

CANNABIS POLICY OVERSIGHT TEAM (CPOT)



OFFICE OF
Community
& Civic Life

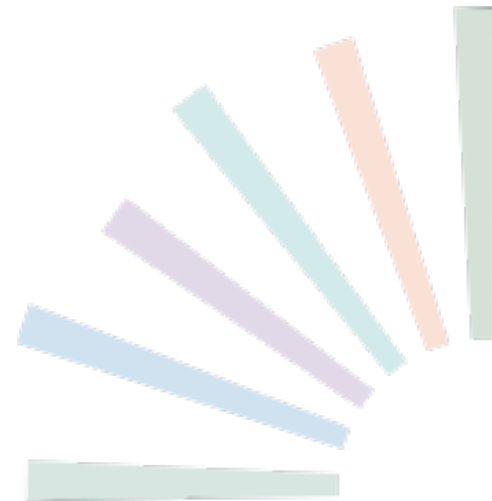


2019

Welcome!

Agenda:

- **Dinner and introductions**
- **Discuss membership, scope, agreements**
- **Community-building activity**
- **Leadership roles, self-nominations**
- **Staff presentation- Cannabis Program**
- **Focus areas past and present**
- **Public comment**



Introductions

- **Name and preferred pronoun**
- **A bit about yourself**
- **What's a cannabis-related headline that has recently caught your eye?**



Cannabis Program & Portland local cannabis tax audit

Alexandra Fercak: Senior Management Auditor,
Audit Services, Portland City
Auditor



What is CPOT?

- **Type III Public advisory body**
- **Industry representatives and others that possess an in-depth understanding of issues affecting and affected by cannabis**

Objective: To discuss and provide input in development of policies that support equitable access and outcomes for the cannabis industry, cannabis consumers, and all City of Portland residents.



What is your role?

- Inform:** Provide review of and feedback on policies and procedures
- Monitor:** Check on progress of a previous decision or program activities
- Forecast:** Provide input and information to the program about emerging community needs and marketplace trends
- Preliminary Advising:** Generate annual reports to the program and Civic Life Bureau Director



Things to consider

- **Regulations for public advisory body different than informal group**
 - Required City trainings (HR, Equity, Public Official Training)
 - Conflicts of interest (ORS 244)
 - Public meetings law (ORS 192.610-690)
 - Public records law (ORS 192.410-505)
 - Advisory body bylaws



Communication agreement

- Listen to understand
- Stay engaged
- Challenge ideas, not people
- Expect and accept non-closure
- ...what else??



QUICK BREAK!
(5 min)



The Way It Is

-By William Stafford



The Way It Is

- What is your thread?
- Why are you here, doing THIS work?
- Please share one story from your experience that fuels your work



C POT leadership roles

Chairperson:

- Leads meetings and work of the body; helps set future agendas; encourage full and safe participation

Vice-chairpersons:

- Support Chair with above duties; substitute for Chair for above duties if Chair not available

No subcommittees are permitted!



Self-nominations?



Cannabis Policy & Program: Past, Present, Future

Brandon Goldner, Cannabis Program Supervisor



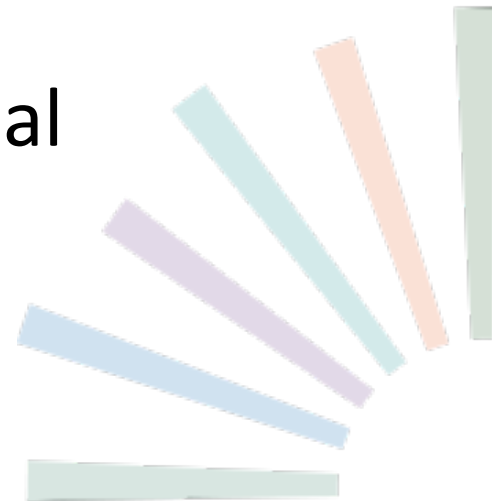
History: Portland's cannabis policies

- **1973:** Oregon decriminalizes possession of small amounts of cannabis
- **1998:** Oregon passes Medical Marijuana program
- **2012:** Oregon regulates sales of Medical cannabis from stores
- **2013:** “Cole Memo” gives states guidance on cannabis rules
- **2014:** Oregon passes Measure 91
- **2015:** Portland Marijuana Policy Program (Cannabis Program) created
- **2015:** Town halls, community workgroups on Portland cannabis policy
- **Sept. 2015:** Portland City Code 14B.130 passes



