



February 13, 2020

To All Interested Parties:

The Denver Department of Excise and Licenses will be forming a Marijuana Licensing Work Group (MLWG) to make recommendations regarding marijuana licensing.

In May 2019, Governor Polis signed two bills into law which provide for new marijuana license types: marijuana home delivery under HB19-1234; and marijuana social consumption, or hospitality licenses, under HB19-1230. Both new license types require local jurisdictions to affirmatively “opt-in” if the jurisdiction so desires. In addition, Denver currently has an ordinance that mandates a cap on marijuana sales and cultivation locations in the city and prescribes an application and lottery process for issuing these types of licenses at new locations. Denver would like to explore options to ensure equitable access to any new delivery or hospitality licenses that the city may adopt, as well as any new sales and cultivation locations available under the cap.

The MLWG will consist of a diverse group of stakeholders including representatives from community, social justice, business, public health, safety, and youth-centered organizations and individuals. The work group will be advisory in nature, with the primary goal being to review, discuss, and make recommendations on policy direction and possible marijuana licensing laws, rules, and regulations.

Specifically, the MLWG will consider the following:

- Whether Denver should “opt in” to adopt delivery and hospitality licenses and if so, recommendations for developing those licenses, including recommendations to guide the licensing requirements and processes to ensure full compliance with state and local law, as well as policies and procedures to promote and encourage full participation in the marijuana industry by people from communities that have been disproportionately harmed by marijuana prohibition;
- Whether Denver should review the application and lottery process for issuing new marijuana store and cultivation licenses in order to promote more equitable access to those licenses, and if so, provide recommendations on how to accomplish that; and
- Other rules, policies, or procedural topics identified by the work group that ensure adoption of a comprehensive cannabis equity program for marijuana licensing within the city.

The MLWG will meet on the dates and times listed below. All meetings will take place at the Wellington Webb Building, located at 201 W Colfax Avenue, Denver, CO 80202. Please do not apply if you think you cannot honor this time commitment.

1. **Tuesday, April 7, 2020** from 1:00-5:00 p.m.
2. **Wednesday, April 22, 2020** from 1:00-5:00 p.m.

3. **Wednesday, May 6, 2020** from 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Individuals interested in serving on the MLWG must apply by **5:00 p.m.** on **Friday, March 20, 2020**. To apply, individuals **must** email marijuanainfo@denvergov.org and include the following information:

1. Email title: Marijuana Licensing Work Group
2. The name and contact information of the individual interested in participating;
3. The individual's occupation, job title, and employer;
4. A brief explanation of no more than 150 words detailing the individual's qualifications for inclusion on the MLWG. Please do not include attachments with your email.

Please note that applications, requests and inquiries regarding the Marijuana Licensing Workgroup (MLWG) must be made via the email above. Applications, requests and inquiries made in person or by telephone cannot be accepted. Those selected will be notified by **Tuesday, March 31, 2020**.

Please feel free to share this information with individuals who may be interested in submitting an application to participate on the Marijuana Licensing Work Group. The Department looks forward to beginning this important and timely work.

Regards,

Ashley Kilroy
Director
Denver Department of Excise and Licenses