

Cover Memo

File #: PH 21-052, Version: 1

**DATE:** June 10, 2021

**TO:** Planning Commission

**FROM:** Jeremy Lochirco, Acting Planning Manager

## **SUBJECT**

Proposed Text Amendments to Chapter 6, Article 14 (Commercial Cannabis Businesses) and Chapter 10 (Planning, Zoning, and Subdivisions) of the Hayward Municipal Code for the Regulation of Personal and Commercial Cannabis in the City of Hayward (Application No. 202102446)

## RECOMMENDATION

That the Planning Commission recommend to the City Council adoption of the Proposed Text Amendments to Chapter 6, Article 14 (Commercial Cannabis Businesses) and Chapter 10 (Planning, Zoning, and Subdivisions), of the Hayward Municipal Code for the Regulation of Personal and Commercial Cannabis in the City of Hayward, pursuant to the findings for approval (Attachment II).

## SUMMARY

During the past three years that Hayward's cannabis program has been operational, staff has identified several issues and inconsistencies with processes and local regulations that should be resolved before embarking on a new request for applicant proposals. During this same time, the State of California has promulgated several new laws and regulations related to cannabis as the broader industry has evolved. While the City's regulatory and land use ordinances were sufficient to accommodate the first round of applicants, the lack of resources coupled with a greater demand for operational processes and protocols have presented challenges to the administration and management of the cannabis program.

Over the past year, City staff and ICF, the City's consultant, have been working to identify new opportunities and recommendations to improve the current cannabis program to ensure long term success, including an evaluation of what has worked well and what could be improved, taking stock of changes in the broader industry and state regulatory system, and learning from effective and innovative practices from other jurisdictions. Staff believes the proposed Amendments reflect the feedback provided by various stakeholders, including Council, and believes the Planning Commission can make the required findings to recommend adoption of the proposed Amendments to the Council for consideration in July 2021. Once adopted, staff anticipates a new application cycle for commercial cannabis operators will open in late Summer 2021.

## ATTACHMENTS

Staff Report
Draft Findings for Approval
Proposed Zoning Text Amendments
Proposed Zoning Maps and Land Use Table
Proposed Business Regulatory Amendments