

Business Plan and Operation

250 points available

10-page limit, excluding requested attachments

a. Operations:

i. Description of the proposed cannabis-related products and/or services

Hayward Station will cater to the new regulatory reality in California Cannabis consumption by creating an upscale and highly curated retail shopping experience, specializing in organic, local, and boutique Cannabis products. Hayward Station will dedicate itself to providing high quality Cannabis products with consistently uniform cannabinoid profiles. This type of quality control, clear labeling, and expert instore assistance, will ensure that the potency, effects, and side effects of all our products are clearly communicated to and understood by our customers. This focus on quality will both exceed the pending regulations of the State's Bureau of Cannabis Control, Department of Food and Agriculture, and Department of Public Health, and ensure that our customers avoid any undesirable effects of our products.

Based on the Applicant's experience in the industry, it anticipates that its customers will be seeking the following classes of Cannabis products in the following percentages of overall business: Flowers - 68%; Concentrates - 21%; Edibles - 6%; Pre-Rolled Joints - 5%.

ii. Projected customer-based

Our most important and initial customer base will be Hayward-area consumers, both experienced Medical Cannabis users and, increasingly, first-time recreational users who are interested in discovering the positive benefits of Cannabis use. Overtime, we intend to build a positive and robust reputation for excellence in products and consumer experience and will draw-in a larger market share from beyond the Hayward area.

iii. Proposed marketing plan

The name *Hayward Station* evokes a community hub or gathering place and evokes the historic "Haywards Station" name of the City of Hayward in pioneering times, reflecting a brand that is both rooted deeply in community and looking forward to the future. The Applicant will pursue a marketing campaign that trades on the strength of these ideas. Conventional marketing will include signage, word of mouth, Cannabis digital marketing using search engine optimization, social media, and advertising in such venues as Weedmaps, Leafly, the pot guide, etc. We will also utilize print advertisement in magazines such as Culture, 420 Magazine, Dope Magazine, etc. We will also be running referral programs, offering senior and veterans discounts, and participating in trade shows and networking events.

We also intend to reach out to the Hayward community with the same type of innovative community programming that it has so successfully employed at The Green Door in San Francisco, with contributions to community youth-based activities, police department gun buy-back programs, and medical care for the indigent, as well as a compassion program for indigent customers and patients who cannot afford full-priced Cannabis products to ease their suffering.

Other community ventures, like urban tree planting support for the arts will help to elevate Hayward Station’s brand and raise awareness about its products in addition to more conventional advertising.

iv. Proposed hours of operation

Monday 9AM 9PM
Tuesday 9AM 9PM
Wednesday 9AM 9PM
Thursday 9AM 9PM
Friday 9AM 9PM
Saturday 9AM 9PM
Sunday 10AM 8PM

v. Type of specialized equipment to be used

Integrated cameras, security monitoring systems, high tech point of sale systems, and track & trace software systems.

vi. Whether hazardous materials, including volatile solvents or gases, are proposed to be used as part of the operation

No hazardous materials are proposed to be used as part of the Hayward Station operation.

vii. List of State licensed transportation and distribution providers serving the facility, if known

The Applicant anticipates using the services of the following distributors:

- CALYX
- SUNSTONE DISTRIBUTION
- SOL DISTRO
- UP NORTH
- RIVER COLLECTIVE (RVR)
- CALIFORNIA CANNABIS DISTRIBUTION INC. (CCD)
- CANNACRAFT
- INDUS HOLDING
- FLOW KANA
- HUMBOLDT'S FINEST
- NORTHERN EMERALDS
- PAPA & BARKLEY
- INDOLORO

As Hayward Station’s operations increase and the landscape of State-licensed distributors becomes more stable, Hayward Station would consider using:

- PACIFIC WHOLESALE NETWORK
- PUSHR
- ALTA SUPPLY
- RISE THE TRIBE
- LIFTED LOGISTICS

- YERBA BUENA LOGISTICS
- STONEBREAKER
- CANNABIS BUYER
- WHOLESALE MMJ
- OCEAN GOODS
- OLD KAI
- KINGS COAST
- VCC BRANDS
- THE HEALING CABINET
- WES MARTIN
- NATURE BY DESIGN
- ORGANA BRANDS
- VERDANT DISTRIBUTION
- HUMBOLDT LEGENDS
- PREMA FLORA
- MADRONE
- TRUE HUMBOLDT

viii. Anticipated frequency of deliveries servicing the facility

Weekly.

ix. Design aesthetic and user experience of the dispensary.

Hayward Station's design aesthetic will aspire to evoke a sense of locality and community in an upscale and highly curated retail shopping experience. Using bold colors and text-rich labels, we will specialize in organic, local, and boutique Cannabis products that will leave customers feeling welcome, well-informed, and taken care of. Where feasible, Hayward artists, artisans, and contractors will be used for all improvements.

