

Cannabis Policy Oversight Team (CPOT)

AGENDA: November 21, 2019

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

TIME	AGENDA ITEM	DESIRED OUTCOME
5:30 – 5:45pm	Welcome and introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation to disclose conflicts of interest • Review and approve Aug meeting minutes 	Group welcomes each other and guests
5:45 – 6:15pm	Updates	Group shares updates and discusses current events
6:15 – 7:20pm	Group discussion on final changes to recommendations report	Group approves language and content for annual report
7:20 – 7:30pm	Break	
7:30 – 8:20pm	Group reviews preliminary rough draft of YR 3 Social Equity Grant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and discuss framework document • Review and discuss rough draft of grant application 	Group provides feedback on concepts and rough draft of grant
8:20 – 8:30pm	Public comment period	Group hears comments from members of the public
8:30pm	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 Community Talks

Social Equity

- Safe and legal social consumption places needed
- Social equity support needs more dimensions
 - Length of time for milestones
 - Fines and fees
 - Protections for local and small businesses
 - Increase access and support for expungement
 - Better define SE versus community reinvestment
 - Support growth and development of POC owned and operated ancillary services
 - Loans / financing for social equity eligible businesses
- Portland Police slow to respond or refuse to respond to theft at cannabis businesses
- Rules and regulations should be easier to understand and set businesses up to prevent violations
- City and State should align and take the lead in destigmatizing cannabis and social equity efforts
 - Encourage adoption of policies that normalize cannabis/ end policies that perpetuate stigma
 - Health care organizations, Citywide policies, big employers in PDX and OR
 - Collect and use comprehensive data to drive policy-making and refinement
 - Close loopholes in regulation of illegal businesses and home grows in violation of rules
 - Partner to increase impact of SB420 and 975
- Cannabis Social Equity Grant
 - Increase length of application period
 - Expand definition of workforce development beyond entry level and blue-collar work
 - Scholarships or fund for practical development of industry skills- producer, processor, business owner
 - Understand gaps and completion barriers in record clearing services
 - Understand history of prohibition and impacts across different communities of color
- Use of the tax revenue (throughout city)
 - more transparency needed
 - City cannabis funds toward gun violence prevention
 - City cannabis funds toward community centers
 - City cannabis funds toward mental health and rehab services for POCs
 - Improve data collection and analysis
 - Support for local and small businesses needed

- Don't create extra pressure or compliance activities
- Create SBA loans or system of financing for small cannabis businesses and MWESBs
- Pay for support services for small cannabis businesses- legal consultant, accounting consultant, marketing consultant
- Re-establish drug court
- Address barriers to renting spaces in Portland
- All campaigns and work funded by cannabis revenue should be tagged as such
- Fund day worker program for city clean up
- Invest in harm reduction programs
- Support programs serving criminal justice involved individuals
- Youth programs that prep for jobs of the future
- Fund record clearing services

Competency

- Education needed (science, potency, responsible and safe use, storage, impairment, youth prevention)
 - Legislators
 - Cannabis business staff
 - Gen pub
 - Parents
 - Patients
 - Seniors
 - Youth
 - Healthcare providers
 - Tourists
- Easy to access, user-friendly resource and education center needed (business support, training, funds, consultants, info and ed, civic engagement groups, community groups)
- Partner with healthcare, schools, social services, senior services to provide education

Research

- Research needed
 - Medicinal use
 - Potency
 - Use in addiction treatment for opioids
 - Sustainability and environmental impacts
 - Collect and analyze comprehensive post legalization data for Portland

Sustainability

- Regulation and compliance are overly burdensome
 - 1000 ft buffer

- Limits to marketing and advertising hurt business
- Permitting, zoning requirements and BDS processes are problematic
- Overnight storage requirements are very labor intensive
- Packaging requirements burdensome and generate lots of trash
- Customer info no longer captured and retained(?) hard to identify theft suspects
- Video retention requirement (30-90 days) is very expensive to maintain
- Not innovative or forward thinking- reproducing old systems
- **City and State not doing a good job in stopping illegal businesses and regulating home grows**
- **Need to support cannabis industry workers and general workplace rights related to cannabis use**
 - Off hours consumption and drug testing
 - Contract work and labor laws
- **Cap on overall length of time to issue license**
- **City should comment on Fed regulations**
 - CBD regulation
- **City should set the standard around community-building**
 - host more community meetings to talk about cannabis
 - Support communication between businesses and neighbors
 - Encourage businesses to contribute to community building
 - Host or offer space for community groups to meet
 - Local discount
 - Neighborhood clean-up activities
 - Learning tours for public
 - Sponsor and/or organize community activities in partnership with CBOs
 - Create fund to help currently incarcerated – training, internship, workforce dev-start while incarcerated and transition out
 - Create fund to provide direct legal support to other businesses
 - **Incentivize businesses to participate in public, neighbor, and customer education**
- **Increase collaboration**
 - Public health
 - Industry
 - Public safety
 - Community groups and neighborhood associations