Early Cannabis Program

- **Late 2015:** Cannabis Program staff develops forms, procedures, website, communications, etc.
- **Dec. 2015:** City accepts first cannabis applications
- **April 2016:** Cannabis Policy Oversight Team (CPOT) begins
 - Portland's Cannabis public advisory body
 - Met monthly
 - Discussed issues like tourism, social consumption of cannabis, etc.



Early Cannabis Program

- **April 2016:** First City cannabis license issued to a Medical Dispensary
- **Sept. 2016:** First City recreational cannabis license issued
- **Jan. 1, 2017:** Med. Dispensaries can no longer sell rec. cannabis; all recreational sales have to come from OLCC-licensed Retailers



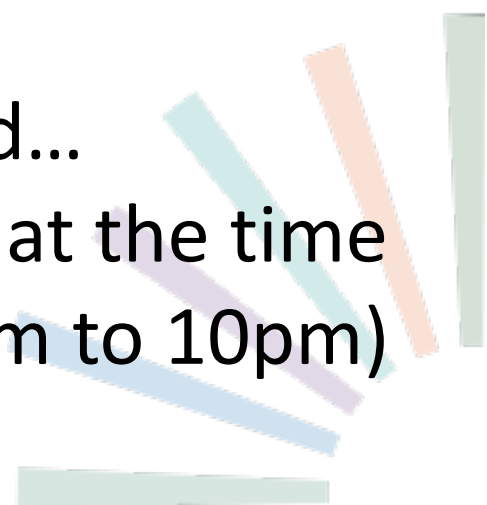
Cannabis Program evolves

- **Multiple code changes from 2016-2017:**
 - Raising fees because of slower-than-anticipated licensing
 - Plenty of applications, but most program funding comes from LICENSE fees
 - Due in large part to building codes, State delays
 - Changing building code requirements in Cannabis Program code for Med. Dispensaries, Retailers, and Wholesalers
 - Allowed license types with lower risk to get licensed more quickly



Cannabis Program evolves

- **Multiple code changes from 2016-2017:**
 - Eliminate the Portland restriction of cannabis delivery to consumers
 - Early concerns about unintended consequences
 - Allows easier access to cannabis for those less able to go to a Retailer
 - Create Micro-Tier licenses
 - Allows smaller Producers to get licensed...
 - ...no fee reduction for these businesses at the time
 - Change hours of operation to match State (7am to 10pm)



Cannabis Program evolves

- **Multiple code changes from 2016-2017:**
 - Allow for Temporary Certificates of Occupancy to suffice for building permitting for some license types
 - Trying to find balance between safety and expediency
 - Allow for non-extract Processors and all Producers to get licensed without FINAL building permitting
 - Again, trying to thread needle to getting folks licensed quickly, and making sure they're safe



Cannabis Program evolves

- **Leadership changes:**

- Commissioner Chloe Eudaly assigned then-Office of Neighborhood Involvement in 2017 (*now Office of Community & Civic Life, or just “Civic Life”*)
- With any leadership change, strategic direction and priorities will be adjusted
- Had to brief many people, including leadership and elected offices, very quickly on the program’s function, history, vision, etc.





**All of this is
to say...
there were a
LOT of
changes!**



A new vision

- New leadership? New vision!
- Taking a harder look at how we do what we do
- Making changes to help businesses succeed
- Taking on (or soon to take on) new policy areas:
 - Local cannabis tax dollars (*soon*)
 - Cannabis public involvement (*now*)
 - Social consumption of cannabis (*soon/now*)
- ...more on some of those in a minute, but first...