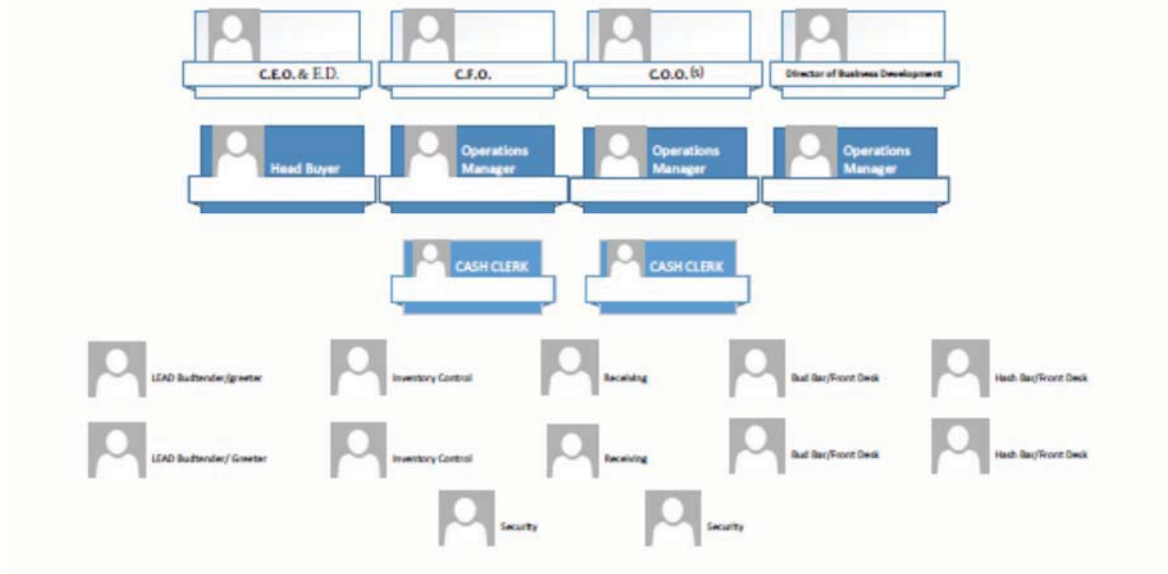
b. Regulatory Compliance:

All of Hayward Station's business operations will be conducted in strict compliance with all applicable state and local laws. Hayward Station has retained a General Counsel specializing in compliance who will both advise the business proactively and will be available on-call should any issues arise.

Hayward Station will obtain all Cannabis products exclusively from cultivators and manufacturers who are fully permitted and licensed and in strict compliance with state and local law. To the extent feasible, we will source all Cannabis products from permitted facilities in and around the City of Hayward. When making purchases and transporting products, we will use RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) technology combined with serialized item tracking to ensure an "end to end" surveillance system with real-time visibility at any given time into the inventory at all the locations.

Copies of other state licenses held by Applicant's members are attached hereto as Exhibit B.

ORG CHART 2018



b. A discussion of the relevant experience of the management team.

Hayward Station is a joint venture between (a) two experienced East Bay businessmen and developers with a proven track record of successful non-Cannabis business ventures; and, (b) four Bay Area pioneers of the regulated Cannabis industry who bring decades of combined experience with starting, managing, and successfully growing world-class Cannabis-related businesses.

The Applicant's understanding of the Cannabis dispensary market is deep and nuanced, based on its management's decades' of experience in Cannabis security, Budtending, medicinal consultation, management, branding, cultivation, business consulting, and buying in a variety of successful California Cannabis businesses in Oakland, San Francisco, Sacramento, and San Diego.

Miguel Rodriguez is a lifelong Bay Area resident and accomplished Cannabis business owner and operator from Oakland, California. Miguel is one of the pioneers of the regulated cannabis industry, as his experience operating successful medical cannabis operations dates back to 1997. Miguel was the first Manager for The Green Door in 2003 and Blum Oakland when it opened in 2012. He was instrumental in designing the facilities and procedures that have earned those dispensaries reputations as industry leaders amongst regulators, peers, and patients. Miguel's current portfolio includes multiple cultivation and dispensary operations across Northern California. With Miguel at the helm, his businesses have grown to include more than 100 locally-hired employees and eclipse \$30 million in revenue annually. In addition to demonstrated success as a business owner, Miguel has acted as a management contractor for the first publicly-traded entity approved by the Securities and Exchange Commission to operate direct-contact medical marijuana companies. Miguel managed the transition when that company merged with Blum in 2016. Miguel's history creating superior brands, operating compliant facilities, and his

strong ties to the East Bay make him the perfect operator to bring a new landmark cannabis business to Hayward.

