Summary/Action Minutes

I. Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act

Supervisor Miley presented introductory comments regarding the Medical Marijuana Regulations and Safety Act (MMRSA). Over the last six months, Supervisor Miley has convened several stakeholder and working group meetings including several County departments to develop an ordinance to align with new State medical marijuana legislation. In addition, the ordinance should assist the County’s two existing dispensaries in their efforts around cultivation, testing and manufacturing of medical marijuana.

Andrea Weddle, Assistant County Counsel, Office of the County Counsel, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the County’s response to the stakeholder’s proposal for a Medical Marijuana Dispensary Ordinance.

The presentation included background information on the existing Medical Marijuana Ordinance. The existing ordinance was adopted in 2005 by the Board of Supervisors and regulates Medical Marijuana dispensaries in the unincorporated areas of Alameda County. The current ordinance limits the number of dispensaries to three (3).

The MMRSA was enacted in November 2015 as a comprehensive state regulation of commercial medical marijuana. The MMRSA regulates all aspects of commercial activity, from seed to sale. A group of community stakeholders drafted proposed amendments to Chapter 6.108 of the County General Code to conform to the MMRSA. County staff reviewed the stakeholder’s proposal as directed by the Transportation and Planning Committee’s direction and provided a response to the stakeholder’s proposal regarding permits, number of dispensaries allowed, delivery of medical marijuana, Sheriff’s Office responsibility, dispensary regulation, edible, vertical integration, cultivation and fees.

Speakers

Luke Bruner was a part of the stakeholder group and he supports a pilot cultivation licensing program and also supports a maximum of six permitted dispensaries in the unincorporated area.

James Anthony stated that he worked with the stakeholder group and he supports a pilot cultivation licensing program and other aspects of the ordinance.

Sharif El-Sissi supports a pilot cultivation licensing program and asked if local dispensaries would be allowed to buy edibles from other jurisdictions to sell.

Purpose:
- ✔️ Report progress
- advocacy or Education
- Request Transportation and Planning Committee recommendation
Recommendation from the Transportation and Planning Committee: County staff will return to the Transportation and Planning Committee with a proposed ordinance and pilot cultivation program for the Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act. The ordinance and pilot cultivation program should include the following:

- Limit permitted dispensaries to six (6) in the unincorporated area
- East County restricted to indoor only grows with security and fencing requirements
- Limit indoor operations in East County to two or three
- A social equity/community benefit component will be included in the Request for Proposals (RFP)

II. PUBLIC COMMENT
None.

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