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CITY OF  
**PORTLAND, OREGON**  
OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD INVOLVEMENT

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**AMANDA FRITZ, COMMISSIONER**  
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**Marijuana Policy Program**  
1221 SW 4th Avenue, Room 110  
Portland, Oregon 97204

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*Promoting a culture of civic engagement*

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## **Marijuana Policy Oversight Team Social Consumption Subcommittee**

City Hall Pettygrove Room  
June 14, 2016 and 6:00-6:50 PM

### ***Panel Discussion on Social Consumption***

#### **Panelists:**

Public Health – **Dr. Paul Lewis** – Multnomah County Public Health  
Workplace safety / Oregon Clean Air Act – **Erik Vidstrand** – Multnomah County  
Environmental Health Services  
Event Promotion – **Josh Taylor** – Oregon Cannabis Concierge  
Hospitality Industry – **Nick Pierson** – Jupiter Hotel  
Travel/Tourism – **Brad Forkner** – Venture Portland  
Consumer Advocate – **Leland Berger** – Portland NORML  
Youth Prevention – **Kovi Altamirano** – Big Village

Panelists were asked to answer the following questions to provide an understanding of the values and desired outcomes that will inform their participation on the panel:

1. What are the values that will inform your participation on the panel with regard to marijuana social consumption?
2. What are the desired outcomes related to marijuana social consumption that will inform your participation?

#### **Erik Vidstrand** – Multnomah County Environmental Health Services

1. Values: Health - healthy people, healthy communities, healthy environments.
  - We believe that health is a "state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being, not merely the absence of disease or infirmity." (World Health Organization, 1978)
  - We honor the diversity of the individuals and communities we serve and value their differing approaches to health and well-being.
  - We believe in partnerships to improve the health of our communities.
  - We believe the department's actions should assist our communities in addressing underlying factors that affect good health.
  - We value effective leadership as a fundamental tool to improve the health of our communities.
  - We believe in being responsible stewards of the public trust and resources.

- We value a diverse staff and believe our staff should be selected with care, treated with respect, held accountable for their performance and encouraged in their personal growth.
- We believe in continuously improving the quality of our work.
- We believe in balancing scientific knowledge and practical experience with the wisdom and beliefs of those we serve to improve the health of our communities.
- We emphasize prevention, health promotion and early intervention.

Shared understanding of models for social consumption that consider multiple aspects of health (physical, social, emotional, etc). Policies on social/public consumption that have strong standards for health.

**Josh Taylor** – Oregon Cannabis Concierge

1. Fairness, equal treatment of all businesses (cannabis, beer, etc.) and consistency.
2. To the extent that this committee has any power to do so, they should urge the City to allow responsible, adult consumption of cannabis in any ways that will not violate the Indoor Clean Air Act and smoke free workplace. To allow and support events where the broadest and most reasonable reading of “for consideration” under this context. If changes need to be made to State law, this committee should urge the City to support the emerging economic engine of cannabis, support its tax paying business community, and engage industry allies to achieve these goals.

**Nick Pierson** – Jupiter Hotel

1. Conscientious consumption. I'm not one to believe I need the government to protect me from myself, but I agree regulations are needed to guide consumption rules.
2. To have a voice in the process generally. And more specifically to see that any policy decision do not undermine or limit the growth of the marijuana tourism industry. I also think there needs to be a change made to where we allow cannabis to be consumed. Just as alcohol has businesses where one can consume responsibly, there should be establishments where one can consume marijuana responsibly.

**Brad Forkner** – Venture Portland

1. Venture Portland is the support network for Portland's 50 neighborhood business districts which contain over 19,000 businesses and more than half the city's jobs. Additionally, 98% of businesses in these districts have 5 employees or less. Our values are to ensure business success without overly burdensome regulations or requirements that can be difficult for small businesses to navigate. We share a value of ensuring safety and livability for all in our neighborhood business districts, including non-marijuana businesses, customers, and residents.
2. Our desired outcomes would be to ensure any guidelines and regulations put forth are not overly burdensome for small businesses to implement, clear permitting processes that are not unduly expensive, and a streamlined process – recognizing that the pace of business often moves faster than the pace of government.

