

Cannabis Policy Oversight Team (CPOT)
AGENDA (DRAFT): August 6, 2019
SE Uplift, Fireside Room
3534 SE Main St., Portland OR 97214

TIME	AGENDA ITEM
8:30 – 8:45am	Welcome & review agenda
8:45 – 9:15am	Review and approve subcommittee requests
9:15 – 10:45am	Small group work on recommendation language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Break out groups of 2-4 to draft and propose recommendation /section language and details
10:45-11:00am	Break
11:00-12:30am	Large group reviews and approves initial draft recommendations and layout
	ADJOURN

Contact cannabis@portlandoregon.gov or 503-823-2094 with questions or access needs.

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.

503-823-4000: Traducción o interpretación | Chuyển Ngữ hoặc Phiên Dịch | 翻译或传译 | Письменный или устный перевод | Traducere sau Interpretare | Письмовий або усний переклад | 翻訳または通訳 | Turjumida ama Fasiraadda | ການແປພາສາ ຫຼື ການອະທິບາຍ | الترجمة التحريرية أو الشفهية



Cannabis Policy Overnight Team (CPOT) 2019 Annual Cannabis Policy Report *WORKING DRAFT*

Office of Community and Civic Life

Cannabis Policy Oversight Team (CPOT), Cannabis Program

CPOT members: Tiara Darnell (Chair), Al Ochoa (Vice Chair), Tim Zimmerman (Vice Chair), Katherine Krajnak, Rachel Knox, Madeline Martinez, Daniel Rowland, Laura Valden-Vega, Stephanie Neil, John Monteleone III, Nicole Bowles- **list out and add short bio info**

2019 Meeting Schedule: Feb. 21, Mar. 14, Apr. 11, May 9, Jun. 13, July 11, August 8

Executive Summary- TBD

Who we are:

We are a group of Portlanders with diverse stakeholder perspectives, brought together by the Office of Community & Civic Life to explore cannabis-related public policies. Some of us are cannabis industry representatives and others possess an in-depth understanding of issues affecting and affected by the cannabis industry. Our objective is to discuss and develop policies that support equitable access and outcomes for the cannabis industry, cannabis consumers, and all City of Portland residents.

Why this work is important:

The City of Portland must bolster its efforts in restorative justice and small business support around cannabis. The language of cannabis legalization is imbued with statements about justice and equitable access, yet early legalization policy-making was rooted in the same systems and fear-based mentality that produced disproportionate harm to communities of color during prohibition. There is a growing body of information that can and should be used to inform Portland's position, language, regulations and policy-making. State governments and local municipalities have a duty to utilize available information in policy-making and to ensure that cannabis policies exist within a framework that prioritizes restorative practices and reparative justice. Portland must regularly review and revise cannabis policies to ensure success for its restorative efforts and avoid additional trauma to impacted communities and further inhibiting the growth of small business.

This work requires:

- Bureau and City leadership are committed to adopting City policies, programs and regulations that support equitable access to participate in the cannabis industry, so that communities and community members who have experienced the greatest harm due to prohibition and unfair enforcement of cannabis laws can share in the wealth and power generated by this new industry.

- Recommendations and actions resulting from recommendations will require investments of time and resources from the City
- Harmed communities will play a key role in solution-finding, program and policy development, and decision-making
- The City's processes around cannabis regulation and policy-development must be trauma-informed and honor the long history, race inequity, and inter-generational impact of the criminalization of cannabis

Our core values:

Social equity

Central question-

- *What can the City do to ensure that social equity and restorative justice are fundamental to all policy, resource allocation, and decision-making related to cannabis and the use of local Cannabis Tax revenue?*
 - Social equity must be actively prioritized at the City and State level
 - Information-sharing and collaboration between City Bureaus (and County public health) is critical to understanding impact
 - The State and City have not done enough to ensure that the communities most impacted by prohibition are benefiting from (and able to participate in) the cannabis industry

Building community

Central question-

- *What can the City do to support networking and connection for people, businesses, and groups interested in engaging around economic development, social equity and other cannabis-related conversations?*
 - There is a need for a central hub for community connection around cannabis and development of a community of practice around cannabis and social equity
 - The City should be doing more to promote and share stories of the work of grantees and positive business / community relationships
 - The City should serve as a resource for information about cannabis-related news, activities, education

Economic development

Central question-

- *How can the City better understand the impact of current local regulation and policies on local and small businesses and MWBEs?*
 - It is the City's duty to responsibly collect and regularly review data related to the local cannabis industry, public safety, criminal justice and social equity
 - The City must review current regulation and policies with up-to-date information to ensure that they are not creating unnecessary barriers to economic development or unintentionally reinforcing stigmatization of the industry

- They City should explore local-level policies that could better support and protect employers and employees of cannabis businesses given the risk these businesses face at the federal level
- The City should explore ways to provide direct financial support to cannabis businesses and employees through the Cannabis Tax funds (i.e. emergency funds, grants, scholarships, incubator programs).

The big questions

What are the most important areas of focus, related to cannabis, for the City of Portland right now?