**Cannabis Policy Overnight Team (CPOT)
2019 ANNUAL CANNABIS POLICY REPORT
(WORKING DRAFT)
*Revised 09/11/19***

**Office of Community and Civic Life
Cannabis Policy Oversight Team (CPOT), Cannabis Program**

CPOT members: Al Ochoa (Chair), Tim Zimmerman (Vice Chair), Tiara Darnell (Former Chair), Katherine Krajnak, Rachel Knox, Madeline Martinez, Daniel Rowland, Laura Valden-Vega, Stephanie Neil, John Monteleone III, Nicole Bowles

2019 Meeting Schedule: Feb. 21, Mar. 14, Apr. 11, May 9, Jun. 13, Jul. 11, Aug. 8, Sept. 11, Oct. 10, Nov. 21, Dec. 12

Executive statement:

Portland and Oregon need a cohesive strategy and plan for cannabis

Portland must adopt a strategic vision and clear position on cannabis and the reparative use of cannabis revenue. Policy-making agencies and bureaus are operating in silos, yet every independent action has a ripple effect. Like an ecosystem- the regulations and policies governing cannabis, and use of cannabis revenue, are intricately connected and must operate as such.

This City is in danger of squandering this rare opportunity to nurture a developing industry while at the same time supporting wealth creation in communities of color. This endeavor requires a cohesive, inter-agency strategy and overarching goals for cannabis in Portland. Without a clear vision and strategy Portland's efforts will suffer from a lack of direction, contradicting policies, and inefficient use of City resources. Stakeholders from across the spectrum are frustrated with the patchwork of decision-making and regulatory policies that have been adopted around cannabis without data analysis or deep community involvement in development of a vision. A high-level and empowered coalition of stakeholder representatives and community leaders should be convened to guide and advise the City in development of a cohesive strategy for cannabis.

Additionally, in order to make informed decisions regarding cannabis policy, economic development, public health and public safety, Portland must have reliable data collection, and collaboration across City Bureaus and County agencies to regularly share and review information. The City must prioritize data competency at this highest level. Development of new policies and/or inaction regarding existing policies must move forward with a clear understanding of the current situation.

We all want to live in spaces that support the ability of individuals, families and communities to thrive. Portland should set the tone for integration of the emerging cannabis business and consumer communities into our existing values through pathways to community-building and networks of support. This is an opportunity for Portland to lead Oregon by example and develop and adopt of a community-driven vision and data-informed strategic plan for cannabis and social equity.

The following is a comprehensive analysis of the findings and recommendations the Cannabis Policy Oversight Team has compiled with the intention of informing improved cannabis and cannabis equity policies for the benefit of all Portlanders.

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.

Core assumptions:

- 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.
- Impacted communities and stakeholders 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 will be trauma-informed and honor the long history of race-based inequity, and the inter-generational impact of the criminalization of cannabis.

Definitions we use in our work:

Equity- Equity is both the means to healthy communities and an end that benefits us all. Equity requires the intentional examination of systemic policies and practices that, even if they have the appearance of fairness, may, in effect, serve to marginalize some and perpetuate disparities.

Racial Equity- When race does not determine or predict the distribution of resources, opportunities, and burdens for group members in society

Social equity- Equitable access to livelihood, education and resources; full participation in the life of the community and self-determination in meeting fundamental needs

Community driven- Ideas and solutions are developed and determined by the community who will be served

Reparative- Serving to make amends for a past harm, injustice or inhumanity

Wealth- Wealth is that which can be inherited across generations which enables future generations the capacity to generate more wealth. Knowledge, skills, history, and material property (like a house or business) can be inherited.

Power- Power is that which enables a person or group to control their present and future life and the lives of people in their communities.

Competency- A fundamental knowledge, skills or ability that allows one to do something safely and successfully

Sustainability- Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Sustainability is a paradigm for thinking about the future in which environmental, societal and economic considerations are balanced in the pursuit of an improved quality of life and ecological balance. Sustainability is often thought of as a long-term goal (i.e. a more sustainable world), while sustainable development refers to the many processes and pathways to achieve it (e.g. sustainable agriculture, etc.)

Two articles, an audit, and a video that will help you better understand the history and current issues around cannabis policy:

- **American Civil Liberties Union Report: The War on Marijuana in Black and White-**
<https://www.aclu.org/report/report-war-marijuana-black-and-white?redirect=criminal-law-reform/war-marijuana-black-and-white>
- **Forbes Magazine- The Hidden Costs Of The Cannabis Business-**
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/nickkovacevich/2019/02/01/the-hidden-costs-of-the-cannabis-business/#45933817da3d>
- **Portland City Auditor's Report on the Cannabis Tax-**
<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/auditservices/article/730292>
- **Prof. Akwasi Owusu-Bempah at TEDxToronto- The Untapped Promise of Cannabis Legalization**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3zhuo3aizOY>

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

Community participation

All CPOT meetings are open to the public, follow public meetings law, offer interpretation services, and are in ADA accessible locations near central lines for public transportation. Additionally, CPOT hosted two Community Cannabis Talks this year- one in North Portland and one in Northeast Portland. CPOT intends to build upon the success of the two Community Cannabis Talks by expanding the use of “traveling” CPOT meetings in 2020.