Justin Jarin was born in Oakland and raised in Alameda. He started his career in the Cannabis community as a volunteer security guard at the age of 22 at The Green Door Oakland in 2003. In 2005, The Green Door (TGD) moved from Oakland to the SOMA district of downtown San Francisco. Justin worked his way from security to Budtender where he excelled in customer service due to his passion for helping others find the medicine that best suited their ailments. From 2005 to 2007, Justin was a key component to building the business from 20 patients a day to over 500 patients daily. His next step was to become Manager and buyer of Cannabis products. His knowledge and understanding of the patients' needs from budtending for 3 years gave him the ability to fine-tune their product line and foresee the future of Cannabis products and the demand for a higher standard and a level consistency. In 2009 he became President of TGD and continued to grow the business up to 1000+ patients on its busiest days. His leadership, strong belief in compassion toward those in need, his creative business sense and integrity have led him and the team to open more dispensaries throughout California. By 2011 he helped open TGD Sacramento and TGD San Diego. Both locations grew to 500 patients daily within 10 months of being open. In 2012, TGD partnered with a permit holder in Oakland to open Blum. With TGD's roots starting in Oakland, it was very easy to build the patient base and by 2014 Blum was averaging 800 patients a day. One of the biggest benefits of Blum was not only for the patients but for the community as a whole. Once a rundown block riddled with graffiti, homelessness, drugs and crime, the block has transformed into a beautiful setting. The entire block has now been remolded and crime has dropped and the block is looking and feeling better than ever. With the great success of Blum in 2016, they had the opportunity to sell their percentage to Terra Tech a publicly traded company specializing in Cannabis. After selling, Terra Tech hired Justin and his team under a management contract to operate Blum. He worked alongside Terra Tech to help build their concentrate and cannabis brands IVXX. His 15 years of experience make him a vital asset to any Cannabis-related business. With the monies acquired from the sale of Blum, Justin would love to reinvest it in Hayward.

Sid Afshar is an experienced businessman and entrepreneur whose accomplishments include over 30 years of successful real estate development in California, Nevada, and Arizona. His knowledge and drive have enabled him to direct numerous joint ventures in real estate and business. He has acquired, entitled, constructed, and sold many single family, multi-family, and commercial projects. Sid hopes to turn his decades' of experience in construction and development into a benefit to the people of Hayward through the establishment of a world-class Cannabis dispensary.

Pat Doherty has lived in Hayward since the 1970's. His wife has lived in Hayward almost her whole life, growing up in Palma Ceia and then the Fairway Greens area where the two of them have lived for over 35 years. They have raised three sons in Hayward who all went through the local schools, including Chabot. Pat worked for 33 years at UPS, and then retired after being disabled in an unavoidable workplace accident. Pat has spent the last two years researching and preparing to enter the Cannabis industry in order to do it correctly and legally.

David Kang and his team of industry experts have established a track record of successful medical cannabis dispensaries in several different markets. Utilizing the operations and industry experience of establishing Green Door San Francisco as the premier dispensary in the SF market, several other successful dispensaries have been cemented in key markets. David Kang and his

team quickly built up the Blum Oakland dispensary over a 3 year period to an \$8 figure annual volume dispensary. Over a 2 year strategically implemented time frame, they were able to execute the historic first ever merger/acquisition with a publically traded company in 2016. Our extensive knowledge of not only in retail operations, but cultivation experience has allowed us to give all of our projects the competitive advantage needed to succeed. By being in touch with not only the patients' medical needs, but understanding the direction of the industry into lifestyle has allowed us to constantly be a trend setter in the industry.

Alicia Darrow is a performance-driven operations manager with extensive experience in supporting high-level executives while providing flawless implementation. She has unrivaled organizational, communication, analytical, and problem solving skills with the ability to work with people at all levels of the organization. She has proven leadership skills and is able to make incontrovertible decisions and accept ever-increasing levels of responsibility. She has a reputation for displaying professionalism and high levels of integrity.

Alicia Darrow has been working in this industry for the last 15+ years. Throughout these years she has successfully operated 5 dispensaries, including Blum, and is currently opening 3 to 7 additional dispensaries this year alone. Her job description, at each of the dispensaries, includes but is not limited to:

- Internal Accounting and Auditing
 - Loss Prevention and inventory control
 - Staff hiring, termination, ongoing discipline, scheduling, payroll and training
 - All HR
 - All IT
 - POS design, implementation, and ongoing monitoring
 - Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable
 - Financial reporting and budgeting
- c. A discussion on relevant management experience in the Hayward community, if applicable.

During Pat Doherty's tenure at UPS, he finished a college degree and spent most of the 1980's owning and managing 8 rental units on B St in Hayward as well as successfully managing a few other local real estate projects.

- d. Contact information for references relevant to operation of permitted cannabis businesses in other jurisdictions

Please find references relevant to our team's operations of permitted cannabis businesses in other jurisdictions attached hereto as Exhibit E.

- e. Resumes for each member of the management team in the organization. (3-page limit per resume)

Please find resumes for the Applicant's team members attached hereto as Exhibit F.

