

Cannabis Policy Oversight Team (CPOT)

AGENDA: April 11, 2019

Rose Room, 3rd Floor- Portland City Hall
1221 SW 4th Ave, Portland, OR 97204

TIME	AGENDA ITEM	DESIRED OUTCOME
6:00 – 6:20pm	Welcome and introductions	Group welcomes each other and guests
6:20 – 6:30pm	CPOT Leadership elections	Group votes on nominated candidates for 2019 leadership positions
6:30 – 6:50pm	Review of grant listening session summary	Group reviews summary of recent grant listening session
6:50 – 7:40pm	Policy and program priorities brainstorming continues	Group continues work to identify current priorities for cannabis program and policy
7:40 – 7:50pm	Break (10 min)	
7:50 – 8:20pm	Agenda setting discussion	Group discusses and decides agenda and procedure for setting agendas
8:20 – 8:30pm	Public comment period	Group hears comments from members of the public
8:30pm	ADJOURN	

Questions or access needs?

Please connect with your CPOT City staff liaison, Kimie Ueoka, at
cannabis@portlandoregon.gov or 503-823-2094!

The City of Portland is committed to providing meaningful access. To request translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, or other auxiliary aids or services, contact 503-823-4000, Relay: 711.

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Cannabis Policy Oversight Team (CPOT)
2019 Voting Ballot
April 11, 2019

Candidates for Chairperson:

Tiara Darnell

Candidates for Vice-Chairperson #1:

Al Ochoa

Candidates for Vice-Chairperson #2:

Tim Zimmerman

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Summary: City of Portland Cannabis Social Equity Grant Listening Session (1st DRAFT)

Monday April 1, 2019 – Penumbra Kelly Building, Portland, OR

Following the legalization of cannabis, voters approved a ballot measure in November 2016 which levied a 3% tax on local cannabis sales. In part, this revenue was to be used to “promote small businesses, especially women-owned and minority-owned businesses” and “provide economic opportunity and education to communities disproportionately impacted by cannabis prohibition.”

This listening session was organized to discuss the upcoming release of the 2019 Cannabis Social Equity Grant funding opportunity; a restorative justice and community reinvestment grant opportunity funded by the local 3% tax on cannabis sales. The goal of the listening session was to gather feedback from community groups whose work closely aligns with the funding priorities about ways the City can improve the grant and application process.

Representatives from more than 45 different community groups and local organizations were invited to participate in the listening session. Twenty-five people attended the event and participated in the discussion. The group was informed of the rapid timeline in place for releasing this grant (funding opportunity to be released April 12, 2019) and the limitations on areas of flexibility this cycle. This document is a summary of the discussion and key areas of the grant that were identified by the group for attention and improvement. Listening session participants are listed at the end of this document.

Community engagement and involvement in planning for, evaluating and setting priorities will be a core element of the Cannabis Program’s policy development, and management of the Cannabis Social Equity Grant.

Areas of flexibility for 2019 cycle

- Time needed for applying
- City support, tools and resources for applicants (basic needs)
- How we will identify and measure outcomes
- Equity elements of the application
- Some parts of the overall application process (i.e. in-person meetings with applicants, share scoring criteria)

Not flexible this cycle:

- Priority items identified for this cycle
- City rules about type of items/activities funds can be used for
- Payment in reimbursement only (flexibility TBD)

- City minimum requirements, insurance and other core documents
- Timeline elements that are outside our control (i.e. City Council approval, City Attorney approval)

Feedback received prior to the listening session

- Current grantees want more 1:1 communication and support from point of contact at City
- Current grantees would like help with identifying and facilitating partnerships with other community groups and services
- Current grantees unclear about renewal, re-funding of current services, and continuity of support

LISTENING SESSION TABLE DISCUSSIONS

Discussion: Table 1- Kimie, Raul, Santiago, Linda, Holly, Stacey, Shannon, Kyra, Damon

Discussion: Table 2 - Georgia, John W., Adrian, Joy-Alise, Hailei, John M., Nicole, Tim

Discussion: Table 3 - Brandon, Rachel, Paula-Noel, Arainnia, Fawn, Victoria, Jeff

Overall Recommendations:

(Ranked here solely by frequency of statements and discussion)

Grant design currently feels unfair and unattainable to smaller, newer organizations. It seems to place smaller orgs in competition with larger, more established orgs. Large organizations have an advantage due to well established networks, infrastructure, access to data, and more resources

- Grant should be accepting of smaller more targeted measures with more effective outcomes
- Applicants should be encouraged to be very honest about what can be done well with the amount requested
- The grant pits small organizations against larger organizations that have more capacity, established networks and resources. They are at a disadvantage in applying- that's not aligned with a priority around equity
- The grant should be separated into smaller and larger opportunities
- The grant should support smaller organizations with innovation and capacity building and the outcomes should be tailored to where they are at as an organization

- This grant forces larger organizations with established networks to compete against smaller, newer organizations- that is uncomfortable
- Larger established organizations are at an advantage, they have infrastructure, grant writers, access to data
- This opportunity could have a smaller capacity building element and the rest for larger “numbers of people served” type work

Grant coordinator/program (Cannabis Program) should provide more support for applicants during, throughout and after the application process. Support for partnership-building, community-building, how to write an effective grant proposal for the City, check-ins after award, ongoing support throughout grant cycle, promoting the work of grantees

