

Thursday December 5, 2024 6:30 pm

## MINUTES

1 Frank Ogawa Plaza, City Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor City Council Chambers  
Oakland, CA 94612

Reminder: This meeting will take place in person. Members of the public can observe and participate remotely via zoom as well.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION INSTRUCTIONS**

#### **TO OBSERVE:**

- Attend in person; or
- To observe the meeting by video conference, please click the link below to join the webinar:  
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**TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT:** There are two ways to make public comment within the time allotted for public comment on an eligible Agenda item.

- Attend in person; or
- Comment in advance. To send your comment before the meeting starts, please send your comment, along with your full name and agenda item number you are commenting on, to Kat Torio at [ktorio@oaklandca.gov](mailto:ktorio@oaklandca.gov). All submitted public comments will be provided to the Cannabis Regulatory Commission prior to the meeting.
- Comment virtually. When public speakers are called for an item please raise your hand in zoom and unmute yourself. If you have dialed in, please press “9” to raise your hand and “\*6” to unmute.

Persons may speak on any item appearing on the agenda; however, a Speaker Card must be filled out and given to a representative of the Cannabis Regulatory Commission. Multiple agenda items cannot be listed on one speaker card. If a speaker signs up to speak on multiple items listed on the agenda, the Chairperson may rule that the speaker be given an appropriate allocation of time to address all issues at one time (cumulative) before the items are called. All speakers will be allotted 3 minutes or less – unless the Chairperson allots additional time.

♿ This meeting is wheelchair accessible. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in the meetings of the Cannabis Regulatory Commission, please contact the Office of the City Clerk (510) 238-3612. Notification two full business days prior to the meeting will enable the City of Oakland to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility. In compliance with Oakland’s policy for people with chemical sensitivities, please refrain from wearing strongly scented products to events.

Questions or concerns regarding this agenda, or to review any agenda-related materials, please contact the Cannabis Regulatory Commission at (510) 238-6370.

If you have any questions about these protocols, please e-mail Kat Torio, at [ktorio@oaklandca.gov](mailto:ktorio@oaklandca.gov)

**Members:**

Samantha Sage	District 1	Hellen Harvey	District 7
M. Chaz Walker	District 2	Chaney Turner	At Large
Zachary Gayner	District 3	Yulie Padmore	Mayor
Tariq Ikharo	District 4	TiYanna L. Smith	City Auditor
Linda Grant	District 5	Vacant	City Administrator
Vacant	District 6		

Available on-line at: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/boards-commissions/cannabis-regulatory-commission>

## MEETING AGENDA

A. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

*Present: Members Sage, Walker, Gayner, Ikharo, Grant, Harvey, Turner, Padmore, Smith, and Torio as City Administrator Staff.*

*Absent: None*

B. Approval of the Draft Minutes from the CRC Meeting on October 3, 2024

*Chair Turner moved to approve the minutes as drafted and Vice-Chair Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

C. Reports for Discussion and Possible Action

1. Training on Open Meeting Laws and Parliamentary Procedures

*City Attorney representative Amadis Soltelo presented "Brown Act" Training to Commissioners, there were no questions from the Commission after the presentation.*

2. General Plan Update

*Khalilah Haynes of the Planning and Building Department presented The General Plan Update. Chair Turner requested for the Planning and Building questions to be sent to Commissioners for review and invite a representative of Planning to return to the Commission to accept feedback. Vice Chair Smith commented on the interactive maps and ability to comment. Requested to see final versions of interactive maps. Haynes stated data and findings are still being completed, maps will be posted online when complete. Smith pointed out that these conversations with cannabis applicants are important to the growth of the community and should be included with cannabis zoning considerations. Padmore and Walker reiterated the importance of the commissions involvement in contributing to the general plan to advocate for cannabis zoning and tourism efforts. Haynes suggested the Commission share a list of producers, retailers, and growers for Planning and Building to reach out to for input. Chair Turner asked how the survey was distributed to the community for feedback. Haynes stated commissions & boards were approached, social media, Oaklandside list serve, City of Oakland list serve, and community meetings were held. Gayner asked about Hemp industry status and stated it is important it also include employee's feedback. Haynes stated they are unsure of the hemp industry status and feedback on the*