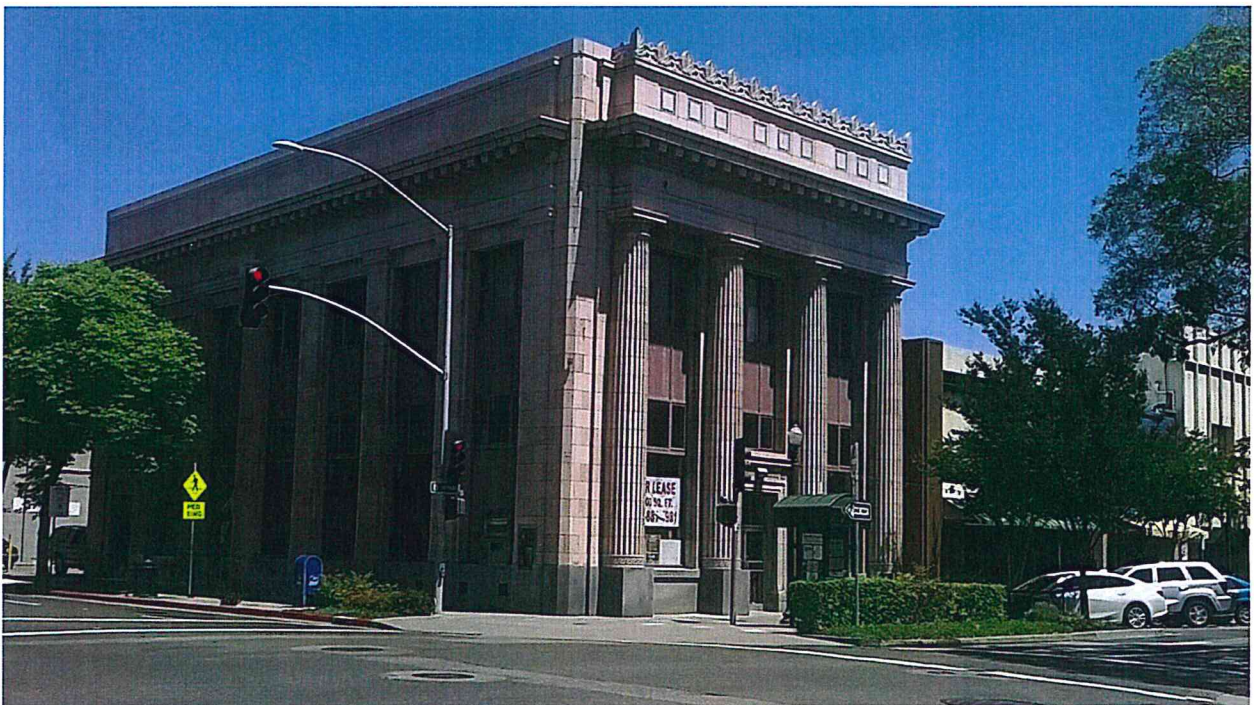
Safety and Security Plan

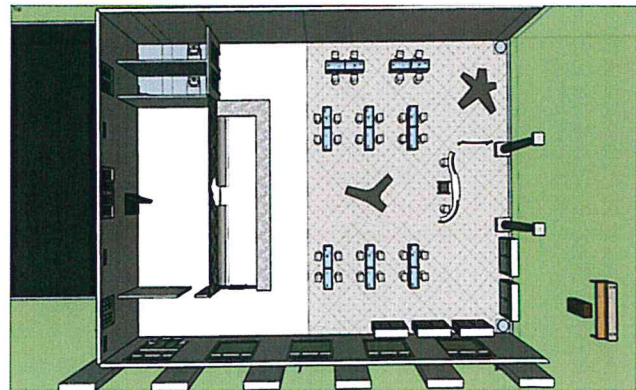
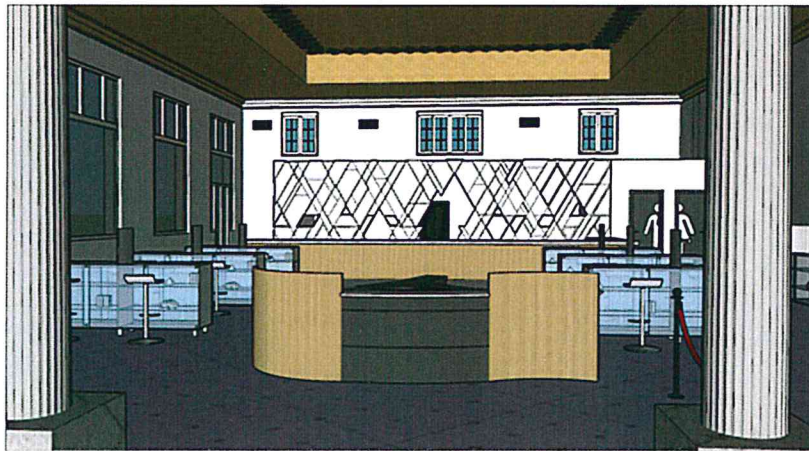
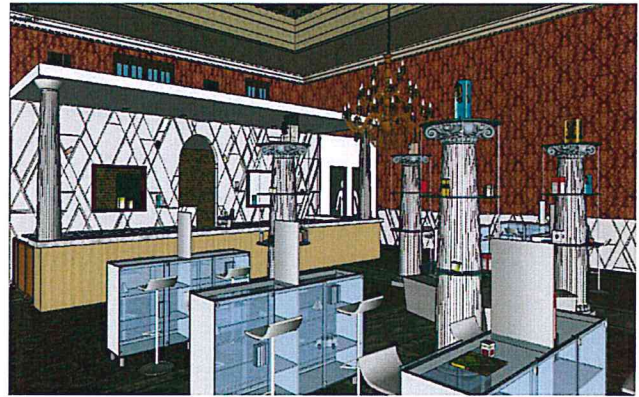
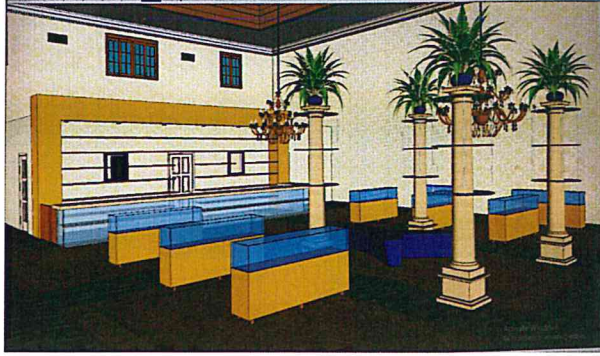
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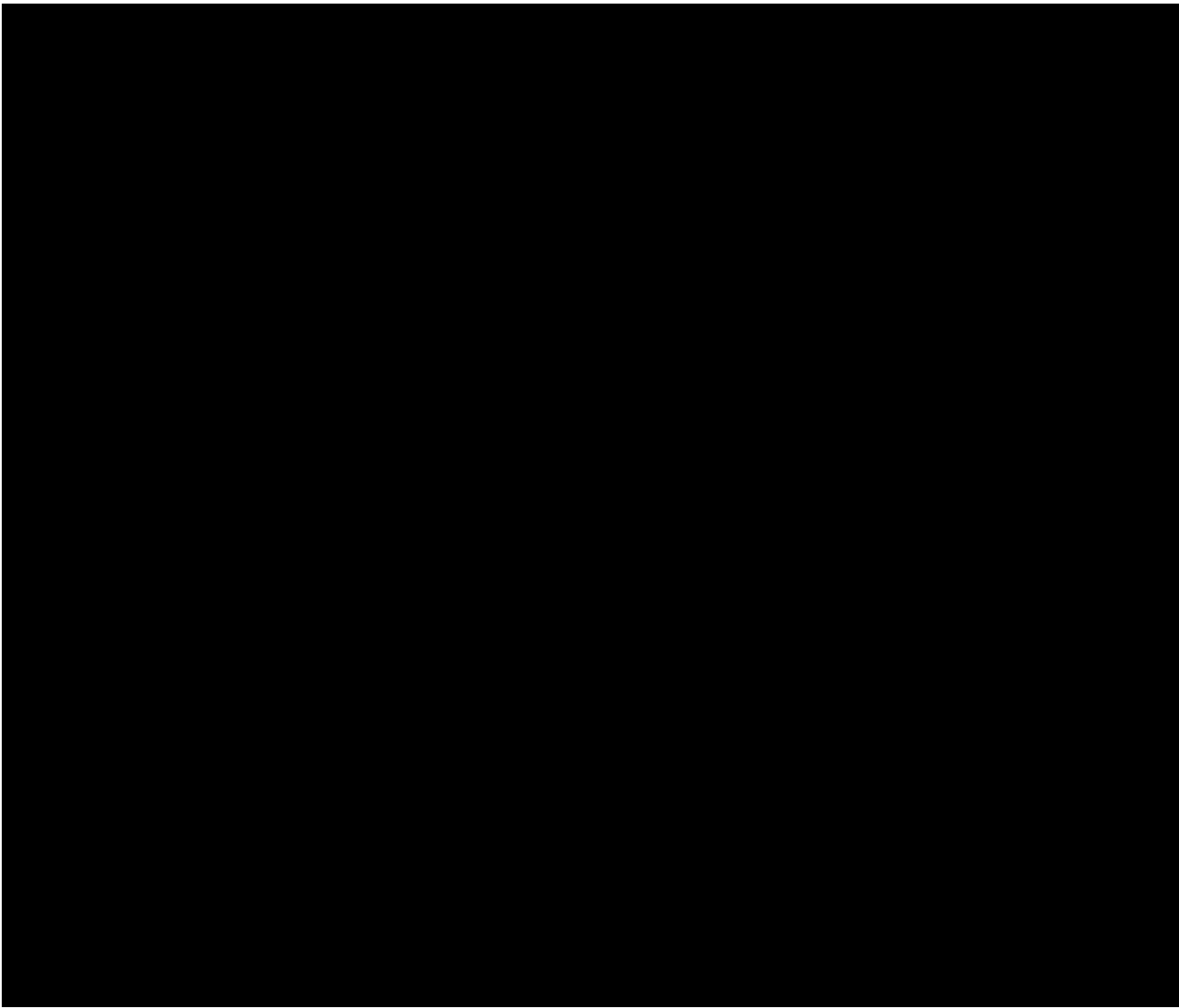
10-page limit, excluding sample policy

Hayward Station

1004 B St & Main







Labor and Employment Practices

100 points available

5-page limit, excluding requested attachments

a. Hiring Plan:

Hayward Station anticipates hiring and employment of an initial team as follows:

	\$ AMOUNT	\$ AMOUNT	
Position Title:	Salary Costs/ Month	Benefit Costs/ Month	# Employed at this Position
Salaried Manager	6000	500	2
Sales Associate/Budtender	3000	500	12
Greeter	3000	500	2

Cash Clerk/Book Keeper	3500	500	2
Security Guard	5500	500	4

Additional employees will be hired based on need and salaries are anticipated to rise by the CPI each year.

b. Labor Peace Agreement

Hayward Station is committed to establishing and maintaining excellent labor relations with its well-compensated workforce. While Hayward Station does not have a labor peace agreement in place, it is open to negotiating one with any labor organization that may seek to represent its employees. Our Executive Director, Pat Doherty served as the Teamster Local 70 Feeder Shop Steward for his last 15 years of employment at UPS and has great familiarity in working with both management and organized labor.

c. Local Hiring Preference: Discuss any policies or plans for hiring that would give preference to residents of Hayward.

