



CITY OF

PORTLAND, OREGON

OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD INVOLVEMENT

AMANDA FRITZ, COMMISSIONER

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Portland, Oregon 97204

Promoting a culture of civic engagement

Marijuana Policy Oversight Team

Shared Understandings

- Portland passed Measure 91 with over 70% of voters favoring the legalization of marijuana.
- Council made it clear there is no interest in banning the marijuana industry. In fact, they affirmed that the marijuana industry is welcome in Portland in a regulated manner.
- Taking into consideration public opinion, political will, and legal considerations, it is in the best interest of the City to provide oversight of the Medical and Recreational Marijuana Industry through local regulation.
- The regulatory framework adopted under Portland City Code 14B.130 was established to ensure the safety and livability of our neighborhoods as we incorporate the marijuana industry into the Portland landscape.
- The Marijuana Policy Oversight Team acts in an advisory capacity to discuss and make recommendations to the Marijuana Policy Program (MPP), Commissioner Fritz, and City Council within the scope of work defined.
- The City's Marijuana Policy Program scope of authority is limited to the regulation of medical dispensaries, recreational retailers, producers, processors and wholesalers. Regulation of medical producers or processors, as well as personal cultivation and use is beyond the scope of our authority, currently.
- People in the room have a variety of opinions about and experiences with marijuana. Nevertheless, we can work together on this issue.
- When overall public health and safety impacts to the general population are measured, marijuana may be a less harmful drug than many other intoxicating substances, including alcohol.
- Marijuana is not harmless, particularly for young people whose brains are still developing.
- Public opinion is moving in the direction of greater acceptance of marijuana use.
- Many community members, who have always learned that marijuana is a drug, and drugs are harmful, are upset and confused about the shifts in marijuana's legal status and societal attitudes.
- The existence of marijuana in all its forms, including the proliferation of "edibles," and the shift in attitudes about marijuana reduces the stigma of marijuana use, and may increase the chance that young people and others will use it.