Cannabis Policy Oversight Team Members

Tiara Darnell (Former Chair)

Tiara Darnell is a freelance writer, podcaster, videographer, and Oregon's Budtender of the Year, 2017. Her work has appeared in *EstroHaze*, *Willamette Week*, and *Travel Portland*. She currently produces the "potcast" High, Good People, a podcast that explores the relationships between people of color and cannabis in the new age of legalization.

Al Ochoa (Chair as of 10/30/19)

Al began his career with Cura Cannabis Solutions in September 2015 starting out as the Director of Retail Operations after spending 20 years in the commercial insurance industry. Eventually transitioning to his current role as Director of Licensing & Corporate Relations in early 2016, Al currently oversees the Company's licensing and permitting needs in multiple jurisdictions as well as directs the Company's regulatory, governmental and community affairs and manages the Company's insurance and risk management programs. Al has been a devout advocate of the plant and the industry for many years and has volunteered his time in the past to the Minority Cannabis Cabinet and Cannabis Tax Allocation Steering Committee in the City of Portland.

Tim Zimmerman (Vice Chair)

Co-owner of Indoor Cultivation Systems, a Portland cannabis production facility in the heart of the city and co-owner of Discovery Cannabis on the Oregon Coast. Tim participated as a producer in the Oregon Medical Marijuana program prior to transitioning to producing cannabis for the recreational market. Tim was a founding member of the Oregon Cannabis Association and served on their Board of Directors. Mr. Zimmerman has a wealth of knowledge with regards to the cannabis industry and volunteers with several organizations around Portland. His goal is to use his expertise to help facilitate access for grassroots entrepreneurs to participate in the cannabis industry.

Katherine Krajnak

As an entrepreneurship project manager at Prosper Portland, the city of Portland's economic development agency, Katherine co-manages and facilitates the Inclusive Business Resource Network (IBRN), a \$3 million portfolio of 16 service providers and resources dedicated to building an inclusive business environment in Portland. The IBRN meets regularly as a Community of Practice to develop tools

and interventions that address economic justice for business owners of color and other underrepresented entrepreneurs. Katherine also manages the City-funded contract with Nu Leaf Project, which uses City of Portland cannabis tax revenues to provide technical assistance and grants to entrepreneurs of color in the cannabis business.

Rachel Knox

Dr. Rachel Knox, MD, MBA is an Endocannabinologist and Cannabinoid Medicine Specialist who co-founded the American Cannabinoid Clinics and ADVENT Academy. She currently serves as Chair for the Oregon Cannabis Commission and Medical Chair for the Minority Cannabis Business Association.

Madeline Martinez

Madeline Martinez is a board member of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) and co-founder and chair of the NORML Women's Alliance. In 2009, Martinez opened the first private cannabis consumption lounge in Portland, Oregon USA, the World-Famous Cannabis Café.

Daniel Rowland

Daniel is the Director of Operations for Fleschner Construction. Fleschner Construction has been an industry partner since 2014 delivering High Quality Project Management and support to Cannabis business owners. Daniel has been working with code authorities, cannabis clients and vendors to deliver dispensaries, extraction laboratories, greenhouses, and indoor grow facilities in the greater Portland Metro area.

Laura Valden-Vega

Laura is the co-owner and operator of Green State of Mind, a national media award winning cannabis company that was started in Portland in 2014. They received their recreational license in 2017 and the company has since expanded into multiple markets, collaborated with premiere industry brands and consulted on business viability and brand creation. Laura has a law degree from George Washington University and sits on the board of NuLeaf, a Portland non-profit providing funding and entrepreneurial up-skilling for cannabis businesses owned by people of color.

Stephanie Neil

In 2016, after successfully publishing a video interview about the restrictive banking laws the legal Oregon cannabis industry faces with Senator Merkley, Representative Earl Blumenauer, and Tyson Haworth in The Huffington Post, OregonLive, and Time, Stephanie Neil joined Oregon's Finest, one of the first medical and recreational retail dispensaries in Portland. Stephanie proudly became the first Sustainability Coordinator in Oregon's cannabis industry in 2017. With over 20 years of management experience in craft hospitality industries, she has excelled at leadership, business administration, HR, compliance, and sustainability initiatives.

John Monteleone III

Fidus Family Farms transitioned from licensed production and sales through Oregon's Medical Marijuana program to Oregon's recreational cannabis program. John developed and leads Fidus in its organic, sustainable, small batch craft cannabis production and sales. Fidus Family Farms and Fidus PDX operates within the City of Portland.

Nicole Bowles

Dr. Bowles graduated with her Ph.D. from Rockefeller University and went on to earn a master's in clinical epidemiology from Weill Cornell Medical College as a Health Disparities and Community Engagement Research Fellow. Broadly her research focuses on the interplay between stress, endogenous circadian rhythms, and cannabinoid signaling in humans.

