODRIGUEZ
Councilwoman, 7th District

SECONDED BY:



Paul Reboreau



ORIGINAL



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