How are the existing City policies and systems creating barriers to participation or preventing access to the benefits of legalization?

Who is benefitting from the current policies and who is being burdened, or excluded entirely?

Our process

The first two quarters of 2019 were dedicated to completing required on-boarding for City advisory groups and discussing current priority items. We identified the need for the City to prioritize social equity activities and to revisit outdated policies that may be creating unnecessary barriers to entry. We then identified an initial set of priority areas for policy work and invited information and education from City staff and external partners about current state and opportunities for policy-development. The group also identified a high need for communication, connection and networking around cannabis social equity work and informed policy-making. We then shared a rough draft of our recommendations with community groups and members of the public through in-person engagement (CPOT meetings and community conversations) and an online invitation to provide us with feedback. Community feedback was discussed and included in this report. See Attachment A for community feedback that d

We welcome community participation

TBD

Current State of Cannabis in Portland

-local data & stats, state stats when appropriate

2019 Cannabis Policy Priority Areas

Grouped and in ranked order

**These priorities are not static*

1. Make and revise policies using an informed-approach

Informed review and update of policies

- Allocation of Cannabis Tax and tracking use
- City social equity workplan/framework
 - Coordinated support for formerly incarcerated due to cannabis
- Data audit (i.e. available, collection methods, needs, analysis)
- Refine health and public safety policy
- Social consumption
- Destigmatize cannabis throughout the regulatory system (cannabis competency)
- Identify measures of impairment
- Sustainability standards

2. Reduce barriers to access

Impact of existing policies on economic development and access to cannabis

- City support for small and local businesses
 - Explore flexibility in the 1000' buffer
- Workforce training & education
- Compassionate giving
- Workplace rights
- Re-entry housing

3. Take the lead on communication & connection

Education and de-stigmatization / Create spaces for connection

- Promotion of City, CPOT and Cannabis Grant work
- Convene and host community gatherings
- Health education
- Participation in / support for conferences
- Engage local press
- Increase public engagement around cannabis policy
- Tourism
- Youth education
- Activate social media and digital communities
- State legislature

2019 Recommendations

1. Make and revise policies using an informed-approach

Informed review and update of policies

- Allocation of Cannabis Tax and tracking use
- City social equity workplan/framework
 - Coordinated support for formerly incarcerated due to cannabis
- Data audit (i.e. available, collection methods, needs, analysis)
- Refine health and public safety policy
- Social consumption
- Destigmatize cannabis throughout the regulatory system (cannabis competency)
- Identify measures of impairment
- Sustainability standards

Allocation of Cannabis Tax and tracking use

- a. Discussion / recommendations about the entirety of the City's cannabis tax revenue
(Already discussed by CPOT)

Program action:

- i. Assumed oversight and management of the Cannabis Social Equity Grants. These grants will not operate under a Bureau framework with greater support for grantees, tracking, and measures of accountability.

City social equity workplan/framework, incl. coordinated support for formerly incarcerated due to cannabis

- a. Support for those currently incarcerated **(Ask CPOT to consider)**
- b. Make recommendations about specific uses for tax revenue, within the boundaries of the ballot measure *(Already discussed by CPOT)*
- c. Strengthen Cannabis Program's Social Equity Program on licensing side, make recommendations to State on licensing; including review Minority Cannabis Business Association's social equity policies **(Ask CPOT to consider)**

Data audit (i.e. available, collection methods, needs, analysis)

- a. Have Cannabis Program data CSA present to and hear from CPOT about data needs / gaps **(Ask CPOT to consider)**
- b. Find out what data is needed (City requirements RE: cannabis use), who needs to be asked for data, work sessions to present on outcomes, including from City bureaus, State agencies, etc. **(Ask CPOT to consider)**
- c. Provide input on questions that will be asked of cannabis businesses in Market Study: Demographics, sustainability, etc. **(Ask CPOT to consider)**

Program action:

- i. Recently hired a part-time Community Service Aide to conduct an audit of all available data and develop a framework for program and City cannabis data analysis.

Refine health and public safety policy

- a. Having public health officials at CPOT meeting (*Already discussed by CPOT*)
- b. Research / recommend anti-discrimination laws and policies, as they relate to patient access, health care policies (State and Federal), etc. (Ask CPOT to consider)

Program action:

- i. Initiated conversations to re-establish connection with public safety (PPB DVD) and public health (MCHD, OHSU)

Social consumption and Identify measures of impairment

- a. Recommend City create framework for social consumption of cannabis in Portland, where the City will not enforce if certain requirements are met; research social consumption frameworks in other jurisdictions, states (Ask CPOT to consider)

Program action:

- i. Advocated for City position and letter of support for state legislation permitting social consumption

Destigmatize legal cannabis throughout the regulatory system (cannabis competency)- (Ask CPOT to consider this title change)

- a. Change this priority item to, “Find ways to destigmatize legal cannabis throughout the regulatory system, including cannabis competency for public employees and those who regulate cannabis” (Ask CPOT to consider)
- b. Identify need for cannabis competency for specific bureaus, offices, and departments including law enforcement, housing, public health, building permitting, revenue, health care, and others; recommend training for lawmakers, city employees on cannabis and cannabis-related issues; resources and funds to increase knowledge about cannabis throughout government and other systems (Ask CPOT to consider)

