



CITY OF

PORTLAND, OREGON

OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD INVOLVEMENT

AMANDA FRITZ, COMMISSIONER

Amalia Alarcón de Morris, Bureau Director

1221 SW 4th Avenue, Room 110

Portland, Oregon 97204

Promoting a culture of civic engagement

Marijuana Policy Oversight Team

Subcommittee Focus Areas

Existing focus areas

Commissioner Fritz has requested policy recommendations on the following topics:

1. Reducing the Illegal Market
2. Social Consumption (formally called Social Environments)
3. Youth Prevention Strategies

Subcommittee Focus Areas

Excerpt of April 6 MPOT Meeting Minutes

- **Brainstorm Group-led Topics**
 - These topics may inform MPP procedure, future committee work, other programs
 - Marijuana tourism
 - Areas of the city where vulnerable population resides/gather
 - Comment from group member that dispensaries are “eyes on the street” because it is a retail outlet – foot traffic, cameras, security.
 - Marijuana advertising (in relation to youth prevention, as well as other issues)
 - Application process
 - Discussion of addition of merit-based considerations
 - Impact of smoke in public spaces
 - Second-hand smoking
 - Consideration of studies, data
 - Discussion of a Dropbox where information can be shared
 - Locations of marijuana businesses – how this informs public perception
 - Providing informative/educational materials to community members/underrepresented populations. Creating cultural relevant materials
 - Concern that even translated materials are too “technical” and not easy to understand.
 - Recommendation for focus groups/meetings, versus written materials
 - These concerns have come up at the OLCC as well
 - Fee structure
 - Tax structure – where the money from taxes is allocated
 - Jobs – creating jobs, connecting people with jobs
 - How to connect underrepresented communities with jobs
 - How start business, how to access start-up capital
 - Social consumption

Subcommittee Focus Areas

These possible additional focus areas are based on the list of topics generated at the April 6 MPOT meeting:

- Marijuana Tourism
 - Topics *may* include economic impact, policy recommendations
- Application Process
 - Topics *may* include streamlining process, transparency, public understanding of process, application fees
- Licensing
 - Topics *may* include saturation, merit-based considerations, locations, fees
- Equity in Practice
 - Using an equity lens in program policy and procedures
 - Topics *may* include locations and public perception, culturally relevant materials and education, creating jobs, business education

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
- Application Process
- Marijuana Tourism
- Licensing

Marijuana Policy Oversight Team

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

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.

Marijuana Policy Oversight Team

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.

Marijuana Policy Oversight Team

Relationship between Marijuana Policy Oversight Team and Subcommittees

MPOOT 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 MPOOT assembly for evaluation and approval. This will ensure transparency and cohesion in the recommendations provided to Commissioner Fritz.

Marijuana Policy Oversight Team

Reports on Recommendations

Reports on recommendations will include:

- Narrative on the process in establishing the shared values used to evaluate 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