[stakeholder visual aid]

General public
Minorities
Employees
Health care providers
School Nurses
Poison Control
Pharmacologists
Patients
Parents
Educators
Employers
Business owners
Community groups
Public safety
Public health
Media
Environmental partners
Investors
Customers
Youth
Students
Contractors and suppliers
Public sector employees
Veterans
Military
Government
Criminal Justice
Social Work
Faith-based organizations
Civil Liberty organizations
Social Equity Grant applicants
Formerly incarcerated individuals
Currently incarcerated individuals
Immigrants

PRIORITY FOCUS AREAS:

Social equity

Portland must adopt a strategic vision and clear position on cannabis and the reparative use of cannabis revenue. Revenue from cannabis must be used to rectify the damage caused by the war on drugs as well as the disadvantaged economic positions of black, brown and other communities of color. City policies around cannabis and use of cannabis tax revenue could and should be having a greater impact on a grassroots level in the communities that have the greatest level of need.

Research

Resources must be set aside to comprehensively collect, track and analyze local data to understand the national, statewide, regional, societal, environmental, economic, and health impacts of legalization of recreational cannabis. If Portland wants to develop and maintain a robust craft cannabis industry, then efforts must be made to understand what our communities and small businesses need to thrive.

Competency

Systems involving health, economic development and regulation need tools and education on cannabis to adequately incorporate this medicine and industry into our community. Lack of information, education, communication and coordination across public agencies can negatively impact Portlanders. Many who regulate, work alongside, serve, and engage with the cannabis industry still lack basic cannabis competency training and are often making decisions without clear guidance.

Sustainability

The current regulatory framework of cannabis must prioritize sustainability. Total sustainability is the combination of environmental, social, human, and economic sustainability. The cannabis industry, community members, and our local and state government agencies must collaborate on development and adoption of a long-term, systemic approach that will support thriving communities, natural resources, and the emerging cannabis industry.

2019 CANNABIS POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Social Equity

Recommendation 1

Immediately improve the transparency in tax allocation decisions and outcomes

In 2016, Portlanders voted on and approved Ballot Measure 26-180 to implement a local sales tax on recreational cannabis sales within the City of Portland. The 3% sales tax was promoted to the public as monies that would benefit and support individuals and cannabis businesses owners that were adversely affected by cannabis prohibition.

Unfortunately, starting with the 2017-2018 budget cycle, the vast majority of the taxes collected have been used for police and transportation programs with only a small portion earmarked for the Social Equity Program. Furthermore, the City, particularly the Police Bureau and PBOT, has not been transparent or accountable on how it has used the tax revenues. While these uses are allowed under the ballot measure, the necessary stakeholders, such as community members, cannabis businesses, or others affected by past cannabis policies, were not involved in the annual budget decisions.

3 THINGS THE CITY CAN DO ABOUT IT:

- Allocate set percentages to each of the 3 categories with a heavy focus on the Social Equity Grant Program area, with social equity programs receiving the largest allocation (e.g., 50-70% of local cannabis tax revenue).
- Cap, or limit to one-time allocation, the allocations for Public Safety, particularly funds earmarked for Police Bureau and PBOT.
- Form and adequately staff a permanent Cannabis Tax Allocation Steering Committee (similar to what was convened initially in 2017) consisting of community members and agency stakeholders as well as representation from CPOT and Civic Life that regularly reports to Council and is held to the standards of public meetings law.

Recommendation 2

Develop and adopt a comprehensive social equity framework which includes coordinated support for those formerly incarcerated due to cannabis (for individuals their families)

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, reparative justice and thriving communities. Other states and municipalities have used the lessons learned by the early legalization states to develop thoughtful and effective policies that prioritize support for small businesses and reparative use of cannabis revenue. Now is the time for Portland to lead in revision of cannabis policies to ensure success for its restorative efforts and prevent further inhibiting the success of small businesses.

3 THINGS THE CITY CAN DO ABOUT IT:

- Adopt a City ordinance that defines and outlines that City's commitment to policies and resource allocation for cannabis related social equity programs and activities (see: Minority Cannabis Business Association's social equity ordinance [and City of Toronto's Municipal Drug Strategy framework](#))
- Prioritize social equity specific uses for cannabis tax revenue and community re-investment, for both the local and state cannabis tax revenue (e.g., re-entry housing services, funds for small businesses, educational opportunities, workforce development, community development in most-impacted communities)
- Strengthen and expand the Cannabis Program's Social Equity fee reduction program in cannabis licensing [to provide holistic and wrap-around business skills support for equity eligible applicants](#)

Recommendation 3

Support compassionate giving by legal cannabis businesses

Compassionate giving is the term used for providing access to cannabis for medicinal use to people who cannot afford it. Cannabis businesses across the nation are finding ways to ensure that people who need cannabis to help manage a health condition can get the medicine they need (e.g., donating proceeds, discounts to veterans, etc.). People who receive veteran's health benefits and those in federally subsidized healthcare programs have a harder time getting prescriptions for and paying for cannabis to treat their health conditions. The City can be doing more to support businesses in improving access to cannabis for monitored and registered patients that need it.