*General Plan should be submitted by March of 2025. Sage asked if the issues with the budget are affecting the General Plan. Haynes stated the General Plan is not necessarily affected by the budget crisis currently but may need adjustments in future phases of the plan.*

### 3. Community Meetings for Cannabis Applications within 300 Feet of Residential Zones

*Marcus Johnson gave public comment via zoom, stated concerns with rise in crime and violence surrounding cannabis establishments. Chair Turner commented the current process is duplicative request multiple hearings for an approved address and would like to know if this activity elevates the need for additional staff time to conduct and process hearings. Member Walker stated if there are complaints or safety issues concerning the establishment a hearing could be warranted but should not be necessarily required. Would like to know if the operators are problematic or have a history of complaints surrounding the cannabis activity. Vice-Chair Smith stated community meetings are important to both the business and the community receiving the new business. Preventative measures, education and clear intentions should be part of the conversation between operators and the surrounding community. Member Padmore stated they agree with the need for community meetings and their importance in building trust and synergy between cannabis businesses and community. Chair Walker requested a report on if other businesses like alcohol related businesses are held to the same conditions and standards as cannabis. Suggested expanding green zones though the General Plan. Member Gayner noted cannabis business increases property values and the benefits should be amplified. Member Padmore agreed but noted education is key to a greater embracing of cannabis businesses. Member Walker expressed need for more data on the history of cannabis operators. Member Sage asked of there is data on how many cannabis businesses fall into the 300 ft radius of residential zones. Chair Turner motioned to continue the item, seconded by Member Walker. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Action items requested for next meeting:*

- How many cannabis businesses are affected by the 300ft radius to residential zones?*
- Is there a comparison model of standards as relates to alcohol related business?*
- Is there a history of problematic operators and complaint log to reference?*
- Can a report be produced on staffing requirements to hold hearings/meetings?*
- Member Gayner asked if ownership records, and structure of cannabis businesses can be available to review?*
- Can it be determined if there is debt to equity or predatory practices occurring in these cases?*
- Can history of continuity of business as in any transfer of ownership, full ownership history be available to the public?*

### 4. Implementation Update on State Grants

*Chair Turner summarized the reports, City Administrator Staff, Torio provided a status update. Member Padmore asked about monies contributed to Oaksterdam suggested increasing those amounts and made a motion to invite contractors such as Oaksterdam to present their programs, seconded by Chair Turner. The motion passed unanimously.*

#### D. Review of the Pending List and Additions to Next Month's Agenda

- Building and Fire Baseline Permitting Timelines (since January 2022)*
- CRC Attendance Policy (since November 2023)*
- Contracting Hazardous Materials Inspections (since November 2023)*
- Enforcement of CUP beautification requirements (since January 2024)*

E. Open Forum / Public Comment

*Marcus Johnson made public comment on regarding safety plans for new cannabis businesses. Ellen Kaump made public comment questioned the public health institute receiving monies from grants suggests looking deeper on how the program uses their grant money.*

*Member Gayner requested a report of how many cannabis businesses have over 10 employees in Oakland. Chair Turner suggested that info may be in the June minutes a break down between general and equity. Member Sage suggested we receive presentations from additional contractors.*

*Member Walker suggested having a retreat for the Commissioners and form ad hoc committees, would like to engage the public with surveys and town meetings. Chair Turner suggested encouraging public to attend the Commission's meetings.*

*Member Padmore made a motion to change the Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting to a special meeting for Jan 9<sup>th</sup>. Motioned seconded by Member Walker. The motion passed; Member Gayner abstained.*

F. Announcements

1. Update on Cannabis Permitting Process

*City Administrator Staff Torio gave an update on Accela Cannabis permit module.*

2. Apply to serve on CRC here:

<https://oakland.granicus.com/boards/w/8552f8c4c0e15460/boards/6697>

3. Chair Turner made announcement of resignation from the commission.

*Member Turner made a motion for Vice-Chair Smith to move to Chair and a second motion for Member Walker to become Vice-Chair, seconded by members Gayner and Walker Motion passed with members Smith and Walker abstaining.*

G. Adjournment