A new vision

Portland's Local Cannabis Tax

- **Nov. 2016:** City of Portland passes ordinance for 3% local tax on Retail cannabis sales for three purposes:
 1. Drug and alcohol treatment programs
 2. Public safety investments, such as DUII training and street infrastructure
 3. Support for small businesses, especially women-owned and minority-owned businesses



A new vision

Portland's Local Cannabis Tax

- **Nov. 2016:** City of Portland passes ordinance for 3% local tax on Retail cannabis sales for three purposes:

Police: Drug rehabilitation programs

Bureau of Transportation: Vision Zero

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS

1. Drug and alcohol treatment programs
2. Public safety investments, such as DUII training and street infrastructure
3. Support for small businesses, especially women-owned and minority-owned businesses



A new vision

Portland's Local Cannabis Tax

- **Early 2017:** \$500,000 allocated in 2017-18 to third category that focused on equity and social justice
- **Mid-2017:** Offices of Commissioner Eudaly and Commissioner Fritz work with stakeholders to establish priorities for that \$500,000



A new vision

Portland's Local Cannabis Tax

- **Late 2017:** Offices of Eudaly and Fritz, via stakeholders, establish three priorities for \$500,000:
 - Record-clearing and expungement
 - Small business support
 - Workforce development
- **Early 2018:** Groups apply for funding
- **Mid 2018:** Funds awarded for all three priority areas



The Cannabis Program today

- As described before, the program has to work on many things, including:
 - Future decisions RE: local cannabis tax dollars
 - Cannabis public involvement (that's **YOU!**)
 - Social consumption of cannabis
 - Finding other ways to help those that need it most:
 - Small businesses
 - Those impacted by cannabis prohibition
 - Offering flexibility when possible



The Cannabis Program today

Recent changes to our code (Sept. 2018):

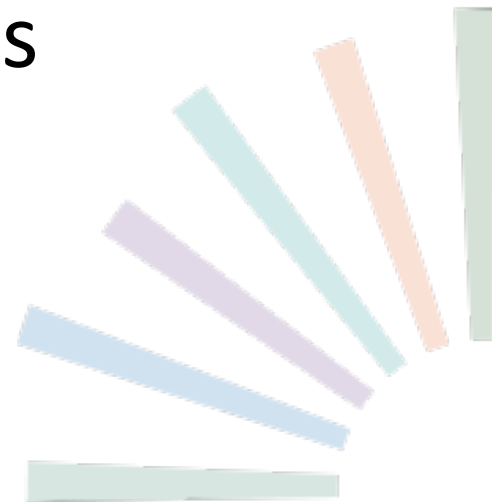
- Lower application or license fees for all
 - Don't want to take in more than we need
 - Retailers were paying more for licenses, now pay the same (\$4,975 to \$3,500)
- Lower fees even more for small businesses
 - Micro-Tier licenses given a license discount (\$3,500 to \$1,000)



The Cannabis Program today

Recent changes to our code (Sept. 2018):

- Creation of Social Equity Program
 - License reductions based on three factors:
 - Small businesses (< \$750k income)
 - Small businesses + MWESB vendors
 - Owners/Staff w/ cannabis convictions



The Cannabis Program today

Recent changes to our code (Sept. 2018):

- Offering flexibility on license payments
 - Allow businesses to defer part of their license payments for up to 6 months
- Lowering bar for licensure for some license types
 - Allow Producers and non-extract Processors to get license without FINAL commercial building permit



The future

- **There is A LOT to continue working on:**
 - Social consumption of cannabis
 - Cannabis Program and City of Portland supported statewide social consumption concept in 2017
 - Coming up again during 2019 Legislative Session; City is supporting
 - Issue of equity, consumer rights, regulatory consistency, tourism, etc.