3 THINGS THE CITY CAN DO ABOUT IT:

- [Advocate through relationship with OLCC for a solution](#) to address the patient requirement for compassionate giving
- Create incentives for businesses that engage in compassionate giving (e.g., licensing fee reductions, fee waivers, etc.)
- Collaborate with state and local public health to develop education and resource information for businesses that are considering a compassionate giving program

Recommendation 4

Prioritize coordinated support for re-entry housing for those formerly incarcerated due to cannabis

Safe and stable housing can make a difference in an individual's future, the future of their family and children, as well as the local economy. We recognize Oregon's history of housing discrimination and social injustice and must address current-day disparities in

access to the resources, programs and opportunities experienced by communities of color. Additionally, a criminal conviction on a person's record can affect many different aspects of life after incarceration, including their ability to find housing. Safe and stable housing is a fundamental to an individual's ability to attain their full potential and is the basis for a strong community.

3 THINGS THE CITY CAN DO ABOUT IT:

- Partner with County mental health and other re-entry services to identify additional pathways and systemic improvements to support individuals, families and organizations with the re-entry process
- Prioritize cannabis revenue allocation and funding for City contracts for **legal** services, housing services, and workforce development programs for individuals and families who've been impacted by a cannabis arrest or conviction
- Implement "ban the box" type policy for housing applicant screening to remove barriers to access in Portland

DRAFT

Research

Recommendation 1

Immediately prioritize data collection and analysis and initiate a data audit of all currently available data

Portland needs to strengthen the role of data in cannabis-related policymaking. Resources and relationships must be established to comprehensively collect, track and analyze local data to understand the societal, environmental, economic, and health impacts of legalization of recreational cannabis. Portland's information must be available to the public and should contribute to regional, statewide and national data analysis. High quality data collection methods, tracking and analysis can allow for comparisons over time and thoughtful debate on sensitive topics.

3 THINGS THE CITY CAN DO ABOUT IT:

- Dedicate resources (e.g. contract, software, purchase database, FTE) to improving the existing data systems of collection and conducting analysis to identify trends
- With Council direction and directive, convene a multi-Bureau, multi-agency group required to share and to identify available cannabis-related data and gaps and develop collection and monitoring project
- Expand footprint of Cannabis Market Study: Demographics, sustainability, etc. Include stakeholder groups in providing input into answers to be sought

Recommendation 2

Work with public health and public safety to better identify, define and increase public sector competency around cannabis and measures of impairment

It is essential that Portland collaborate with regional public health and public safety to develop cannabis competency education and agency guidance around cannabis. Studies on the effects of cannabis legalization show that teen use of cannabis tends to drop after legalization and adult cannabis use tends to increase. Public health officials caution that it's too soon to judge legalization's lasting social and health impacts. Yet, we know that numbers of cannabis-related poison center calls, emergency room visits, and impaired driving incidents have risen slightly. While these numbers remain relatively low overall, when combined with post-legalization trends in other states, we begin to see policy opportunities and the need for public education.

3 THINGS THE CITY CAN DO ABOUT IT:

- Other states use "behavioral evaluations" to help determine impairment -- support research and training police for roadside cannabis impairment tests. *(Without an agreed upon chemical test, the alternative is to develop a psychomotor, behavioral or cognitive test that would indicate the degree of driving impairment and elevated risk of crash involvement due to marijuana use.)*

- Increase public awareness about the dangers of driving intoxicated (alcohol & cannabis) with more **publicly available and highly visible campaigns**
- Support increased driver training standards to include education about impairment

DRAFT

Competency

Recommendation 1

Use current and emerging local and national data to refine health and public safety policy around cannabis regulation and education

Good policy cannot be created without good information. Portland must join other cannabis-legal regions (i.e. Los Angeles, Denver, Illinois, Massachusetts) in prioritizing public education, data collection and analysis in all areas of the emerging industry, including health and public safety. Good information collection and trend analysis can allow for strategic planning and informed discourse. Cannabis policy-making has a history rooted in moralism, misleading propaganda, and racism. In the absence of reliable information and sound data, current-day policy-making and public perception around cannabis will continue to be vulnerable to those same drivers.

3 THINGS THE CITY CAN DO ABOUT IT:

- Require that CPOT and the Cannabis Program receive regular reports from and collaborate with Portland Police Bureau and Multnomah County Health Department on cannabis-related public health and public safety data
- Research / recommend anti-discrimination laws and policies, as they relate to patient access, health care policies (State and Federal), etc.
- Support the development and delivery of a cannabis curriculum or training program for those making health and public safety policies

Recommendation 2

Support and plan for legalization of temporary and permanent locations to allow for social consumption of cannabis

Lack of social consumption laws promote disregard of the laws that exist around public consumption. Without legal locations for public consumption of cannabis, those who don't own their homes hold the greatest risk when using cannabis. This group includes tourists, patients in subsidized living facilities, and those in public housing. If we want to prevent diversion and reduce barriers to access, it's imperative that we give our cannabis ecotourism industry, consumers, and patients a safe and legal place for the adults to consume.

