



## Kriss Worthington

Councilmember, City of Berkeley, District 7  
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### ACTION CALENDAR

September 20, 2016

*(Continued from July 19, 2016)*

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
 From: Councilmember Kriss Worthington  
 Subject: Selecting Fifth and Sixth Medical Cannabis Dispensaries

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Review the information included with this report, including the recommendations of the Medical Cannabis Commission (MCC), select two of the five remaining applicants to be the fifth and sixth medical cannabis dispensary and direct staff to bring a resolution for approval to a future meeting.

#### BACKGROUND:

On July 12, the City Council decided whether to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation to increase the number of dispensaries from four to six. On July 19, the Council has the opportunity to designate the recipients of the fifth and sixth dispensary permits.

These dispensaries are properly regulated, and they operate within the boundaries of California's medical cannabis laws. They only dispense cannabis to those with a valid California medical marijuana card and approval from a doctor to treat a chronic illness. The current selection process is a 15-step program that awards points based on meeting these criteria. Then, the top five programs will be considered for the dispensary. As of June 2016, there are five dispensaries that can be considered, but only two spaces available.

Dispensaries should be selected to provide the community with medical access to marijuana, increased tax revenue, and added benefits to the community as a whole (e.g., seminars on medicinal cannabis use and end-of-life care).

#### CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS:

Six applicants were considered by the MCC for the fourth dispensary, and the iCANN Health Center was chosen. There are currently five applicants under consideration for the two additional dispensary permits:

The Apothecarium – 2578 Shattuck Avenue  
 Berkeley Compassionate Care Collective – 2465 Telegraph Avenue  
 Berkeley Innovative Health – 1229 San Pablo Avenue  
 Berkeley Women's Cannabis Alliance, dba Blum Boutique – 2067 University Avenue  
 The Cannabis Center – 1436 University Avenue

A link to the applications is available on the MCC's webpage:  
<http://www.cityofberkeley.info/MedicalCannabis/>.

A link to the May 10 City Council item:  
<http://tinyurl.com/May10-PC-Cannabis-Report>.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Potential to raise revenue by \$75,000 to \$425,000.

ENVIROMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Consistent with Berkeley's Environmental Sustainability Goals and no negative impact.

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