- Program should provide info and support to applicants about ways to stretch the grant, pair it with other funding opportunities, extend their reach
- Program should provide info and support around crafting measurable goals
- More information needs to get out to the community about organizations and business that are providing services through these funds
- The City should help facilitate development of partnerships and connection around this work
- The program should be clear with applicants about what will make their proposals more likely to be selected
- There should be more support for grant recipients about requirements and progress reports. Including information in visual, multimedia, media other than only large text documents

Clarify funding opportunity language so that applicants know the grant is available to fund a broad array of services, organization size, and types of organizations or businesses

- Grant language needs to be clearer around the breadth of what qualifies as re-entry housing services
- Grant should be very clear about the broad range of activities that will meet the workforce development priority
- The grant should be clearer that it is available to for-profits as well as non-profits
- The grant should be clearer about the breadth of activities that fall under workforce development

Evaluation of organizational equity and practices should be a scorable requirement of applicant proposals

- Grant should ask for information about demographics of the organization (staff, membership, board), not just the priority community served
- Grant should request an organization equity assessment and plan for holding themselves accountable to equity goals

- Equity section should ask them to outline their plan to work with their priority community

The importance and benefits of partnerships in this work should be emphasized and possibly incentivized in the grant

- The grant should include some expectation around partnerships
- Partnerships should be emphasized and elevated to a scored element of the application as an incentive to build community and expand impact

A reimbursement model for payment is hard for organizations to work with

- Larger organizations have to take out a line of credit in order to work in a reimbursement model
- It's very hard for a small organization to build something new or innovate in a reimbursement model
- As a current grant recipient and a small business, the reimbursement model held up our program work because we couldn't provide the upfront cost

The importance of wealth creation should be emphasized in the grant

- Strategies and plans to support wealth creation should be a priority for applicants
- This grant should be a tool for wealth creation

Additional feedback about the application

- Selection committee needs clear instruction on who is making the final decision. They also need to be people who understand the work or areas they are scoring.
- The number of words allowed for answering these questions should be increased (slightly)
- Reporting should be standardized
- The minimum requirements section should list all important minimum requirements, not just the insurance ones
- There should be a renewal process for current grantees that includes an interview the grant selection committee to show progress and plans for next year
- Information about the grant, resources, program and policy should be advertised in Spanish-speaking media

Questions/Comments about the overall allocation of the Cannabis Tax

- Who is monitoring the growth of the distribution? Who makes the decisions about allocation of the larger portion of funds?
- Who is making decisions about this portion of funds?

- Grant is too small
- This grant is too small
- What are Portland Police Bureau and Portland Bureau of Transportation doing with the money they receive?

* Dr. Rachel Knox spoke a bit about the Oregon Cannabis Commission. Commission formed by the State to provide route for advising OHA, OLCC and other state level agencies around cannabis decision-making and policy. This conversation about social equity and restorative justice is not happening at the state level and needs to happen. It should not just be Portland having this conversation. Please contact Dr. Knox to learn more about how you can get involved.

List of Attendees

Damon McPherson (Metropolitan Public Defender)
 John Washington (Soul District Business Association)
 Fawn Aberson (Soul District Business Association/Flossin Media)
 Stacey Triplett (Worksystems)
 Victoria Schwofferman (Self Enhancement, Inc.)
 Jeffrey Spencer (NW Regional Re-entry Center)
 Santiago Vasquez (Native American Youth and Family Center)
 Dr. Paula-Nel Macfie (Backdoor Medicine/ NAYA)
 Adrian Wayman (Green Box)
 Joy Alise Davis (Portland African American Leadership Forum)
 Shannon Olive (Women First)
 Holly Whittleton (SE Works)
 Linda Hastings (SE Works)
 LaQuida Landford (Garifuna Consultants / Green Hop)
 Dr. Rachel Knox (Oregon Cannabis Commission / CPOT)
 Tim Zimmerman (Indoor Cultivation Systems / CPOT)
 John Monteleone (Fidus Family Farms / CPOT)
 Nicole Kennedy (Green Hop)
 Raul Preciado Mendez (Latino Network)
 Hailei Aberson-Holford (Flossin Media)
 Brandon Goldner (City of Portland- Civic Life)
 Georgia West (City of Portland- Civic Life)
 Kimie Ueoka (City of Portland- Civic Life)
 Arainnia Brown (City of Portland- Civic Life)
 Kyra Hazilla (Metropolitan Public Defender)

2019 CPOT Program and Policy Priorities Brainstorm

03/14/19

- 1000' buffers, blocks access – it's a debate!
- Ways city can move forward cannabis consumption (social) w/o state
- Continued education / de-stigmatization with health policy community
- Workforce development
- Continue to use cannabis tax \$ to remove barriers to employment
- Review benefits, impact check, follow the money
- Housing for formerly incarcerated
- What youth learn in school about cannabis
- Advocacy education
- Green enterprise zone
- Clarity around consumption ambiguity
- Workplace rights, contractors vs employees
- Social equity and economic development
- Tourism and social consumption
- Engage local press, keep cannabis local
- Compassionate giving
- City-supported incubator

04/11/19