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CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

ORDINANCE NO. 6133 B-1

AN ORDINANCE of the City of Bellevue, Washington, adopting interim official zoning controls regarding recreational marijuana producers, processors and retailers for a period of six months, to be in effect while the City drafts, considers, holds hearings and adopts permanent zoning regulations, to be effective immediately upon adoption, scheduling a hearing on the maintenance of the interim zoning ordinance and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, Washington votes approved Initiative 502 (I-502) on November 6, 2012. In relevant part, I-502 legalized the possession of small amounts of marijuana and marijuana-related products for persons age 21 and older, and directed the Washington State Liquor Control Board (LCB) to develop and implement rules to regulate and tax recreational marijuana producers, processors, and retailers by December 31, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the LCB re-filed its proposed rules regulating recreational marijuana uses on September 4, 2013, and accepted the proposed rules on October 16; and

WHEREAS, the LCB rules become effective on November 16, 2013, and the LCB will begin accepting license applications for recreational marijuana beginning November 18, 2013. Applicants will be required to identify a business location with their application submittals; and

WHEREAS, the LCB allocated four recreational marijuana retail licenses for the City of Bellevue, and there are no limits on the number of recreational marijuana producer and processor licenses to be issued; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bellevue Land Use Code (LUC) prohibits all recreational marijuana producers, processors, and retailers as uses in the City of Bellevue;

WHEREAS, the City Council deems it to be in the public interest to establish interim regulations advising the public where recreational marijuana producers, processors, and retail uses may be located in the City of Bellevue before the application deadline established by the LCB for state licensing for such uses; and

WHEREAS, the establishment or licensing of recreational marijuana uses may allow new uses that are incompatible with nearby existing land uses and lead to erosion of community character and harmony; and

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WHEREAS, marijuana is still classified as a schedule I controlled substance under federal law and crimes related to marijuana remain subject to prosecution under federal law; and

WHEREAS, On August 29, 2013, the United States Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, ("DOJ") released updated guidance regarding marijuana enforcement. The guidance reiterates that DOJ is committed to using its limited investigative and prosecutorial resources to address the most significant threats to public safety related to marijuana crimes in "the most effective, consistent, and rational way." The guidance directs federal prosecutors to review potential marijuana-related charges on a case-by-case basis and weigh all information and evidence, including whether the operation is demonstrably in compliance with a strong and effective state regulatory system and if the conduct at issue implicates one or more of the eight stated federal enforcement priorities. The DOJ appears to not differentiate application of the guidance between medical cannabis and recreational marijuana; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 36.70A.390 a public hearing must be held within 60 days of the passage of this ordinance; and

WHEREAS, establishment of interim regulations of six months in duration for establishment of recreational marijuana producers, processors, and retailers will prevent substantial change until the land areas and the text of development standards applicable to recreational marijuana uses is reviewed, and any needed revisions are made to city codes; and

WHEREAS, the potential adverse impacts upon the public safety, welfare, and peace, as outlined herein, justify the declaration of an emergency; now therefore,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON, DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Interim Regulation Adopted. Recreational marijuana producers, processors, and retailers shall comply with the following provisions:

A. Definitions. For the purposes of this interim regulation only, the definitions provided below and the definitions codified at WAC 314-55-010, now provided or as hereafter amended, shall apply to the provisions of this ordinance.

1. "Director" means the Director of the City of Bellevue's Development Services Department or his designee.

2. "Marijuana" or "marihuana" means all parts of the plant Cannabis, whether growing or not, with a THC concentration greater than 0.3 percent on a dry weight basis; the seeds thereof; the resin extracted from any part of the plant; and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plant, its seeds or resin. The term does not include the mature stalks of

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the plant, fiber produced from the stalks, oil or cake made from the seeds of the plant, any other compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the mature stalks (except the resin extracted therefrom), fiber, oil, or cake, or the sterilized seed of the plant which is incapable of germination.

3. "Marijuana processor" means a person licensed by the state liquor control board to process marijuana into useable marijuana and marijuana-infused products, package and label useable marijuana and marijuana-infused products for sale in retail outlets, and sell useable marijuana and marijuana-infused products at wholesale to marijuana retailers.
4. "Marijuana producer" means a person licensed by the state liquor control board to produce and sell marijuana at wholesale to marijuana processors and other marijuana producers.
5. "Marijuana-infused products" means products that contain marijuana or marijuana extracts and are intended for human use. The term "marijuana-infused products do not include useable marijuana.
6. "Marijuana retailer" means a person licensed by the state liquor control board to sell useable marijuana and marijuana-infused products in a retail outlet.
7. "Retail outlet" means a location licensed by the state liquor control board for the retail sale of useable marijuana and marijuana-infused products.
8. "Useable marijuana" means dried marijuana flowers. The term "useable marijuana" does not include marijuana-infused products.

B. Chapter 314-55 WAC, now or as hereafter amended, shall apply in addition to the provisions of this ordinance.

C. <u>Limitations on Uses</u>. The following limitations shall apply to all marijuana producers, processors, and retailers, unless stated otherwise:

1. A marijuana producer, retailer, or processor, shall not be located within 1,000 feet of the following uses or any use included in Chapter 314-55 WAC now or as hereafter amended:

   a. Elementary or secondary school;
   b. Playgrounds;
   c. Recreation center or facility;
   d. Child care centers;
   e. Public parks;
   f. Public transit centers;

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g. Libraries;
h. Any game arcade or
i. Any medical cannabis collective garden.

