

# City of Chula Vista

## Meeting Minutes - Draft

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Thursday, August 3, 2017

4:00 PM

Council Chambers  
276 4th Avenue, Building A  
Chula Vista, CA 91910

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### REGULAR CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP

#### CALL TO ORDER

*A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Chula Vista was called to order at 4:01 p.m. in the Council Chambers, located in City Hall, 276 Fourth Avenue, Chula Vista, California.*

#### ROLL CALL:

**Present:** Councilmember Aguilar, Councilmember Diaz, Deputy Mayor McCann, Councilmember Padilla and Mayor Casillas Salas

*Also Present: City Manager Halbert, City Attorney Googins, Acting City Clerk Bigelow, and Deputy City Clerk Larrarte*

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

*Councilmember Padilla led the Pledge of Allegiance.*

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

*There were none.*

#### WORKSHOP

##### [17-0306](#) CANNABIS WORKSHOP

Presentation and discussion of current state cannabis laws and the future of local regulations regarding cannabis

*Deputy City Manager Bacon, Deputy City Attorney McClurg, and Police Chief Kennedy presented information on the item and answered questions of the Council.*

*The following members of the public spoke in support of regulations that would allow cannabis sales in the City:*

- Sam Elhomsy, Bonita resident, representing Pharmacists Association, and he gave a presentation*
- David King, San Diego resident, and he also expressed concerns regarding marijuana use*
- Alan Cassell, Chula Vista resident*
- Mike Barbee, San Diego resident, representing Lighthouse Pharmacy*
- Theresa Acerro, Chula Vista resident, and she also spoke in support of adequate staffing for regulation, inspections, and criminal enforcement*
- Ken Sobel, San Diego resident, representing Grow for Vets US California*
- Mickey Kasparian, San Diego resident, representing UFCW Local 135*
- Sapphire Blackwood, San Diego resident, representing Association of Cannabis Professionals*
- Derek Candelario, Chula Vista resident*

*The following members of the public spoke in opposition to regulations that would allow cannabis sales in the City:*

- Manolo Guillen, Chula Vista resident*
- William Perno, Chula Vista resident*
- Kathleen Lippitt, Poway resident, representing San Diegans for Safe Neighborhoods*

*John Redman, San Diego resident, representing CADFY, spoke regarding issues with marijuana sale and use in other countries.*

*Carol Green, Chula Vista resident, spoke in opposition to commercializing marijuana.*

*Randy Epstein, Chula Vista resident, submitted a request but declined to speak.*

*At the request of Councilmember Padilla, there was consensus of the Council to request a summary of the recent trip Mayor Casillas Salas and staff took to Aurora, Colorado to learn about Aurora's implementation of cannabis regulations.*

*At the request of Mayor Casillas Salas, there was consensus of the Council to direct staff to provide a report within 90 days on the effects of legalizing and regulating the sale of cannabis, including the following points:*

- Efforts of cities that have approved cannabis sales, both regulatory and educational, to prevent and reduce the use of cannabis by minors;*
- Potential or proposed regulations that may be required to protect public safety;*
- Zoning requirements to prevent clustering of cannabis operations and to protect the City's neighbors and economy;*
- Regulations and resources needed to quickly shut down unlicensed operations, as well as costs associated with current efforts to close illegal operations; and*
- Additional information on the two initiatives that had been submitted to the city clerk, including efforts to inform and solicit input from the public.*

*Councilmember Diaz requested staff also provide information on the following:*

- Anticipated resources and costs for all affected departments to administer a legalized cannabis program, including education, prevention, and treatment programs;*
- Cost for the City Attorney to implement a criminal prosecution unit; and*
- Actions the City could take to oppose the proposed initiatives.*

*Councilmember Diaz also spoke in support of staff creating a webpage to make materials provided to the City available to the public, including reports and studies.*

*Councilmember Padilla requested staff also provide information on the following:*

- Research and information on the correlation between individual use and access to cannabis;*
- Options for potential regulations to address safety concerns related to cash-based businesses; and*
- The ability of local regulations to control aspects of cannabis sales, such as the potency and availability of certain products to specified age groups.*

*City Attorney Googins provided information on the citizen initiative process and related timeline.*

*Councilmember Aguilar requested staff also provide information on the following:*

- Possible regulations related to cultivation;*
- Ability to limit the amount of THC (Tetrahydrocannabinol) in products; and*
- Regulations to limit advertising and signage of dispensaries.*

*Councilmember Aguilar also spoke in support of illegal dispensaries being closed quickly and requested additional information on the resources necessary to do so.*

*Deputy Mayor McCann requested staff also provide information on the following:*

- Protections for children and neighborhoods, such as buffers between dispensaries and houses, parks, and schools;*
- Potential impacts on public safety and ensuring affected departments would have adequate resources to address the effects; and*
- The status of Federal law and the 1970 Controlled Substance Act, in conjunction with local cannabis legalization efforts.*

## **ADJOURNMENT**

*At 6:40 p.m., Mayor Casillas Salas adjourned the meeting to the Regular City Council Meeting on August 8, 2017, at 5:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers.*

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Kerry K. Bigelow, Assistant City Clerk