The future

- **There is MORE to continue working on:**
 - Cannabis Policy Oversight Team
 - Focusing on equitable outcomes w/ local cannabis policy/advocacy
 - Strengthening Social Equity Program
 - An important step, but just a first step
 - Portland cannabis podcast
 - Guests discussing the future of cannabis policy



The future

- **There is EVEN MORE to continue working on:**
 - Portland cannabis industry market study
 - What will Portland's cannabis business community look like in the next few years
 - Helpful to know if a major cannabis market contraction (or expansion) is coming
 - City of Portland Cannabis Guide (*out soon!*)
 - Partnering with BDS for all-encompassing City of Portland cannabis business guide



The future

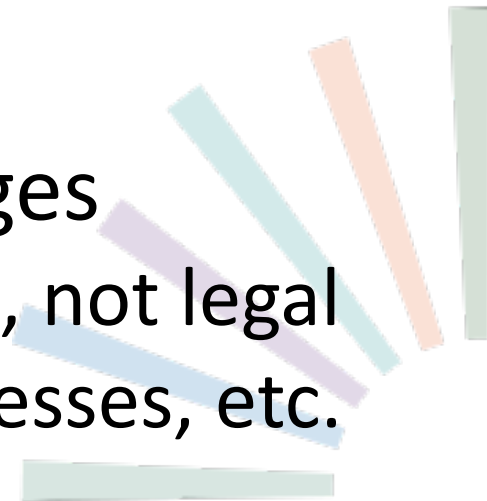
- ...and there are UNKNOWNNS we'll need to work on:
 - Interstate commerce?
 - Changes in Federal enforcement?
 - Giving out samples?
 - New cannabis-related products or delivery mechanisms?
 - ...unknown unknowns, or “things that we don't even know that we don't know because we don't know enough to know we don't know what we don't know.”



What we've learned

The whole point is to continue changing and adapting:

- If you're asking businesses to meet a high bar, you have to help them meet it
 - We want to be connectors, helpers, and good public servants
 - If your goal is compliance, your job shouldn't be to punish, it should be to help
- Cannabis businesses have unique challenges
 - Can't write off taxes like other businesses, not legal Federally, unable to bank like other businesses, etc.



What we've learned

The whole point is to continue changing and adapting:

- Those most impacted by prohibition aren't benefitting as much as we'd like
 - Cannabis prohibition disproportionately affected communities of color
 - This can affect one's ability to raise capital, be considered to jobs or housing, other hurdles
- Need to know when to be flexible / when to be firm
 - Rule makers and regulators are not perfect
 - It's a newly-legal industry, so things change fast

What we've learned

The whole point is to continue changing and adapting:

- Consistency is key
 - Even with that flexibility, you have to be mindful that it's applied as consistently as possible
 - Tough for business owners when things change and the rug is pulled from under them



The Cannabis
Program wants to be:

**CONNECTORS,
HELPERS, &
GOOD PUBLIC
SERVANTS**



Questions?



Review focus areas & community input

2015 – Marijuana Policy Task Force

2015 – Community Stakeholder Workgroup

2015 – Portland passes PCC 14B.130

2016 – Commissioner Fritz's requested focus areas

2016 – CPOT brainstorm-identified priority focus areas

2017 – Comm. Eudaly's Minority Cannabis Cabinet

2018 – PCC 14B.130 code changes; Social Equity Program

Please refer to handout



What next?

Prepare:

- Vote for 2019 CPOT leadership
- How can we best facilitate and support your work? What needs can you already anticipate?
- Any resources, presentations, or information at the top of your mind?
- Does this standing schedule work for you?



ADJOURN

Next meeting:

- March 14th 2019 - 6 to 8:30pm
- Portland City Hall, Rose Room, 3rd Floor, 1221 SW 4th Ave., Portland, OR 97204
- *Identifying and grouping policy priorities, vote on CPOT leadership*

