September 27, 2017

The Honorable City Council
City of Los Angeles
City Hall, Room 395
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Honorable Members:

COMMERCIAL CANNABIS LOCATION RESTRICTION ORDINANCE; CF 14-0366-S4

At its regular meeting on September 14, 2017, the City Planning Commission approved and recommended that the City Council adopt the proposed Commercial Cannabis Location Restriction Ordinance (the “proposed ordinance”), which would establish eligible zones and distancing requirements for businesses to receive a license from the Department of Cannabis Regulation to engage in commercial cannabis activity.

As part of its action, the Commission expressed its desire that the City Council address certain topics that, while not necessarily covered in the scope of the proposed ordinance, nonetheless carry important implications for the future coexistence of Los Angeles’ cannabis industry with its neighborhoods. These topics are as follows:

- Consider appropriate limits on hours of operation.
- Consider whether businesses should be able to offer patrons the ability to consume cannabis on-site.
- Consider the appropriateness of allowing businesses to operate under a Type 1C Specialty Cottage Cultivation license, which allows cultivation of up to 25 mature cannabis plants outdoors, up to 500 square feet indoors, or up to 2,500 square feet in mixed-light conditions (i.e., in a greenhouse).
- Consider requiring a minimum buffer distance, or some other limitations, for cannabis businesses that abut single-family zones.
- Consider the changes requested by Councilmember Krekorian in his letter of September 14, including:
  - Requiring all retail establishments to apply for a land use review with a Conditional Use Permit, with authority delegated to the Cannabis Commission;
Requiring design guidelines and standards, with authority to issue a Project Permit Compliance delegated to the Cannabis Commission; and

Restricting commercial cannabis activity in A Zones.

If you have any questions regarding the Commission’s action, please contact the following members of my staff: Phyllis Nathanson at (213) 978-1474; Niall Huffman at (213) 978-3405.

Sincerely,

VINCENT P. BERTONI, AICP
Director of Planning

KEVIN J. KELLER, AICP
Executive Officer

VPB:KJK:NHH:mn

c: Cat Packer, Executive Director, Department of Cannabis Regulation