

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
ADVISORY WORKING GROUP ON CANNABIS REGULATION

Mission: *To develop recommendations that will provide a framework for the development of regulations for commercial and personal-use cannabis in unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. These recommendations will provide guidance to County policymakers and may also be useful to cities and other counties throughout California that are studying cannabis regulations.*

**SUMMARY OF MEETING FIVE: Cannabis Cultivators, Manufacturers and Other Businesses –
August 10, 2017**

- 1. Topic Areas:** Public Health and Safety and Cannabis Cultivation for Personal Use (Final recommendations); Cannabis Cultivation, Manufacturing and Other Businesses (Overview)
- 2. Working Group Participants:** Donnie Anderson (*California Minority Alliance and Southern California Coalition*), Beth Burnam (*Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains*), Valerie Coachman-Moore (*Coachman-Moore & Associates*), Jonatan Cvetko (*Angeles Emeralds*), Manuel Duran (*Maravilla Businesspersons Association*), Matt Garland (*San Pedro Neighborhood Council*), Patricia Guerra (*Community Coalition*), Aaron Lachant (*Nelson Hardiman, LLP*), Lynne Lyman (*Drug Policy Alliance*), Javier Montes (*UCBA Trade Association*), Dr. Alisa Padon (*Public Health Institute*), Melahat Rafiei (*Progressive Solutions Consulting*), Dr. Monica Sanchez (*LA County Office of Education*); Charlie Kaplan sitting in for Dr. Avelardo Valdez (*University of Southern California*), Hon. Vivian Romero (*Mayor, City of Montebello*);
- 3. Facilitators:** Joe Nicchitta (*Office of Cannabis Management, Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office*), Sheri Dunn Berry (*Community Partners*)
- 4. Process Note:** The meeting schedule and topics for discussion were adjusted as reflected below.
 - August 17, 9 AM – 12 PM, Topics: Economic Development and Taxation
 - August 24, 9 AM – 2 PM, Topic: Equity
 - August 31, 9 AM – 2 PM, Topic: Review, refinement and prioritizing of recommendations

5. Decision Making:

- The remaining nine recommendations for Public Health and Safety were reviewed and discussed. Of those, eight final recommendations were accepted. One recommendation was not accepted as consensus was not reached.
- The Advisory Working Group members submitted three recommendations for Cannabis Cultivation for Personal Use, and 11 recommendations for consideration for Cannabis Retailers
- Of the three recommendations reviewed and discussed for Personal Cultivation, one will be revisited with additional information during the next meeting, one was accepted as a final recommendation, and one will be subjected to further review by a sub-committee of the Advisory Working Group (Valerie Coachman-Moore, Manuel Duran, Matt Garland and Lynne Lyman) to determine appropriate language for resubmission to the entire group.
- Review of the 11 recommendations for Cannabis Retailers was postponed until the next meeting.

Final Recommendations on Public Health & Safety

Recommendation #12 - Driving under the influence of drugs

The County should set aside funds for the Department of Public Health to assess the efficacy of laboratory equipment to detect the presence of active THC in the blood and its correlation to impairment.

Recommendation #13 - Driving under the influence of drugs

The County should investigate incorporating evidence-based interventions administered by appropriately trained public health professionals into alcohol and drug DUI programs, such as Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) in a non-law enforcement setting.

Recommendation #14 - Overconsumption

Decision Note: Considered, but no consensus reached. The recommendation will NOT move forward. The group may revisit this recommendation with the recognition that overconsumption is a concern, and a potentially a problem, particularly with youth.

The County should explore the feasibility of requiring that cannabis businesses individually wrap each serving of an edible cannabis product.

Recommendation #15 – Overconsumption

Decision Note: Considered, but no consensus reached. The recommendation will NOT move forward. The group may revisit this recommendation.

The County should explore the feasibility of limiting the potency of recreational cannabis and cannabis products sold by licensed County cannabis retailers, including limits of 20 percent THC content for cannabis flower and 50 percent THC content for cannabis products.

Recommendation #16 - Overconsumption & Education

The County should explore whether to supplement state required labels for recreational edible cannabis products sold in County cannabis stores to provide information to consumers about how to avoid overconsumption and include warnings about cannabis use by women who are pregnant and breastfeeding, driving under the influence of cannabis, recreational youth cannabis use or other potential health impacts.

Recommendation #17 - Education

The County should explore the feasibility of developing and testing a universal symbol to be placed on every cannabis and cannabis product package label sold in County cannabis stores to easily identify that a product contains cannabis.

Recommendation #18 - Education

The County should require cannabis retailers to post multi-lingual signage alerting consumers that the possession and use of cannabis could impact a person's immigration status under federal law and could violate the terms of a person's parole or probation.

Recommendation #19 - Education

The County should implement a wide-ranging, multilingual and culturally competent multimedia campaign to educate the public, including tourists, about state and local cannabis laws and responsible cannabis use. The County should immediately pursue available state funding to support the education campaign.

END of Public Health and Safety Recommendations

Final Recommendations on Personal Cultivation

Recommendation #1 - Personal Cultivation

Decision Note: The group agreed to table this recommendation for discussion at the next meeting.

The County should allow every qualified medical patient to grow up to 12 immature or six mature cannabis plants, as set forth in California Health and Safety Code section 11632.77.

Recommendation #2 - Personal Cultivation

The County should provide information on best practices for indoor and outdoor personal cannabis cultivation, including responsible pesticide use, waste disposal, odor control, and other health and safety concerns, and should establish a voluntary inspection program focused on safety and security.

Recommendation #3 - Personal Cultivation

Decision Note: Lynne, Valerie, Manuel, and Matt volunteered to participate in a subcommittee to find common ground on language to bring back to the Advisory Working Group for review.

The County should repeal existing restrictions on the outdoor cultivation of cannabis for personal use.

END PERSONAL CULTIVATION RECOMMENDATIONS

6. Panel: Perspectives on Cannabis Cultivation, Manufacturing and Other Businesses

- Rick Fischer, Executive Vice President Canndescent
- Tony Daniel, Vice President for Sales and Marketing, Steep Hill Labs, Inc.
- Charlie Cangialosi, Director of Sales, Kiva Confections

7. Public Comments:

- Joseph Papa, chemist and lab professional took issue with the word “volatile extractions” to describe processes involving cannabis, and suggested they should have the same classification as propane.
- August Papa, cannabis patient and lab manager, encouraged businesses to operate under good business practices.
- Steve Hoyer, environmentalist, opposed the LA County restrictions for the use of agriculture and voiced concerns about energy consumption.
- John Bowman, suggested that LA County not ban outdoor commercial cultivation due to economic and environmental considerations.
- Adam Vine, nonprofit leader, spoke about the intersection of certain issues such as Youth Access and Exposure, which continues to be a concern when other topics are discussed.

Los Angeles County Advisory Working Group on Cannabis Regulation

AGENDA

Meeting 5: Thursday, August 10, 2017

- 9:00 AM** Welcome and proposed change in topic areas
- 9:05 AM** Workshop recommendations on Public Health and Safety;
Cannabis Cultivation for Personal Use; and Cannabis Retail Operations
- o Facilitated group discussion to reach consensus on recommendations submitted by working group members
- 10:55 AM** Break
- 11:05 AM** Perspectives on Cannabis Cultivation, Manufacturing and Other Businesses
- o Rick Fisher, Executive Vice President, CannDESCENT
 - o Tony Daniel, Vice President for Sales & Marketing, Steep Hill Labs, Inc.
 - o Charlie Cangialosi, Director of Sales, Kiva Confections
- 11:55 AM** Public Comments
- 12:00 PM** End