To the extent feasible and lawful, Hayward Station will prioritize the hiring of Hayward residents (with a goal of 70% local hire) and persons who have been adversely affected by the historic “War on Drugs.”

d. Training and Continuing Education:

Hayward Station will have an educational assistance program which will help the business recruit, develop, engage, and retain high-quality employees. As currently conceived, it will allow up to \$2,625 a year in tuition support for employees to use in seeking a high-school equivalency diploma, for undergraduate courses, and for graduate-level education, with a doubling of that amount available for courses that will increase an employee’s expertise in the company.

e. Living Wage:

Hayward Station will always exceed the City’s living wage levels for its employees. Its lowest paid employees will be making in excess of \$20.00 an hour. Wage scales for Hayward Station’s employees are set forth in Section a. of this section, above.

f. Non-Discrimination:

Hayward Station’s Discrimination and Harassment Prevention Policy includes the following policies:

“Hayward Station is committed to providing equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants without regard to age (40 or older), ancestry, color, religious creed (including religious dress and grooming practices), denial of family and medical care leave, disability (mental and physical), including HIV and AIDS, marital status, medical condition (cancer and genetic characteristics), genetic information, military and veteran status, national origin (including language use restrictions), race, sex (including pregnancy, child birth, breastfeeding and medical conditions related to pregnancy, child birth or breastfeeding), gender, gender

identity and gender expression, sexual orientation, or any other protected status in accordance with all applicable federal, state and local laws.

In addition, Hayward Station is committed to providing a work environment that is free of unlawful harassment. In furtherance of this commitment, the company strictly prohibits all forms of unlawful harassment, including harassment on the basis of age (40 or older), ancestry, color, religious creed (including religious dress and grooming practices), denial of family and medical care leave, disability (mental and physical), including HIV and AIDS, marital status, medical condition (cancer and genetic characteristics), genetic information, military and veteran status, national origin (including language use restrictions), race, sex (including pregnancy, child birth, breastfeeding, and medical conditions related to pregnancy, child birth or breastfeeding), gender, gender identity and gender expression, sexual orientation, or any other protected status in accordance with all applicable federal, state and local laws.

Similarly, Hayward Station is committed to complying with all laws protecting qualified individuals with disabilities, as well as employees' religious beliefs and observances. This policy extends to all aspects of the company's employment practices, including recruiting, hiring, discipline, termination, promotions, transfers, compensation, benefits, training, leaves of absence, and other terms and conditions of employment.

Hayward Station will provide a reasonable accommodation for any known physical or mental disability of a qualified individual or for employees' religious beliefs and observances, provided the requested accommodation does not create an undue hardship for the company and does not pose a direct threat to the health or safety of others in the workplace or to the individual. The company will not retaliate or discriminate against a person for requesting an accommodation for his or her disability, regardless of whether the accommodation was granted.”

The Applicant’s signature, below attests to the Applicant’s declaration of non-discrimination in accordance with Hayward Station’s policies, as excerpted herein.

g. Worker’s Compensation:

Hayward Station is absolutely committed to complying with all applicable workers’ compensation laws and regulations. Hayward Station will, of course, carry workers' compensation insurance, and, if our employees get hurt or sick because of work, we will pay for workers' compensation benefits. The insurance we will provide will include all basic benefits, including medical care, temporary disability benefits, permanent disability benefits, supplemental job displacement benefits and a return-to-work supplement, and death benefits.

EXHIBIT LIST

Exhibit A	Secretary of State Name Reservation Request Form
Exhibit B	State Licenses
Exhibit C	Proof of Capital
Exhibit D	Conceptual Site Plan
Exhibit E	References
Exhibit F	Resumes
Exhibit G	Live Scan Background Documents

Community Benefits Proposal

150 points available

8-page limit

At Hayward Station, we will be seeking to replicate in Hayward what our management team has done at The Green Door (TGD) where they have built long standing relationship in the community of San Francisco. One of our biggest contributions to the SOMA district has been to The United Playaz, a community youth based center geared to keep kids out of gangs and street violence. TGD and United Playaz team up annually with the SFPD to host and sponsor The Gun Buy-Back program. To date they have teamed up to take over 400 guns off the streets which equates to saving innocent lives and keeping firearms out of reach of children. TGD also donates monthly for the past 7 years to patients suffering from cancer and in hospice care at Laguna Honda Hospital. We also run a compassion program weekly for TGD patients who do not have much money to spend on their medicine and we provide highly discounted products or free medicine for those in need. TGD sponsored over 10 trees being planted on the block where we are located through the organization Friends of the urban forest. We also donate to the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts which is in our neighborhood and we help sponsor the gala every year. It is our goal to run very similar programs in Hayward and, to the maximum extent possible, coordinate our efforts in furtherance of the City's Complete Communities Strategic Initiative.