- c. Review and make recommendations on City, State policies on cannabis use and testing by city employees / contractors, and all other public and private employees **(Ask CPOT to consider)**
- d. PBOT: Street frontage improvement deferral for cannabis businesses **(Ask CPOT to consider)**

Sustainability standards

- a. Recommend packaging requirements, including hemp-based packaging, glass-based uniform packaging that can be re-used **(Ask CPOT to consider)**
- b. Research / recommend recycling capabilities in our own region, rather than having to send it overseas **(Ask CPOT to consider)**
- c. Energy use / credits / requirements for energy use, insulation, runoff for cannabis businesses; efficiency audits and credits from PGE, Energy Star, UL Listing, or others **(Ask CPOT to consider)**
- d. Sustainability questions to Market Study survey (See “Data Audit” priority item)

Program action:

- i. Discussions around this started prior to this list of priorities. Staff and CPOT members have begun exploring ideas and potential incentives.

2. Reduce barriers to access

Impact of existing policies on economic development and access to cannabis

- City support for small and local businesses
- Explore flexibility in the 1000’ buffer
- Workforce training & education
- Compassionate giving
- Workplace rights
- Re-entry housing

City of Support for small and local business

- 1000-foot barrier should be lifted, and fees should be reduced for easier access for small local businesses to open. Belief is that the community will support the small local businesses rather than larger corporations. The challenge for access is economics. (Discussed by CPOT members)
- Would like a comprehensive list of fees and start-up costs associated with starting business at local and state level. (Ask Program to provide)
- Rent control for industry (Discussion CPOT Members/CPOT to consider)
- Currently exploring allowable opportunities for fee reductions, incentives and standards. (Program action)
 - Oregon owned businesses (ask CPOT to consider)
 - Incentives for giving back to the community, Charities, etc. (CPOT to consider)

- Directory with a list of locally owned businesses
 - With a decal to identify locally owned businesses and
 - Businesses that understand the war on drugs and equity (CPOT Discussion to further define)

Program action:

- Currently exploring allowable opportunities for fee reductions, incentives and standards

Explore flexibility of in the 1000' buffer

- 1000-foot barrier should be lifted, and fees should be reduced for easier access for small local businesses to open. Belief is that the community will support the small local businesses rather than larger corporations. The challenge for access is economics. (Discussed by CPOT members)
- It's healthy to have competition. It should be removed specially to support smaller businesses, so the larger corporations aren't protected (CPOT Discussion)

Workforce Training & Education

- Cannabis competency= training for those to understand the potency of cannabis. Education on the effects and its science for anybody who touches the plant or plant companies. Education for all. (CPOT Discussion)
- An incentive to encourage a continuing education program to start on the bottom, a track program. Exposure and education such as a paid internship. (CPOT Discussion)

Program action:

- Currently a priority area for Cannabis Social Equity Grant funding

Compassionate giving

- Access to medicine to people who cannot afford it. Patients must be monitored and registered (understanding of pharmacology due to the potency of THC and the interaction with other pharmaceuticals) Will see unintended consequences because of the nuance and misunderstanding of the written rules and the fight against prohibition as well as the potency of cannabis. Education for all. (CPOT Discussion)

Workplace Rights

Program action:

- Advocated for City position and letter of opposition sent to US Dept. of Immigrations defending rights of non-citizens to work in legal cannabis businesses without jeopardizing their citizenship status

Re-entry housing

- Currently a priority area for Cannabis Social Equity Grant funding. (Program action)
- Further discussion on defining re-entry housing requested (CPOT Discussion)

Program action:

- Currently a priority area for Cannabis Social Equity Grant funding

Sustainability standards

- Discussions around this started prior to this list of priorities. Staff and CPOT members have begun exploring ideas and potential incentives. (program action)

3. Take the lead on communication and connection

Education and de-stigmatization / Create spaces for connection

- Promotion of City, CPOT and Cannabis Grant work
- Convene and host community gatherings
- Health education
- Participation in / support for conferences
- Engage local press
- Increase public engagement around cannabis policy
- Tourism
- Youth education
- Activate social media and digital communities
- State legislature

Communication & Connection

Education and de-stigmatization / Create spaces for connection

- Promotion of City, CPOT and Cannabis Grant work
 - Program action:
 - Working closely with the Bureau and the Commissioner's Communications Officers to increase visibility of cannabis and cannabis tax related City work
- Convene and host community gatherings
 - Program action:
 - Increased community participation planned for CPOT activities and also grant activities
- Health education
- Participation in / support for conferences
- Engage local press
- Increase public engagement around cannabis policy
 - Program action:

- Increased community participation planned for CPOT activities and also grant activities
- Tourism
- Youth education
- Activate social media and digital communities
 - Program action:
 - Updated visual appearance of program social media pages, clarified guidance around what to post, developed schedule for social media outlining frequency and when to post
 - Program action:
 - CPOT Chair and program staff exploring community partners and options for hosting cannabis community event calendars