2. No marijuana producer, processor, or retailer shall be allowed in single family and multi-family land use districts (R-1 – R-30).

3. No marijuana retailer is allowed as a subordinate or accessory use in any land use district.

4. Marijuana shall be grown in a structure. Outdoor cultivation is prohibited.

D. Marijuana Retail Outlets. For the purposes of this interim ordinance, marijuana retail outlets are considered within the land use classification of "Miscellaneous Retail Trade," and shall comply with all corresponding notes in the use charts for the underlying land use district where the retail outlet is located. Retail outlets shall also comply with the applicable requirements of Chapter 20.25 LUC, Special and Overlay Districts. Marijuana odor shall be contained within the retail outlet so that odor from the marijuana cannot be detected by a person with a normal sense of smell from any abutting use or property. If marijuana odor can be smelled from any abutting use or property, the marijuana retailer shall be required to implement measures, including but not limited to, the installation of the ventilation equipment necessary to contain the odor. Retail outlets may only be located in following land use districts:

1. General Commercial (GC);
2. Community Business (CB);
3. Factoria Land Use District 1 (F1);
4. Downtown Office District (DNTN O-1);
5. Downtown Office District (DNTN O-2)
6. Downtown Mixed Use District (DNTN-MU);
7. Downtown Old Bellevue Business District (DNTN-OB);
8. Downtown Office and Limited Business District (DNTN-OLB)
9. Bel-Red Office Residential and Nodes (BR-OR/OR1/OR2)
10. Bel-Red Residential Commercial and Nodes (BR-RC-1, RC-2, RC-3);
11. Bel-Red General Commercial (BR-GC);
12. Bel-Red Commercial Residential (BR-CR);
13. Bel-Red Office Residential Transition (BR-ORT).

E. Signage for Marijuana Retail Outlets. Retail outlets shall comply with WAC 314-55-155(1), now or as hereafter amended. Additionally, signage for retail outlets must undergo design review in those land use districts requiring such review in City of Bellevue Sign Code, Chapter 22B BCC.

F. Marijuana Producers and Processors. For the purposes of this interim ordinance, marijuana producers are considered within the land use

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classification "Agricultural Production of Food and Fiber Crops," and marijuana processors are considered within the land use classification "Agricultural production." Marijuana processors and producers shall comply with all corresponding notes in the use charts for the Light Industrial land use district. Marijuana producers and processors shall also comply with the applicable requirements of Chapter 20.25 LUC, Special and Overlay Districts. Marijuana production and processing facilities are allowed only in the Light Industrial land use district and shall comply with the following provisions:

1. Marijuana production and processing facilities shall be ventilated so that the odor from the marijuana cannot be detected by a person with a normal sense of smell from any adjoining use or property;
2. Signage for marijuana producers and processors shall comply with the City of Bellevue Sign Code, Chapter 22B of the Bellevue City Code.
3. A screened and secured loading dock, approved by the director shall be required. The objective of this requirement is to provide a secure, visual screen from the public right of way and adjoining properties, and prevent the escape of orders when delivering or transferring marijuana, useable marijuana, and marijuana-infused products.

G. Security. In addition to the security requirements in Chapter 315-55 WAC, during non-business hours, all recreational marijuana producers, processors, and retailers shall store all useable marijuana, marijuana-infused product, and cash in a safe or in a substantially constructed and locked cabinet. The safe or cabinet shall be incorporated into the building structure or securely attached thereto. For useable marijuana products that must be kept refrigerated or frozen, these products may be stored in a locked refrigerator or freezer container in a manner approved by the Director, provided the container is affixed to the building structure.

Section 3. Duration and Scope of Interim Regulations. The interim regulations imposed by this ordinance shall become effective on the date herein, and shall continue in effect for an initial period of sixty (60) days, unless repealed, extended, or modified by the City Council after subsequent public hearings and the entry of additional findings of fact pursuant to RCW 35A.63.220.

Section 4. Public Hearing. Pursuant to RCW 35A.63.220 and RCW 36.70A.390, the City Council shall hold a public hearing on this ordinance within sixty (60) days of its adoption, or no later than December 20, 2013, so as to hear and consider public comment and testimony regarding this ordinance. Following such hearing, the City Council may adopt additional findings of fact, and may extend the interim regulations for a period of up to six (6) months. If a period of more than six months is required to complete consideration of any changes to city codes, the Council may adopt additional extensions after any required public hearing, pursuant to RCW 35A.63.220 and RCW 36.70A.390.

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Section 5. Permanent Regulations. The City Council hereby directs the staff to develop for its review and adoption permanent regulations to adopt the interim regulations adopted herein, and to transmit this ordinance to the Washington State Department of Commerce as required by law.

Section 6. Severability. Should any provision of this ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance be held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

Section 7. Public Emergency. The City Council hereby finds and declares that a public emergency exists and that this ordinance is a public emergency ordinance necessary for the protection of the public health and safety and should, therefore, take effect upon adoption. The facts upon which this public emergency is based include all recitals set out in this ordinance as well as those facts contained in the legislative record.

Section 8. Effective Date. In accordance with RCW 35A.13.190, this ordinance, as a public emergency ordinance, shall take effect and be in force immediately upon adoption by a majority plus one of the City Council.

Passed by the City Council this 21st day of October, 2013 and signed in authentication of its passage this 21st day of October, 2013.

(SEAL)

Conrad Lee, Mayor

Approved as to form:

Lori M. Riordan, City Attorney

Attest:

Myrna L. Basich, City Clerk

Published October 24, 2013.