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CITY OF

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**PORTLAND, OREGON**

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OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD INVOLVEMENT

**AMANDA FRITZ, COMMISSIONER**

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Portland, Oregon 97204

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*Promoting a culture of civic engagement*

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## **Marijuana Policy Oversight Team**

### **Purpose**

The mission of the Marijuana Policy Oversight Team (MPOT) is to provide Commissioner Fritz and the rest of Council recommendations on future marijuana policy decisions. These recommendations will allow Council to more effectively respond to neighborhood safety and livability concerns so policy decisions accurately reflect the changing landscape of marijuana regulation. MPOT membership is comprised of a diverse body of community and industry stakeholders with different skillsets, perspectives, and priorities.

### **Scope of Work**

The focus of this group is to provide recommendations that will inform the evolution of the program and regulatory framework. Commissioner Fritz has identified priorities that came out of recommendations made by the Marijuana Policy Taskforce as part of the scope of work for this group and has requested recommendations that address the following:

**Reducing the illegal market:** In spite of legalization there are “bad actors” that are not interested in becoming part of the legitimately regulated marijuana industry. The MPOT will provide recommendations for the Program, Council and Legislative agenda that aim at the reduction of the illegal market.

**Impacts of legalization and regulation of social consumption:** We have heard arguments from community and industry members for and against the legalization of smoking lounges and issuance of temporary sales licenses for marijuana related events. There are concerns related to: maintaining a smoke free environment in the workplace, public intoxication and the potential for driving under the influence (DUII).

**Recommendations on youth prevention strategies:** With the passing of Measure 91, youth have more access to marijuana and are more likely to use now that social stigmas have changed.

### **Other focus areas for recommendations developed by the group:**

- **Equity In Practice**
- **Marijuana Tourism**
- **Application Process**
- **Licensing**

### **Participation and Expectations of Commitment**

- Attend Marijuana Policy Oversight Team (MPOT) meetings
- Meet once every other month: 4th Wednesday from 6 to 7:30pm
- Participate in one or more MPOT Subcommittees
- Subcommittees will meet as-needed, and as voted on by subcommittee members
- Research topics and share reading material and other resources
- Some work may be done outside of MPOT or MPOT Subcommittee meeting times in order to inform the discussion and make best use of time

### **Marijuana Policy Oversight Team Member Representation**

Marijuana Policy Oversight Team members have been selected as representatives of stakeholder groups including neighborhood groups, communities beyond neighborhood boundaries, marijuana industry, labor unions, and educational institutions, among others. As such, MPOT members are asked to ensure their participation and input is informed by, and representative of, the values, priorities, and concerns of the group or interest they represent.

### **Scope of Authority for the Marijuana Policy Oversight Team**

The Marijuana Policy Oversight Team is an advisory group convened by Commissioner Fritz. The group is tasked with providing recommendations on the ongoing development of the Marijuana Policy Program and local marijuana policy. Recommendations made by the MPOT will be presented to Commissioner Fritz and may inform policy at the local and State levels.

### **Relationship between Marijuana Policy Oversight Team and Subcommittees**

MPOT members will participate in at least one subcommittee to ensure a diversity of viewpoints informing policy recommendations. Subcommittees will develop recommendations on specific focus areas and report back to the MPOT assembly for evaluation and approval. This will ensure transparency and cohesion in the recommendations provided to Commissioner Fritz.

### **Reports on Recommendations**

Reports on recommendations will include:

- Narrative on the process in establishing the shared values used to evaluation alternatives
- Rubric developed to evaluate alternatives and outcomes of the evaluations
- Final recommendations and narrative for each one
- Minority report to ensure the process was open and considerate of all viewpoints