

Cannabis State Legalization Task Force

July 13, 2016 –Meeting Minutes

Full Meeting – Land Use

1 S. Van Ness Avenue, Atrium Conference Room | 1PM – 4PM

San Francisco, CA 94102

Task Force Goal

Development of practical policy options for possible implementation should nonmedical cannabis use be legalized

Meeting Objectives

- Understand land use and urban planning policies and tools relevant to adult use legalization.
- Discuss the impacts of adult use legalization on land use, urban planning, workforce and entrepreneurship development, social justice, business interests, hospitality/tourism and identify issues that the Task Force should consider for recommendation development.

Meeting Start Time: 1:19pm

1. Welcome and Agenda Review

- Terrance Alan, Task Force Chair/Seat 19, welcomed Task Force members and reviewed meeting agenda.
- Gretchen Paule, Task Force Coordinator (San Francisco Department of Public Health) presented the below announcements:
 - Meeting Structure: Ms. Paule discussed the change in meeting structure to allow Task Force members more time for in-depth discussions on the land use, social justice and tourism/hospitality topic areas, meaning the Task Force would continue discussions at the meeting and draft recommendations at the next (August 10th) meeting. Ms. Paule noted that as the Task Force conducts its work, there may be similar changes to the meeting schedule that allow the Task Force to meet its goals.
 - Application Process for Task Force Year 2 Seats: Task Force members in Seats 9 through 22 serve one-year terms, with the initial term set to expire on August 31, 2016. Task Force members that would like to serve a second one-year term should resubmit an application for consideration to the Clerk of the Board by August 31st. Current appointments for Seats 9 through 22 will be in hold-over status until second year appointments are made.
 - Cannabis Task Force Website: Task Force meeting documents can be accessed by Task Force members and the public on the Cannabis Task Force website at <https://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/knowlcol/csl/default.asp>.

2. **Presentation: Planning Department**

Aaron Starr (alternate for Seat 5) gave a presentation on zoning/land use and urban planning considerations for adult use cannabis legalization.

3. **Small Group Discussion**

Task Force members were divided into groups to discuss thoughts, ideas and questions in one of three topic areas – (1) land use; (2) social justice/workforce and entrepreneurship development; (3) hospitality/tourism.

4. **Guided Large Group Discussion**

Using (i) personal knowledge and experience, (ii) small group discussion points, (iii) the information provided in the issue brief and (iv) discussions from the Spotlight Panel and Land Use presentation, the Task Force identified specific priority issues and considerations related to land use, social justice/workforce development and entrepreneurship, and hospitality/tourism. Main discussion themes from each topic area were as follows:

- **Land Use**

- Possible land use distinctions between adult use and medical cannabis
- Clustering of dispensaries and retail locations
- Definition and location of the “Green Zone”
- Development of findings to guide land use planning
- Differences in local, state and federal cannabis laws and regulations
- Guidelines that consider both community involvement and business interests
- **Task Force area of consensus:** develop robust recommendations to guide land use decision-making
- **Task Force area of consensus:** recommend a city-wide policy for non-retail and retail use that is inclusive of all supervisorial districts
- **Task Force area of consensus:** use existing planning code as a foundation for non-retail land use considerations

- **Social Justice/Workforce Development and Entrepreneurship**

- Diversity in cannabis workforce and business ownership opportunities
- Job opportunities for local residents and workforce retention strategies
- Training, education and apprenticeship programs, either newly created or existing, in workforce development
- Community benefit agreements and allocation of resources towards programs that support communities affected by past drug policies
- Reducing barriers for individuals seeking to enter the industry
- **Task Force area of consensus:** recommendations should address social justice issues
- **Task Force area of consensus:** use data and evidence-based methods to develop recommendations addressing social justice

- **Task Force area of consensus:** create policy recommendations to incentivize workforce development

- **Hospitality/Tourism**
 - Considerations for tourists and residents who may or may not wish to participate in cannabis culture
 - Use by residents as compared to tourists and guidelines to ensure safe, responsible use for both
 - Education about cannabis laws for tourists and residents
 - Creating legal spaces for public consumption
 - Development of microbusinesses that form part of the hospitality/tourism industry
 - **Task Force area of consensus:** create policy recommendations regarding tourist use

5. Public Comment

- Alice Lin, Fired Up Law Office raised concerns regarding edibles manufacturing and the transition from at-home production to utilizing a viable commercial space. She further noted that Oakland requires such manufacturing to take place in industrial areas.
- Mike Aldrich, Ph.D., noted that, according to Proposition 64, smoking or vaporizing cannabis will be prohibited where tobacco smoking is prohibited. He encouraged the Task Force to consider a possible lack of public and private consumption spaces due to this, and recommended that the City follow local law and allow vaporizing in dispensaries.
- Tikisha Upshaw-Ong, Green Gods Compassion, spoke of the difficulty for businesses to enter the cannabis industry and noted the importance of overcoming stigma to educate people about how dispensaries can be a center for health and wellness. She encouraged the City to expand the Green Zone, especially in the PDR districts.
- Lindsey Alani, a small business owner, noted that currently, delivery-only medical cannabis dispensaries are regulated as retail businesses; therefore many are operating illegally due to lack of retail space. She also brought up concerns related to clustering of dispensaries.
- Nina Parks, speaking on behalf of small businesses, encouraged the Task Force to think about tiered licensing structures and how delivery-based businesses should be considered as they serve as an entry point into the industry.

6. Wrap-Up and Next Steps

- Task Force Chair Terrence Alan thanked the Task Force and public for their participation, and encouraged Task Force Members to make suggestions for future meetings through the evaluation forms.

Meeting End Time: 4:06pm.

Meeting Materials

- Agenda
- Powerpoint: Planning Department presentation

Upcoming Task Force Meetings

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
August 10, 2016 Full Meeting – Land Use	1PM – 4PM	30 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 3900 San Francisco, CA 94102

Members Present

Janine Young (alternate for
Tomas Aragon)

Micki Jones (alternate for
Lourdes Russell)

Liam McCarthy

Aaron Starr (alternate for
Daniel Sider)

Maggie Weiland (alternate
for Jocelyn Kane)

Fenicia Jacks (observing
for Quarry Pak)

Erich Pearson

Michelle Aldrich

Sara Payan

Thea Selby

Barbara Fugate

Tom McElroy

Terrence Alan

Jennifer Garcia

Sarah Shrader

Daisy Ozim