We also would like to participate in the City's Complete Streets Strategic Initiative, and would look forward to "adopting" the street frontage along our future business location and covenant to remove graffiti and litter, keep storm drains free of debris, and other similar public maintenance activities.

Product Testing and Safety

100 points available

5-page limit

All of Hayward Station's operations will be conducted in strict compliance with law.

All Cannabis products sold at Hayward Station shall consistently meet the established specifications for identity, cannabinoid concentration (as defined in Section 5724 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations), composition, and limits on contaminants (as defined in Section 5718 to 5723, inclusive, of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations), and shall be manufactured, packaged, labeled, and held under conditions to prevent adulteration and misbranding.

Hayward Station will not make any cannabis goods available for sale or delivery to a customer unless:(a) The cannabis goods were received from a licensed distributor; (b) Hayward Station has verified that the cannabis goods have not exceeded their expiration or sell-by date if one is provided; and (c) In the case of manufactured cannabis products, the product complies with all requirements of Business and Professions Code section 26130 and all other relevant laws.

Hayward Station will not accept, possess, or sell cannabis goods that are not packaged as they will be sold at final sale. Hayward Station will not package or label cannabis goods. Cannabis

SF signs up sponsors for 4/20 weed fest in Golden Gate Park

By Lizzie Johnson

San Francisco's favorite pot party has finally gotten the official go-ahead from the city.

The Recreation and Park Department is issuing its first-ever permit for next month's 4/20 marijuana-smoking blowout on Hippie Hill in Golden Gate Park. For years, the event has drawn tens of thousands of weed aficionados to the park and the city has been stuck with the costs, including paying for hauling away tons of trash that the crowds leave behind.

This year, a handful of Haight Street merchants and local cannabis businesses, including the Diamond Supply Company, Cookies SF and the **Green Door Dispensary**, have taken on the job of sponsoring the festival. They will pay for fences and gates, portable toilets, and traffic and emergency plans for the formerly unsanctioned celebration April 20. The permit fee will also help cover policing and trash-removal costs.

"The way it used to be was a free-for-all," said Alex Aquino, a sponsor who owns Black Scale, a clothing shop on Haight Street. He declined to say how much the sponsorship cost, only that it was "very expensive." A typical permit for an event of 4/20's size costs around \$100,000, according to Rec and Park figures.

"I'm just a guy in the neighborhood trying to do my part," Aquino said. "The party's not going anywhere. It's not going away. I think building infrastructure will keep it safe and clean. It will preserve the park and keep our neighbors happy. How can we not benefit from that?"

Last year, revelers left behind 22,000 pounds of trash, including a children's wagon loaded with a keg. The garbage pickup alone cost the city \$50,000, and with police, transit and other expenses, the total bill came to more than \$80,000.

The marijuana party was also a buzz kill for nearby merchants and residents whose streets were crammed with cars with out-of-state plates and whose doorways were used as bathrooms.

"This is an event that I, like most people in the neighborhood, dread every year," said Ted Loewenberg, president of the Haight Ashbury Improvement Association. "When it's all done, there is an enormous amount of garbage, and there are traffic jams. I'm delighted that somebody has come forward to sponsor this event and take some responsibility for keeping it organized and absorb the cost so it doesn't impact taxpayers."

Although it is technically still illegal to light up in public parks, California voters' decision to legalize the recreational use of marijuana has made city officials change their stance.

"Love it or hate it, the 4/20 festival is not going away, and it has a significant impact on our city, on our district and on the park system," said Board of Supervisors President London Breed, whose district borders Golden Gate Park. "Every year, the event leaves the park and surrounding neighborhood a mess. It's not safe to allow people to party in the park without adequate security, facilities and medical aid."

Breed acknowledged that the mass smoke-in was still illegal and said City Hall "didn't want to sanction the event." But she added that it was "irresponsible to ignore it."

Rec and Park officials agreed.

"We are trying to be creative and nimble and understand that people are going to keep doing this no matter what," said department spokeswoman Sarah Madland. "The goal is to try and see if we can increase public safety. It's not about saving money in year one. The hope is that if this provides the necessary stability, then there may not be as much of a burden to all of the city departments."

Violence and use of hard-core drugs have also plagued the event. Last year, eight people were arrested, and two teenage boys were robbed by a man wearing brass knuckles. In 2015, an assailant smashed a bottle on a park ranger's head, and two groups of men violently robbed people in Golden Gate Park. Five people were arrested that year. In 2014, 11 people were arrested.

Madland hopes the sponsorship will lessen that kind of trouble.

"The intention is that the actual event will be controlled by the organizers," she said. "No one under 18 will be allowed in. It's exciting that this is happening and we can manage the impacts on the neighborhood and the park."

*Lizzie Johnson is a San Francisco Chronicle staff writer. Email: ljohnson@sfchronicle.com
Twitter: [@LizzieJohnsonn](https://twitter.com/LizzieJohnsonn)*

Pot clubs help pay for S.F. gun buyback

By Jaxon Van Derbeken



Antique guns brought to the gun buyback event at Ella Hill Hutch Community Center in San Francisco, Calif., Saturday March 21, 2015.

