



Legislation Text

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Discussion on the new state Marijuana Laws concerning Consumption Clubs

Presenter:

Richard Skorman, Council President
Don Knight, First District Council Member

Summary:

As requested by Council, the following presentation continues the discussion on key legislative changes in the 2019 legislative session regarding marijuana consumption clubs.

Background:

The 2019 legislative session brought additional changes to the marijuana industry. A significant change that may impact local jurisdictions was the introduction of a state license for marijuana hospitality establishments.

Previous Council Action:

In 2013, City Council passed Ordinance 13-47 explicitly prohibiting the operation of “all retail marijuana establishments within the City of Colorado Springs.”

City Council passed Ordinance 15-76 in 2015 to establish a six-month moratorium on the establishment of any new marijuana consumption club facility within City limits between September 22, 2015 and March 22, 2016.

Upon conclusion of the moratorium, Council passed Ordinance 16-33 which placed restrictions on the establishment of any additional consumption clubs within Colorado Springs. The ordinance prohibited the establishment of any additional consumption club facilities unless “prior to September 22, 2015 the MCC [Marijuana Consumption Club] facility was lawfully operating pursuant to the “similar use determination” of the Manager, dated May 28, 2014.” The existing facilities are considered non-conforming uses under the zoning code, and must cease operations no later than March 22, 2024.

This item was first presented and discussed at the December 9, 2019 City Council Work Session.

Financial Implications:

N/A

City Council Appointed Board/Commission/Committee Recommendation:

N/A

Stakeholder Process:

N/A

Alternatives:

N/A

Proposed Motion:

N/A

N/A