

Carolyn Hill

From: Jack C. Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 07, 2015 9:09 AM
To: Carolyn Hill; cityclerk
Subject: Cannabis Task Force - Jack Smith requested topics

First, the topics the City Council requested, then my own suggested topics.

In preparing the future agendas of the Task Force, I believe it is important we take into account the Resolution passed by the City Council in February creating the Medical Cannabis Task. Section 2 of that Resolutions says “The Task Force shall advise the City Council on the appropriate parameters of a medical marijuana regulatory ordinance for the City of Long Beach, including, but not limited to recommendations on” the following topics:

1. The appropriate number of medical marijuana facilities citywide;
2. The appropriate locations for medical marijuana facilities citywide;
3. Operations restrictions;
4. Methodology of testing to ensure safety of supply;
5. Appropriate buffers between medical marijuana facilities and other sensitive land uses;
6. Appropriate advertising of facilities and products;
7. Records retention requirements;
8. Auditing for the purpose of sales tax and other regulatory compliance issues;
9. The use and employment of security guards;
10. The appropriateness of a “local hire” requirement;
11. The sale of medical marijuana in edible or liquid form;
12. A point or other system for determining permit allocation priorities; and
13. Such other matters as would aid the City Council in its efforts to develop a medical marijuana regulatory ordinance.

It is important that the task force address these topics in our upcoming agendas / meetings. These are the specific requests of the City Council.

Here are my own 5 proposed topics to be put on an upcoming agenda.

1. Specify that the CUP for each business includes separate conditions for the store and for the farm. They are likely two separate physical locations. CUPs are, typically, for a single physical location.
2. Stores should not be allowed in industrial zones (see 2 above). Those are dangerous places for retail customers or patients. That danger is what causes the City to not put bike paths through industrial zones.
3. Print advertising (see 6 above) should not be allowed. The Orange County Weekly – which is distributed in Long Beach – is an example of what happens with print advertising. Likewise, pop-up ads – like Google ads – should not be allowed. Some sort of listing – like the White Pages – is more appropriate along with a business's simple web-site advising of the location of their store.
4. No transfer of ownership should be allowed at all. The danger is that a business operator looks good during the application process, then, after opening, transfers the business to a bad operator.
5. Testing (see 4 above) must be done only by a third party laboratory (no “or”) and not by the business itself.
6. Should wholesale transactions be permitted? In other words, should a business be allowed to buy or sell cannabis from/to another cannabis business in Long Beach? What about wholesale purchases and sales from/to outside of Long Beach.

Sincerely,
Jack C. Smith
Member – Appointed by the 2nd District