3 THINGS THE CITY CAN DO ABOUT IT:

- Advocate at the State for City position and letter of support for state legislation permitting social consumption
- Create a framework and memo for social consumption of cannabis in Portland, where the City will not enforce if certain requirements are met (see: social consumption frameworks in other jurisdictions, states)

- Facilitate community involvement by hosting meetings to discuss public consumption in order to destigmatize cannabis and legitimize its use
- Explore city-level policies that protect and allow property owners and managers to adopt policies and spaces to support responsible cannabis use in rental, public, and multi-family housing

Recommendation 3

Redefine and recharacterize legal cannabis throughout the regulatory system

Early anti-cannabis rhetoric and heightened criminalization of cannabis during the “War on Drugs” have dictated the public narrative and past policies related to cannabis. Although findings from studies commissioned by the medical community and our own government agencies have repeatedly countered the “public menace” narrative, policies and regulatory guidance have been slow to evolve. (Studies include, but not limited to: La Guardia Report (1944); Shafer Commission (1972); Denver Marijuana Health Impact Monitoring (2018))

Our current definitions, narratives and regulations were formed as we grappled with the dissonance between what we’d been told about cannabis and our new understanding. This has resulted in a regulatory structure and policies that don’t support the established vision. Portland must take the lead in centering the current narrative and ensuring that our regulatory systems are prepared to support it.

3 THINGS THE CITY CAN DO ABOUT IT:

- Work with regional stakeholders to develop and adopt a citywide Municipal Drug Strategy Framework rooted in harm reduction, education, treatment and justice, to coordinate and guide policies and practices across bureaus (see Northumberland County, Canada’s Drug Strategy)
- Address the 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
- Review and make recommendations on City, State policies on cannabis use and testing by city employees / contractors, and all other public and private employees
- PBOT: Street frontage improvement deferral for cannabis and other small businesses

Recommendation 4

Prioritize workforce training and education for those interested in working within the cannabis industry

Workers within the cannabis industry should have access to the training and information they need to be successful in their professional roles. The need for training and education is broad. Portland should set the tone for needed trainings on the potency of cannabis, educating clients on responsible use and

storage, and entrepreneurship and workforce development for those interested in plant-touching professions and other ancillary services. The City should be exploring ways we can support development of these needed trainings and resources.

3 THINGS THE CITY CAN DO ABOUT IT:

- Cannabis competency training for those working with and serving cannabis 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.
- An incentive to encourage development of continuing education programs for those interested entering any part of the cannabis industry or ancillary services. Programs should support participants in self-identifying and developing a pathway toward achieving long-term goals around economic mobility and wealth creation.
- Advocate for reduction of the State's cannabis service permit fee to align more closely with the current alcohol service permit fee

Recommendation 5

Ensure employees are informed of their workplace rights (related to cannabis and also for those working inside the cannabis industry)

Oregon has been on the forefront of decriminalization and legalization of cannabis, however, employees throughout Oregon can still be terminated for off-work cannabis use. The City of Portland should update internal policies to align with cannabis legalization and advocate for fair workplace rights. We have a duty to ensure all working in the cannabis industry are a welcomed and valued part of our Portland workforce. Portland should dedicate resources to help empower cannabis employees with information, training and needed resources around labor laws and worker's rights.

3 THINGS THE CITY CAN DO ABOUT IT:

- Continue to advocate through official City positions and letters of opposition (i.e. The letter City Council sent to US Dept. of Immigrations defending rights of non-citizens to work in legal cannabis businesses without jeopardizing their citizenship status)
- Align internal city employee off-hours cannabis use with the existing off-hours alcohol use policies
- Provide incentive for those businesses that perform an internal pay equity analysis
- **City Licensing Program can provide access to education, training programs and consultant resources**

Recommendation 6

Utilize resources to lead conversations and/or connections and ensure the City is setting the tone for informed and engaged community discussions around cannabis

Oregon was the fourth U.S. state to legalize recreational cannabis use for adults 21 and over. As the years progress, more states are voting for legalized recreational use and looking to Portland for guidance. We must continue to set the table and engage the community in policy development and evaluation. A strategic approach that includes community engagement, ongoing monitoring, feedback and evaluation, and regular revision will help us to continually improve. This will also aid in development of a comprehensive road map for other States and jurisdictions who would like to learn from our current practices and policies.

3 THINGS THE CITY CAN DO ABOUT IT:

- Promotion of City, CPOT and Cannabis Grant work through media, social media and
- Participation by City, CPOT and other cannabis-connected programs in conferences locally and nationally
- Partner with local community organizations, public safety and public health to seek funding and develop a comprehensive youth education strategy
- **Convene a multi-disciplinary stakeholder group to meet quarterly to discuss and develop recommendations on regional drug policy and criminal justice reform**

DRAFT

Sustainability

Recommendation 1

Immediately pursue development of City-wide environmental sustainability standards for cannabis businesses and allocation of resources to provide support in meeting them

Portland is at the front of a national “Green Street’ trend that combines stormwater management with urban design that filters out pollutants from our plants to help protect run off into our sewer systems and rivers.