An only-in-San Francisco alliance of police, community groups and medical marijuana dispensaries held a gun buyback in the city's Western Addition that took an AR-15 assault rifle and 90 other weapons off the streets Saturday.

The unusual joint effort came as funding for previous buybacks — usually cobbled together with leftover city community-assistance money and more recently, crowdfunding via the Internet — had been sporadic.

San Francisco's medical marijuana dispensaries — long maligned as magnets for street crime and repeatedly targeted by federal raids in recent years — offered to step in last year.

On Saturday, San Francisco police showed off an AR-15 military style assault rifle — worth more than \$1,000 — that they bought back for \$200 as part of the haul of 91 weapons purchased with pot club cash.

The pot clubs “are trying do their part,” said Northern Station Capt. Greg McEachern. “We appreciate that.”

The captain said taking just one assault weapon off the street made the entire day's effort worthwhile. “It's a very big deal.”

Brendan Hallinan, a lawyer for the marijuana dispensaries and son of former District Attorney Terence Hallinan, said the pot clubs were happy to help. He said he easily solicited \$50,000 last year from three of the city's two dozen dispensaries — the Green Door, Barbary Coast and Grass Roots — to underwrite police buybacks.

“There is this idea that pot clubs have a negative impact on the community and are a drain on law enforcement,” Hallinan said. “They were really excited and see this as a way of improving community safety. Youth violence is a big problem. It was just a really nice fit.”

Rudy Corpuz, executive director of United Playaz youth organization, which joined forces with the pot clubs to organize the event, pronounced Saturday's effort a total success.

“It was some serious heat that came through” during the two pot-club-sponsored buybacks, Corpuz said. In December, more than 100 guns were bought back, followed by 91 on Saturday. The operation allows anonymous payouts of \$100 for handguns and \$200 for assault weapons.

“A lot of these guns that are turned in were guns that were laying around, and people don't use them,” he said. “I just want to let people know: I'm not against people bearing arms.”

He said that fewer guns on the street means less chance they will be used in crimes. “We're preventing people from getting killed.”

When a gang-related quadruple homicide occurred in the Western Addition in January, the group quickly agreed to hold Saturday's event at the Ella Hill Hutch Community Center. The event began with a lineup of motorists, who swapped more than 30 weapons for cash in the first hour alone.

Corpuz said organizers had been worried that San Francisco police might object to the partnership with pot clubs.

“We wondered if it would be something they (police) would support,” Corpuz said. “They said that 'we can come together as a partner as long as we get guns off the street.’”

Any money not spent buying weapons has been used for after-school jobs and helping the families of violent crime victims. "It's been going to good use," he said.

The pot clubs' help came after Ian Johnstone, a tech entrepreneur, began crowdfunding the city's gun buybacks in 2013. Johnstone's father was killed in 1992 by a youth who stole the gun he used in a home burglary.

"I think it is really cool that the medical marijuana community is getting involved," Johnstone said. "Buybacks show how broadly gun violence impacts" society, he said. "There is a diverse crew of people coming together to work on these things. It's not a black thing, not a white thing. We are all put at risk."

Before the pot clubs got involved, crowdfunding and other sources helped San Francisco police take 250 guns off the street in 2014, said Sgt. Kin Yau Lee of the SFPD community relations detail.

Not everyone is so convinced buybacks work. John Vernick of the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research said studies show gun buybacks are not very effective because they net the wrong kind of firearms.

"The highest-risk guns for being used in crime tend to be newer, tend to be higher caliber," Vernick said. "They tend to be semiautomatic pistols instead of revolvers. More importantly, they tend to be functional instead of broken."

"It is not as if you don't get any high-risk guns," in such buybacks, Vernick said, but "disproportionately, you don't get the high-risk guns and you don't tend to get the highest-risk people participating."

The money it costs to run buybacks could better be spent on targeted enforcement on those carrying concealed weapons and on programs designed to mentor youths in avoiding violence, he suggested.

Johnstone said gun buyback success cannot be measured by numbers alone.

"I think from the Police Department's point of view, they are just happy to get the guns off the street," he said. "That is a win for them and less danger to the people of the city, less danger to the police force."

Jaxon Van Derbeken is a San Francisco Chronicle staff writer. E-mail: jvanderbeken@sfgchronicle.com

Rocket launcher among weapons turned in at San Francisco gun buyback

Posted 5:02 pm, December 17, 2017, by [FOX 4 Newsroom](#), Updated at 05:01PM, December 17, 2017

SAN FRANCISCO — When San Francisco police held a gun buyback event on Saturday, they might have gotten more than they bargained for.



An officer displays a rocket launcher turned into a police buyback event.

The event is part of an effort to get guns off the streets, and anyone can turn in a weapon, with no questions asked.

But when someone brought in a bazooka-style rocket launcher, there were more than a few raised eyebrows.

The anti-tank weapon was among the 188 firearms that were handed over to police, [KPIX reported](#).

“It’s important because every gun that we destroy and we get off the street is a potential gun that could have killed somebody or destroyed a whole universe — just one of those guns,” said Rudy Corpuz Jr., executive director of United Playaz, which co-hosted the event with police.

Organizers said the event was expected to result in at least \$50,000 paid out for the weapons.
