

Cannabis State Legalization Task Force
January 13, 2016 – Meeting Minutes
25 Van Ness Avenue, Rm. 610 | 12PM – 3PM | San Francisco, CA 94102

Meeting Start Time: 12:11pm.

1. Welcome/Opening Remarks

Supervisor Scott Wiener welcomed all Members and delivered opening remarks, noting the importance of early planning on the issue of adult use legalization and stating that the purpose of the task force is to conduct research now to advise Mayor Lee and the Board of Supervisors on the important policy issues.

2. Agenda Review and Member Introductions

Mavis Asiedu-Frimpong, Assistant Director of Policy and Planning for the San Francisco Department of Public Health and Task Force Coordinator, reviewed the agenda. Task Force Members then introduced themselves by stating, name, seat, reasons for interest in being part of the Task Force and the expertise and point of view represented by the seat.

3. Task Force Administration Discussion

Mavis Asiedu-Frimpong, Task Force Coordinator, presented the below proposed Task Force structure.

- Task Force Chair
 - Terrance Alan, Seat 19, was nominated and confirmed as Task Force chair.
 - It was suggested that the Task Force select one co-chair or have revolving co-chairs to assist in facilitation duties. It was also suggested that law enforcement co-chair the Task Force.
 - Sara Payan, Seat 12, expressed interest in the co-chair position.

Task Force Members agreed to send Ms. Asiedu-Frimpong their interests and ideas regarding a co-chair for discussion at the next meeting.

- Decision-Making Method
 - To account for changes in the policy landscape, The Task Force should have the goal of developing policy options rather than one plan.
 - The consensus model seeks an acceptable resolution for the group, even if it is not the preferred result of a particular individual.

Task Force Members agreed to rely first on the consensus model and move to a voting process if consensus cannot be reached. In cases where consensus cannot be reached, differing opinions will be captured and presented to policymakers.

- Meeting Topics and Schedule
 - Ms. Asiedu-Frimpong referred Members to the proposed meeting schedule. According to that document, the Task Force will meet seven times over the course of year 1 and discuss four main policy issue areas:
 - legal and regulatory landscape
 - public safety and social environment
 - land use
 - regulation and city agency framework
- Attendance and Alternates
 - The City Attorney has advised that alternates are permitted for non-voting seats, but not for seats appointed by the Board of Supervisors.
 - Task Force members are expected to attend all scheduled meetings of the Task Force and should inform the Task Force Coordinator if there is a need to miss a meeting. The Ordinance has specific attendance requirements that Members should review.
- Subcommittees
 - There are three proposed subcommittees for the Task Force: (1) Public Safety and Social Environment; (2) Land Use; (3) Regulation and City Agency Framework. Members may serve on more than one Task Force according to their interest and expertise.
- Terminology
 - In general, Task Force will use the terms “adult” or “non-medical” use, as referenced in State legalization documents, and “cannabis” for medical and non-medical settings.

Members agreed to the proposed Task Force structure.

4. Framing Presentation: Cannabis Legalization and Ballot Initiative Review

Ms. Asiedu-Frimpong gave an introductory presentation summarizing the issue brief provided with the meeting materials.

5. Group Discussion: Ballot Initiative and other States' Experiences

The Group discussed the current cannabis policy landscape, the role of Members' and other states' experiences and how the Task Force can learn from them. Discussion themes were as follows:

- Other states' experiences as a guide for Task Force's work
- Public consumption considerations: location, nightlife, business regulations, connections and parallels to existing smoking/alcohol consumption landscape
- Impact of regulations on public policy
- Green zone expansion
- Impact on medical cannabis patients
- Taxation structure and its connection to the illicit market
- Banking and safety issues within the cannabis industry
- Track and trace system for cannabis and cannabis products
- Strategies to repair damage to communities in San Francisco and ensure that jobs are available within those communities
- Industry pathway systems for people of color unable to enter the market
- Revenue allocation strategies and priorities
- Land Use strategies
- Youth exposure and access – messaging and health education strategies
- Proactive policies regarding edibles

During the discussion, Members had the following ideas and suggestions regarding Task Force work and process:

- Agency Task Force Members should reach out to their counterparts in other states to understand the issues.
- If it would be helpful to the Task Force, regional discussions with other Bay Area counties should be arranged.
- A discussion about revenue may make more sense for year two of the Task Force.
- A discussion about workforce and economic development should be added to the agenda at the appropriate place, perhaps via an ad-hoc committee.
- Members requested a roster with contact information for other Members.

6. Public Comment

Michael Aldrich provided a historical perspective of the legalization movement, noting that it began in San Francisco. He further stated that the Task Force has an ideal opportunity to educate various departments and the public on legalization issues.

7. Closing Comments and Next Steps

- Task Force Chair Terrance Alan encouraged Members to join a subcommittee and reach out to neighborhood groups to inform them of the Task Force and important issues.
- The three vacant Task Force seats (13, 14, 20) will be confirmed as soon as possible.

Meeting End Time: 2:30 pm.

Upcoming Task Force Meetings

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
March 9, 2016	1PM – 4PM	25 Van Ness, Room 610

Meeting Materials

- Agenda
- Ordinance establishing Task Force
- Blue Ribbon Commission on Marijuana Policy Pathways Report: Policy Options for Regulating Marijuana in California
- Control, Regulate and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act of 2016
- Issue Brief #1: Introduction and Ballot Initiative Review
- Powerpoint framing presentation
- Task Force Framework Document
- Task Force Administration Proposal

Members Present

Tomas Aragon	Tim Morland	Barbara Fugate
Lourdes Russell	Quarry Pak	Tom McElroy
Brian Philpott	Jesse Stout	Laura Thomas
Liam McCarthy	Erich Pearson	Terrance Alan
Aaron Starr (observing for Dan Sider)	Michelle Aldrich	Sarah Shrader
Jocelyn Kane	Sara Payan	Daisy Ozim
	Jon Ballesteros	