

### County of San Diego

# Socially Equitable Cannabis Program

Planning & Development Services
March 7, 2023

### **Project Contact Information**

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Socially Equitable Cannabis Program (sandiegocounty.gov)

### Agenda











**Board Action** 

SECP Components

Overview Next Steps

Items From June 2022 Board Direction

Upcoming Events

### **Project Overview & Board Actions to Date**



- Allow commercial cannabis "land uses"
- Cannabis tax
- Repeal the ban of new medical and non-medical cannabis facilities
- Develop new cannabis permitting system

#### June 9, 2021

- Adopted standard Environmental Review timeframe
- Draft ordinances for the existing five dispensaries to continue operation



#### May 24, 2022

- Explore the transfer of cannabis licensing from Sheriff to Code Compliance
- Directed development of the Cannabis Business Tax Measure for placement on the 2022 General Election Ballot



#### October 26, 2022

 Cannabis licensing transferred from Sheriff to Code Compliance

#### March 3, 2021

- Office of Equity & Racial Justice directed to lead Social Equity Program
- PDS directed to determine the Environmental Review Approach

#### October 6, 2021

 Adopted ordinances for existing five dispensaries to continue operation



 16 new measures for Socially Equity Cannabis Program consideration

#### June 28, 2022

 Board directed placement of Cannabis Business Tax on the November 2022 ballot



### **SECP Components**

Fee Package for Existing Facilities

Regulatory Code Development

Zoning Ordinance Amendment(s)

**Social Equity Program** 

**Licensing & Permitting** 

**Commercial Cannabis Taxation** 

Environmental Review

June 15, 2022 BOS Direction

# Socially Equitable Cannabis Program Next Steps & Outreach

Spring to Summer 2023

Outreach on Specific Board Direction Items (Present findings at Board Hearing Summer 2023)

Outreach for Social Equity Program (Present findings at Board Hearing Summer 2023)

Summer 2023

**Kick-off of Environmental Review Outreach** 

Present SECP Update at Board Hearing (Date to be determined)

Fall 2023

**Kick-off of Licensing & Permitting Outreach** 

Continuation of Outreach for the Environmental Review

Starting 2024

**Continuation of Environmental Review Outreach** 

Additional BOS Hearing

(As needed – date to be determined)

### Board Of Supervisors 6/15/22 Direction

For each type of cannabis facility, develop a design guideline checklist, similar to existing design guidelines in unincorporated communities

Propose options for each Community Planning Sponsor Group (CPSG) area that includes a limit on each type of cannabis facility and a cumulative limit on indoor consumption lounges

Develop a definition and guidelines for cannabis events

**Establish Community Equity Contribution Program** 

### Design Guidelines

#### **Direction:**

 For each type of cannabis facility, develop a design guideline checklist, similar to existing design guidelines in unincorporated communities, that will generally serve to detract those under 21 from seeking to visit the facility

# **Existing Community Design Guidelines Cover:**

- Parking Lots
- Architectural Design
- Landscaping
- Signage, lighting, and others

### **Facility Caps**

#### **Direction:**

 Propose options for each Community Planning Sponsor Group (CPSG) area that includes a limit on each type of cannabis facility and a cumulative limit on indoor consumption lounges

#### Findings to date:

- CPSGs are not formed based on census tract data
- Not all areas of the County are within CPSGs
- Option to set caps by Supervisor District

### **General Facility Cap Options**

Caps by District Caps by Facility Type Caps by District & Facility Type No Facility Caps **Others** 

### **Cannabis Event Definition & Findings**

#### **Direction:**

 Develop a definition for a "cannabis event" and provide guidance on geographic restrictions and frequency of events

#### Findings to date:

### CA Department of Cannabis Control's Definition

- Multi-day events (1 to 4 days)
- Sell and consume cannabis
- Must have security, age restriction, a daily limit of cannabis sales, employee identification, and others.

### **Community Equity Contribution Program**

#### **Direction:**

 Propose a community equity contribution program with recommendations and community input

#### Purpose:

 To define how the community and cannabis facility operators engage and invest in the unincorporated area

### **Community Equity Contribution Program**

 To provide thoughts and comments on the Community Equity Contribution Program, please visit:

Engage.sandiegocounty.gov

- Benefits suggested to date are:
  - Educational programs
  - Cannabis education
  - Economic development
  - Community beautification
  - Small business loans or grants
  - Youth development and welfare programs
  - Housing and behavioral health services



#### Social Equity Entrepreneurs Program

The County of San Diego is working to develop a Social Equity Entrepreneurs Program concurrently ...

**View Project** 

### **Upcoming Outreach Events (BOS 6/15/22 Direction)**

March - April
Small Group
Meetings

Presenting Input received to date & gather more input

April
Two Public
Webinars
One Lunch n Learn

Presenting emerging concepts to deliver to the Board

# Questions?

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