

October 22, 2024

Honorable Mayor and City Council
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendation to receive and file a presentation from the City Manager Department providing an update on the Cannabis Special Events Feasibility Study. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

On August 6, 2024, the City Council requested that the City Manager work with the Office of Cannabis Oversight (OCO) and all relevant departments to conduct a feasibility study on hosting temporary cannabis special events within City limits, including types of appropriate venues, and staff were specifically requested in the Council motion to report back with a City Council presentation in 60 days.

Additionally, the City Council requested that staff include the following in the study:

- Clear guidelines for venue compliance, including adherence to state visibility requirements for cannabis activities;
- Considerations for onsite consumption plans and designated consumption areas; and,
- Comprehensive list of potential locations that Long Beach dispensaries can utilize, including a consideration of the Queen Mary and the Convention Visitors Bureau.

The intent of this presentation is to provide the City Council with an update of the feasibility study including research, community engagement completed to date, and internal policy discussions, as well as potential policy considerations. After this presentation, City staff will complete the community engagement process and provide a full feasibility report to City Council, expected to be complete within forty-five days.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Eliezer Ben-Shmuel on October 1, 2024, and by Budget Development Officer Jennifer Rodriguez on October 3, 2024.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action to receive and file a presentation on the Cannabis Special Events Feasibility Study is requested on October 22, 2024, to respond to City Council's request for an update in a timely manner.

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FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal or local job impact associated with this recommendation. The fiscal impact associated with any implementation of future recommendations of the City Council, staff or the community is unknown at this time. Any spending on additional staff and resources that are not currently budgeted will only proceed at such time that appropriations are approved by the City Council. This recommendation has no staffing impact beyond the normal budgeted scope of duties and is consistent with existing City Council priorities.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T. B. Modica'.

Thomas B. Modica
City Manager