

Divino Tessera, LLC
Council File: 21-0420-S41

RECOMMENDATION

PLANNING AND LAND USE MANAGEMENT (PLUM) COMMITTEE REPORT relative to a finding of public convenience or necessity for a proposed retail commercial cannabis business submitted by Requestor Divino Tessera, LLC at the proposed business premises address of 7570 N. San Fernando Road, Sun Valley, CA 91352, in the Sun Valley-La Tuna Canyon Community Plan Area. Pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Section 104.06(a), Retail Storefront (Type 10) licenses are limited to only Social Equity Applicants, as defined in LAMC Section 104.20(a) and (b), until January 1, 2025.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. FIND that the potential issuance of a retail commercial cannabis license, subject to Department of Cannabis Regulation (DCR) application and licensing processes and compliance with Articles 4 and 5 of Chapter X of the Los Angeles Municipal Code, to Lemond Scurlark for Divino Tessera, LLC at 7570 N. San Fernando Road, Sun Valley, CA 91352, will serve the public convenience or necessity because of the following reason(s):

a. The proposed business premises would serve an area of increased density or consumer traffic, including but not limited to an entertainment or commercial corridor, such that the proposed location would serve the public convenience or necessity by satisfying a higher demand for retail locations; and

b. The Requestor's business would include clear specified public safety related features, such that the operation of the Requestor's business would serve the public convenience or necessity by likely reducing crime or nuisance activity in the surrounding area.

2. GRANT the Request for a finding of public convenience or necessity for the proposed retail commercial cannabis business submitted by Requestor Divino Tessera, LLC at the proposed business premises address of 7570 N. San Fernando Road, Sun Valley, CA 91352.

3. INSTRUCT the City Clerk to transmit this finding to DCR.

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Requestor: Divino Tessera, LLC

Address: 7570 N. San Fernando Road, Sun Valley, CA 91352

The proposed business premises would serve an area of increased density or consumer traffic, including but not limited to an entertainment or commercial corridor, such that the proposed location would serve the public convenience or necessity by satisfying a higher demand for retail locations.

Divino Tessera, LLC's proposed business location of 7570 N. San Fernando Road, Sun Valley, CA 91352 is located in the Sun Valley-La Tuna Canyon Community Plan Area. This Community Plan Area borders the City of Burbank which does not regulate or license commercial cannabis activities. Indeed, Divino Tessera LLC's proposed location is across the street from the Burbank city limit. As a result, there is a dearth of licensed retail establishments in the area based on population. The addition of a licensed establishment at the proposed location would serve the public convenience or necessity by expanding access to safe cannabis products in the area and encouraging patronage at licensed cannabis locations.

The Requestor's business would include clear specified public safety related features, such that the operation of the Requestor's business would serve the public convenience or necessity by likely reducing crime or nuisance activity in the surrounding area.

The proposed business location would also include clear public safety related features. Divino Tessera, LLC has contracted with a former Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) officer who has experience as an undercover narcotics officer, Commander/supervisor over all LAPD narcotics officers, and who served as both the former Executive Director of the Los Angeles Police Commission and as a former police commissioner for the City of Burbank. This individual will be responsible for developing and implementing a comprehensive security plan and has specialized knowledge of both cannabis businesses and the Sun Valley-La Tuna Canyon Community Plan Area bordering Burbank. Thus, the addition of this establishment at the proposed location would serve the public convenience or necessity by likely reducing crime or nuisance activity in the surrounding area.