At its current level of development, the cannabis industry is responsible for significant environmental impacts such as energy, water consumption, and chemical usage. By immediately pursuing development of City-wide environmental sustainability standards for cannabis businesses, we can provide incentives that will support cannabis businesses in establishing their brand and business as a leader in social responsibility while continuing to be at the front for smart, sustainable practices.

3 THINGS THE CITY CAN DO ABOUT IT:

- Dedicate resources to work across bureaus to develop sustainability recommendations and resources for cannabis businesses (i.e. City-level production, composting and packaging, hemp-based packaging, glass-based uniform packaging, and local resources for recycling)
- Develop City credits or fee-reductions and combine incentives Energy use / credits / requirements for energy use, insulation, runoff for cannabis businesses; efficiency audits and credits from PGE, Energy Star, UL Listing, or others
- Research and develop local recycling for non-curb-side plastics by collaborating with existing recycling companies

Recommendation 2

Prioritize pathways and policies to support survival of small and local businesses

The Portland cannabis industry has quickly become too expensive for a small business entrepreneur to participate in. The legalization of cannabis was promoted to create opportunities for Oregonians to participate in the new market. Portlanders were excited about the opportunity to participate in this new and lucrative industry. Instead, the local market and industry, cultivated over decades by Oregonians, has been stripped of its entrepreneurial spirit and the financial benefits of cannabis-related business ownership are quickly being shifted out of our local communities.

3 THINGS THE CITY CAN DO ABOUT IT:

- Tiered license fees for businesses based on percentage of local ownership
- Eliminate or create flexibility in the 1000’ buffer between cannabis businesses in the city of Portland that has artificially reduced the number of affordable, qualifying commercial locations

- Rent control for the cannabis industry
- Incentivize or provide funds and support for business and community organization partnerships that have a community benefit (i.e. Co-sponsored neighborhood clean-up events, fundraisers for local non-profit groups or neighborhood associations, community education events)

Recommendation 3

Encourage and support cannabis tourism in Portland

We as a City should encourage and support cannabis tourism in Portland. The importance of tourism provides numerous benefits and advantages to the community. Tourism contributes towards complete growth and development of the City and surrounding areas. By encouraging cannabis tourism, it will bring a wealth of economic value and benefits by supporting local businesses, such a hotel, restaurants, transportation services, etc., it will also help build and define Oregon Craft Cannabis as a staple in the recreational market.

3 THINGS THE CITY CAN DO ABOUT IT:

- Collaborate with travel agencies and cannabis business associations and organizations to provide education about cannabis consumption in Oregon to tourists
- Collaborate with other cities where cannabis is legal to promote Portland as a destination for cannabis tourism
- Advocate for licensing pathway for social consumption spaces in Portland

CONCLUSION

The City of Portland can better engage all stakeholders affected by the rapid growth of the regulated cannabis industry and gather input on how all community members are influenced to better inform policy-making decisions.

Portland can prioritize social equity by providing and requiring transparent data on cannabis tax revenue and requiring the Portland Police Dept to invest in providing cannabis competency training to all officers in order to continue receiving funds.

Systems involving health, economic development and regulation need tools and education on cannabis to adequately incorporate this medicine and industry into our community. The state of Oregon and the federal government needs to support research on standardized measures of impairment in order to destigmatize cannabis use.

Resources must be set aside to comprehensively collect, track and analyze local data to understand the national, statewide, regional, societal, environmental, economic, and health impacts of legalization of recreational cannabis.

A collaborative effort between the cannabis industry, community members and government agencies (state and local) utilizing a long-term systems approach is needed for Oregon's cannabis industry to establish goals, policies, and guidance that ensures that the impacts of this emerging industry are more beneficial than burdensome to our communities and natural resources

2019 Drug Policy Alliance / Reform Conference Notes

<http://www.reformconference.org/conference-program>

Drug Policy Alliance Plenary

- Ban denials for drug conviction
- Safer consumption sites
- Decriminalize possession of all drugs for personal use
- Access for all to medication assisted treatment
- Harm reduction drug education for youth
- Analysis of who benefits and who is burdened by policies developed for legalization
- Prioritize criminal justice reform

Update on Marijuana and Public Health

- Youth use decline
- Adult use increases
- DV rates in couples decreases
- Many studies of effects have been conducted only with animals
- Increase in kid ingesting but still minimal compared to most other substances
- Use of all substances down in youth
- Should be reinvesting money in the social determinants / risk factors that lead to drug use
- MJ stats should always be considered in relation to other substances and also the whole context
- Not a public health crisis or public safety crisis
- PH should not be used to continue criminalization of MJ and MJ users

Melissa Moore, Deputy State Director, New York, Drug Policy Alliance, New York, NY

