

Thursday November 2, 2023 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 remotely via zoom but must attend in person in order to participate.

### **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 Greg Minor at [gminor@oaklandca.gov](mailto:gminor@oaklandca.gov). All submitted public comments will be provided to the Cannabis Regulatory Commission prior to the meeting.

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

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.

**Members:**

Javier Armas	District 1	Hellen Harvey	District 7
Tracey Corder	District 2	Chaney Turner	At Large
Taib Alaoui	District 3	Yulie Padmore	Mayor
Tariq Ikharo	District 4	TiYanna Long	City Auditor
Vacant	District 5	Greg Minor	City Administrator
Tanya Boyce	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: Armas, Ikharo, Boyce, Harvey, Turner, Padmore, Long, Minor*

*Absent: Corder, Alaoui*

B. Approval of the Draft Minutes from the CRC Special Meeting on October 2023

*Chair Turner moved to approve the minutes as drafted. Member Armas seconded the motion and the motion passed with Member Minor abstaining.*

C. Reports for Discussion and Possible Action

1. Oakland Police Department Report on 2022 Citations and Arrests for Cannabis Offenses and Discussion Regarding Private Security Guards at Cannabis Businesses

*Officer John Romero presented the report on behalf of the Oakland Police Department (OPD). Officer Romero highlighted the significant drop in cannabis arrests in recent years. Member Minor noted the City's 2017 equity analysis provided 20 years of historical cannabis arrest data for more context.*

*Member Boyce asked how the City is addressing unpermitted cultivation activity and what the protocol is for addressing cannabis use at federally subsidized housing. Officer Romero noted in light of Measure Z the City addresses unpermitted cultivation administratively and federal properties in Oakland are addressed by the Oakland Housing Authority. Member Boyce then asked how OPD coordinates with private security guards at cannabis businesses. Officer Romero shared that OPD knows which businesses have private security guards, but the State of California regulates private security guards through the Bureau of Security and Investigative Services (BSIS). Member Boyce then advocated for increased training for City staff so that they can become familiar with environmental compliance requirements.*

*Vice-Chair Long asked whether there have been arrests made for burglaries of cannabis businesses. Officer Romero stated yes, but sometimes cannabis operators do not report burglaries, particularly if they are unpermitted operators.*

2. Developing a CRC Member Attendance Policy

*Chair Turner noted that the CRC has had quorum issues in 2023, which prevented the CRC from conducting business. Chair Turner encouraged CRC members to email in advance of the meeting. Chair Turner then made a motion to add an attendance policy to the pending list as staff works with the City Attorney's Office to*

*develop an attendance policy for the CRC. Member Boyce seconded the motion and it passed with Member Minor abstaining.*

### 3. Exit Interview Survey for Withdrawn Applications

*Member Minor provided background on the exit interview survey and how the updated survey reflects the CRC's last input.*

*Vice Chair Long made a motion to (1) request that staff gather information on how the City is informed of when operators withdraw their application and (2) add a question regarding whether the operator is relocating their business within Oakland. Chair Turner made a friendly amendment to add a question regarding what if any impact burglaries/robberies had on their business. Vice Chair Long accepted the friendly amendment. Chair Turner seconded the motion and it passed with Member Minor abstaining.*

### 4. Fires Related to Cannabis Cultivation Facilities and Status of Hazardous Materials Inspector in Fire Prevention Bureau

*Member Minor provided the report. Member Boyce made a motion to place the issue of the City contracting hazardous materials inspections on the pending list and to ask staff to determine what the cost of doing so would be. Chair Turner seconded the motion. Member Armas expresses reluctance over hiring a consultant versus City staff based in Oakland. Nevertheless, the motion passed with Member Minor abstaining.*

### 5. Implementation Update on State Grants

*Member Minor provided the update, which included that the City is no longer accepted new grant applications due to less Go-Biz funding being available. Chair Turner asked how many security grant applications the City received; Member Minor offered to provide an update at the December CRC meeting.*

*After noting cannabis businesses are still struggling with burglaries, Chair Turner then made a motion to place on the pending list that the City should have emergency funding available to operators. Member Padmore seconded the motion and the motion passes with Member Minor abstaining.*

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

- *Building and Fire Baseline Permitting Timelines (since January 2022)*
- *Establishing Department of Cannabis (since September 2022)*
- *Planning Department Discussion re Zones Eligible for Cannabis Businesses (since October 2022)*
- *Draft 2022 Cannabis Regulatory Commission Annual Report (since October 2023)*
- *Updated information from Finance Department (since October 2023)*

*Member Boyce made a motion to review the City's community beautification requirements at the next CRC meeting. Chair Turner seconded the motion and it passed with Member Minor abstaining.*

*Chair Turner made a motion to agendaize creating a Department of Cannabis at next month's CRC meeting. Vice-Chair Long seconded the motion and it passed with Member Minor abstaining.*

#### E. Open Forum / Public Comment

*Public speakers spoke regarding the loan program and whether bios can be available for CRC members.*

F. Announcements

1. Update on Cannabis Permitting Process
2. Proposal to Authorize Converting Cannabis Equity Loans Into Grants, Allow the Transfer of Permits from Equity Applicants to General Applicants, and Lift the Limit on Cannabis Special Events for a One-Year Period is Scheduled for the City Council's November 14<sup>th</sup> Community Economic Development (CED) Committee Meeting
3. Apply to serve on CRC here:  
<https://oakland.granicus.com/boards/w/8552f8c4c0e15460/boards/6697>

*Chair Turner noted that Senate Bill (SB) 51 was signed into law by Governor Newsom, extending the provisional licensing sunset for equity retailers.*

G. Adjournment