**Leland Berger** – Portland NORML

1. Although we have legalized cannabis, it is illegal to consume indoors and out. Many patients need and all adults deserve a safe place to assemble and peaceably share cannabis.
2. Re-opening of the clubs. Waiver of public consumption enforcement during Hempstalk and Million Marijuana March

**Kovi Altamirano** – Big Village

See attached page

## Big Village's Position on the Social Consumption of Marijuana

1. **What are the values that will inform your participation on the panel with regard to marijuana social consumption?** *We are thinking of values as principles or standards that are important to you and those you represent and should be considered during discussions.*

Big Village holds the following values/position that informs our work around the prevention of underage marijuana consumption:

- Research indicates that marijuana may hurt the developing adolescent brain
  - The average age of first use of marijuana among youth who smoke marijuana is 12-14 years old<sup>i</sup>. Research indicates that early and regular marijuana use can have a profound impact on the developing adolescent brain, including increased risk for addiction<sup>ii</sup>, attention deficits<sup>iii</sup>, reduced IQ<sup>iv</sup>, and reduced executive functioning<sup>v</sup>.
- Marijuana can lead to negative health and social consequences for youth
  - Youth who smoke marijuana are at increased risk for poor school performance<sup>vi</sup>, unplanned pregnancy<sup>vii</sup>, driving under the influence<sup>viii</sup> and higher levels of delinquency<sup>ix</sup>.

2. **What are the desired outcomes related to marijuana social consumption that will inform your participation?** *We are thinking of outcomes as the results or impacts of policy recommendations.*

Big Village desires to see the following outcomes regarding social consumption of marijuana:

1. Reduce promotion of marijuana to minors
  - Restrict youth friendly products and marketing to youth
2. Reduce underage access to marijuana
  - Reduce retail availability through price, density, hours of sales, and retailer training
  - Reduce youth access to marijuana from social sources (i.e. family and friends)
3. Ensure fair and appropriate consequences for underage marijuana users and enabling adults
  - Implement effective minor in possession strategy
  - Develop appropriate and consistent school policies regarding marijuana use
  - Develop consistent and visible consequences for public smoking and providing to minors

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<sup>i</sup> 2014, Oregon Student Wellness Survey

<sup>ii</sup> Drugs, Brains, and Behavior: The Science of Addiction. National Institute on Drug Abuse. Published April 2007. Revised August 2010.

<sup>iii</sup> Ehrenreich, H., Rinn, T., Kunert, H. J., Moeller, M. R., Poser, W., Schilling, L., et al. (1999). Specific attentional dysfunction in adults following early start of marijuana use. *Psychopharmacology (Berl.)* 142, 295–301.

<sup>iv</sup> Pope, H. Jr., Gruber, A., Hudson, J., Cohane, G., Huestis, M., and Yurgelun-Todd, D. (2003). Early-onset cannabis use and cognitive deficits: what is the nature of the association? *Drug Alcohol Depend.* 69, 303.

Meier, M. H., Caspi, A., Ambler, A., Harrington, H., Houts, R., Keefe, R. S., et al. (2012). Persistent cannabis users show neuropsychological decline from childhood to midlife. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 109, E2657–E2664.

<sup>v</sup> Fontes, M. A., Bolla, K. I., Cunha, P. J., Almeida, P. P., Jungerman, F., Laranjeira, R. R., et al. (2011). Cannabis use before age 15 and subsequent executive functioning. *Br. J. Psychiatry* 198, 442–447.

Solowij, N., Jones, K. A., Rozman, M. E., Davis, S. M., Ciarrochi, J., Heaven, P. C., et al. (2012). Reflection impulsivity in adolescent cannabis users: a comparison with alcohol-using and non-substance-using adolescents. *Psychopharmacology (Berl.)* 219, 575–586.

<sup>vi</sup> Dougherty DM, Mathias CW, Dawes MA, et al. Impulsivity, attention, memory, and decision-making among adolescent marijuana users. *Psychopharmacology* 2013;226(2):307-319. doi: [10.1007/s00213-012-2908-5](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00213-012-2908-5)

<sup>vii</sup> Bryan AD, Schmiede SJ, Magnan RE. Marijuana use and risky sexual behavior among high-risk adolescents: Trajectories, risk factors, and event-level relationships. *Dev Psychol* 2012;48(5):1429-42. doi: [10.1037/a0027547](https://doi.org/10.1037/a0027547)

<sup>viii</sup> Ashbridge M, Hayden JA, Cartwright JL. Acute cannabis consumption and motor vehicle risk: Systematic review of observational studies and meta-analysis. *BMJ* 2012;344:e536. doi: [10.1136/bmj.e536](https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.e536)

<sup>ix</sup> Brook, J.S. et al. The risks for late adolescence of early adolescent marijuana use. *American Journal of Public Health*, October 1999.