Rebecca Haines-Saah, Assistant Professor, University of Calgary, Calgary, Canada

Silvia Martins, Associate Professor, Columbia University, New York, NY

David Nathan, Founder and Board President, Doctors for Cannabis Regulation, Princeton, NJ

Sheila Vakharia, Deputy Director, Department of Research and Academic Engagement, Drug Policy Alliance, New York, NY

Municipal Drug Strategy Frameworks

- 4 pillars of drug strategy (HR, prevention, treatment, Pub Safety)
- EU approach in 90s led to decrease in related diseases
- Potential for Fire D to evolve and serve in a different capacity community risk reduction– rarely responding to actual fires
- MDS driven and developed by stakeholders from throughout the system
 - Helps drive culture shift as well as legislative process

- Up front about what harm reduction means
- Re-center narrative and \$ investment in addressing root cause, prevention, harm reduction
- Drug courts are too punitive- problematic
- LEAD and other pre-arrest diversion programs
- City property made available for cheap for these programs
- Explore radical PH interventions
- Ban- evictions, income discrimination, convictions as eligibility determination
- Harm reduction and pragmatic strategy paramount
- Burden of policies cannot only rest on poor and people the government can directly control through legislation (ie HUD bans)

Emily Kaltenbach, State Director, New Mexico, Drug Policy Alliance, Santa Fe, NM

Katherine Celentano, Policy Coordinator, Drug Policy Alliance, Ithaca, NY

Tarsi Dunlop, Policy and Program Manager, Local Progress, Arlington, VA

Andres Mercado, Battalion Chief, City of Santa Fe Fire Department, Santa Fe, NM

Chris Van Veen, Director, Vancouver Coastal Health, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Drug Policy and Criminal Justice Reform

- Participatory defense programs empower indiv and families to support effective defense
- First step act
- Sentencing project
- Second look policy
 - Older indiv less likely to commit crimes
 - Allows for automatic sentence re-evaluation at 10 years served
- Code for America
 - Clear my record project
- Expungement should be automatic, and it should be on government to make it happen
 - Too complicated or too expensive should never be accepted excuse
- Guilty plea problem- www.Guiltypleaproblem.org- 95% of felony convictions through guilty pleas, 65% of those exonerated through work with innocence project were people of color
- Ban police deception in interrogations
- Courts should assess reliability of confessions
- Policy should provide relief mechanisms to allow people to get back in to court to re-assess convictions
- Retroactive action must be part of any solution

Neill Franklin, Executive Director, Law Enforcement Action Partnership, Medford, MA

Rebecca Brown, Director of Policy, Innocence Project, New York, NY

Kara Gotsch, Director of Strategic Initiatives, The Sentencing Project, Washington, D.C.

Justine Moore, Director of Training, National Council for Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Women and Girls, Brooklyn, NY

Evonne Silva, Senior Program Director, Criminal Justice, Code for America, San Francisco, CA

Equity programs

- Programs must know the overall business and racial distribution of local landscape to set % targets for POCs
- Don't just copy and paste another city's policies
- Industry consolidation is inevitable- a few companies will ultimately hold 80% of market
- Go back to business 101- market forces etc that work on other industries will apply to cannabis too
- Community economic development financial goals should drive licensing and equity incentives
 - % POCs in essential roles
 - % distribution of product to POC businesses' shelves
- Can the City or State give any tax breaks???
- How does our increase, loss, stabilization curve compare to other cities with adult use?
- Understand business motivations, common goals, how policy can achieve outcomes
- 2 parts to workforce development-
 - train workers
 - train business to be a healthy environment for diverse workforce
- Thoroughly assess any points system used to ensure equity applicants are weighted properly to support the desired outcome

Lanese Martin, Co-Founder, The Hood Incubator, Oakland, CA

Reparative Justice

- Three pillars – equity licensing, community reinvestment, criminal justice reform
- State level framework needed
- Must define “equity community”
- Consider your community economic development goals
- Support worker and grower owned co-ops
- Factor in collateral consequences into reparative justice efforts
- Retroactive action is necessary and should be planned for
- Prioritize outcomes in economic mobility
- Support small business development and sustainability
- Look beyond cannabis to other systems that need policy reform
- Identify disparities
- Mass incarceration requires mass repair
- Keep law enforcement engaged, understand their current practices related to MJ
- Use term “informal market” rather than black market

- POC status can be part of Equity program eligibility if it is part of 6 or so qualifiers that allows for variation on 3/6 qualifiers to ensure broad access
- Social equity program calculator??

Queen Adesuyi, Policy Coordinator, Office of National Affairs, Drug Policy Alliance, Washington, D.C.

Akwasi Owusu-Bempah, Professor, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada

Lanese Martin, Co-Founder, The Hood Incubator, Oakland, CA

Cat Packer, Executive Director, Department of Cannabis Regulation, City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

Emily Ramos, Founder, Worker-owner, ¡High Mi Madre!, New York, NY

Shaleen Title, Commissioner, Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission, Boston, MA

Marijuana legalization and the war on immigrants- MJ one of leading causes of deportation of noncitizens

Forced treatment (Drug Courts) and incarceration of marginalized people