

PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. P16-_____

A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CATHEDRAL CITY, CALIFORNIA RECOMMENDING THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTERS 9.108, 9.26, 9.28 9.30, 9.36, 9.38, 9.40, 9.42 OF THE CATHEDRAL CITY MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS.

WHEREAS, Title 9 (Planning and Development) of the City of Cathedral City's Municipal Code ("Zoning Code") provides for the organized, predictable, and efficient development of land within the City; and

WHEREAS, the Zoning Code establishes land use districts throughout the City and regulates the development of land in each district; and

WHEREAS, the Zoning Code establishes requirements for medical cannabis businesses within the City; and

WHEREAS, the City proposes to amend the Zoning Code to including testing laboratories, transportation sites, and distribution sites as permissible types of medical cannabis businesses, subject to regulations, and has initiated this Zoning Ordinance Amendment for that purpose; and

WHEREAS, this Zoning Ordinance Amendment further proposes to amend the Zoning Code to allow manufacturing sites in the CBP-2 zone and to make clean up revisions to the Zoning Code to reflect amendments to the State laws governing medical cannabis; and

WHEREAS, the City, acting as Lead Agency, has determined that this Zoning Ordinance Amendment will not have a significant impact on the environment and is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14, Chapter 3, Section 15303 of the California Code of Regulations as it would only permit projects consisting of a limited number of new, small facilities; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and the conversion of existing small structures from one use to another where only minor modifications are made in the exterior of the structure; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission held a duly noticed public hearing on December 7, 2016, at which time the public was invited to present testimony regarding this Zoning Ordinance Amendment.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CATHEDRAL CITY, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Pursuant to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Planning Commission makes the following environmental determinations and recommendations:

- (a) Pursuant to Title 14, Chapter 3, Section 15303(c) of the California Code of Regulations, the approval of this Zoning Ordinance Amendment is exempt from further review under CEQA as it would only permit projects consisting of a limited number of new, small facilities; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and the conversion of existing small structures from one use to another where only minor modifications are made in the exterior of the structure. Any land development project affected by this action will undergo its own environmental review.

Section 2. The Planning Commission bases its recommendation for the City Council to adopt the proposed ordinance on the following findings:

- (a) This Zoning Ordinance Amendment is consistent with the intent of the Zoning Ordinance. The Zoning Ordinance is “intended to protect the public health, safety and general welfare of the residents and to provide economic and social benefits from an orderly planned use of land resources.” This Zoning Ordinance Amendment is consistent with this intent in that it ensures that medical cannabis businesses are appropriately regulated and located within the City.
- (b) This Zoning Ordinance Amendment is consistent with the established goals, policies and objectives of the General Plan. The General Plan aims to achieve “a land use plan and pattern that preserves and enhances the integrity of neighborhoods, districts and corridors, while optimizing the community’s natural assets, regional transportation systems, and opportunities for housing, employment and economic base-building.” This Zoning Ordinance Amendment will further that purpose by allowing medical cannabis businesses in appropriate locations and subject to regulations.

Section 3. The Planning Commission hereby recommends as follows:

- (a) That the City Council adopt the ordinance attached hereto as Exhibit A, subject to revision by the City Attorney.

Section 4. The Secretary shall certify as to the adoption of this resolution and shall cause the same to be processed in the manner required by law.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED AND ADOPTED on this 7th day of December, 2016, by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

John Rivera, Chair

ATTEST AND APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

Robert Rodriguez, Planning Manager
Secretary to the Planning Commission

PREPARED BY:

Robert Rodriguez
Planning Manager

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

Erica L. Vega
Assistant City Attorney

EXHIBIT A