



Legislation Text

File #: 16-401, **Version:** 1

A resolution endorsing the appointment of a Council President's Special Marijuana Working Group to study the issue of marijuana regulation within the City of Colorado Springs and make recommendations to Council and City staff

Presenter:

Councilmember Larry Bagley

Summary:

The resolution expresses City Council's endorsement of the creation of a special working group pursuant to Section 5-2 of City Council's Rules and Procedures. The group's charge would be to study, review, evaluate, and develop recommendations relating to the regulation of marijuana within the City of Colorado Springs.

Previous Council Action:

N/A

Background:

In November 2016, City Council established a six-month moratorium on licensing and land use approvals for medical marijuana businesses. At the same time it instituted the moratorium, City Council appointed a Medical Marijuana Task Force to study and recommend changes to the City's regulation of medical marijuana businesses. In May 2016, City Council adopted various ordinances resulting from the task force's recommendations relating to plant counts in residences, land uses for licensed medical marijuana businesses, and enforcement of new regulations. However, the task force identified a number of additional subjects that merit examination and consideration by Council, but that it was not able to fully consider in the limited time it had available before the expiration of the original moratorium.

In May 2016, City Council adopted a new, twelve-month moratorium upon the expiration of the previous one, because of concerns that there were significant additional issues that were not able to be addressed during the original moratorium term. The working group established under the terms set forth in this resolution will continue the task force's work in a manner that incorporates additional stakeholder input, focuses on critical issues first, and allows the consideration of additional issues as the marijuana industry evolves.

This item supports the City's strategic goal relating to excelling at City services. In order to support continuous improvement, city staff, with the assistance of involved local stakeholders, evaluate best practices relating to emerging business models and public safety concerns, and make recommendations to City Council to adjust City Code to maximize efficiency and effectiveness.

Financial Implications:

N/A

Board/Commission Recommendation:

The Medical Marijuana Task Force, established by Ordinance 15-79 in November 2016, recommended the appointment of a working group to continue studying and making recommendations relating to the marijuana industry within the City.

Stakeholder Process:

N/A

Alternatives:

City Council could decide not to adopt the resolution endorsing the creation of a working group.

Proposed Motion:

Adopt the resolution as presented.

N/A