

ORDINANCE NO. 1036 N.S.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES, CALIFORNIA AMENDING CHAPTER 21.33 OF THE EL PASO DE ROBLES MUNICIPAL CODE TO REGULATE THE PERSONAL, MEDICAL, AND COMMERCIAL USE OF MARIJUANA

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso De Robles, California (the "City") is a municipal corporation, duly organized under the constitution and laws of the State of California; and

WHEREAS, California Government Code section 65800 et seq. authorizes the adoption and administration of zoning laws, ordinances, rules and regulations by cities as a means of implementing the General Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City passed Ordinance No. 1023 on January 19, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to continue to ban all marijuana dispensaries and cultivation land uses within City Limits to the extent allowed by California law. This Ordinance updates the Municipal Code to effectuate that aim; and

WHEREAS, on June 28, 2016, the Secretary of State certified Proposition 64, the Control, Regulate, and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act ("AUMA"), for the November 8, 2016 ballot; and

WHEREAS, the AUMA would become law if a majority of the electorate votes "Yes" on the proposition; and

WHEREAS, the AUMA would regulate, among other items, the use of marijuana for personal and commercial purposes, including the recreational use of marijuana by adults over 21 years of age; and

WHEREAS, to regulate personal use of marijuana the AUMA would add Section 11362.1 to the Health and Safety Code, which makes it "lawful under state and local law" for persons 21 years of age or older to "possess, process, transport, purchase, obtain, or give away to persons 21 years of age or older without any compensation whatsoever" up to 28.5 grams of marijuana in the form of concentrated cannabis or not more than eight grams of marijuana in the form of concentrated cannabis contained in marijuana products; and

WHEREAS, the AUMA would make it lawful for those individuals to "possess, plant, cultivate, harvest, dry, or process not more than six living marijuana plants and possess the marijuana produced by the plants; and

WHEREAS, the AUMA would make it lawful for those individuals to smoke or ingest marijuana or marijuana products; and

WHEREAS, should the AUMA pass, many of its provisions would take effect on November 9, 2016; and

WHEREAS, to regulate commercial use of marijuana, the AUMA would add Division 10 (Marijuana) to the Business & Professions Code, which grants state agencies "the exclusive authority to create, issue, renew, discipline, suspend, or revoke" licenses for businesses including the transportation, storage, distribution, sale, cultivation, manufacturing, and testing of marijuana; and

WHEREAS, the AUMA provides that the above state agencies shall promulgate rules and regulations and shall begin issuing licenses under Division 10 by January 1, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the AUMA states that a local jurisdiction shall not prevent transportation of marijuana or marijuana products on public roads by a licensee transporting marijuana or marijuana products in compliance with Division 10; and

WHEREAS, the AUMA would authorize cities to "reasonably regulate" without completely prohibiting cultivation of marijuana inside a private residence or inside an "accessory structure to a private residence located upon the grounds of a private residence that is fully enclosed and secure"; and

WHEREAS, the AUMA would authorize cities to completely prohibit outdoor cultivation on the grounds of a private residence, up to and until a "determination by the California Attorney General that nonmedical use of marijuana is lawful in the State of California under federal law"; and

WHEREAS, the AUMA would authorize cities to completely prohibit the establishment or operation of any marijuana business licensed under Division 10 within its jurisdiction, including marijuana dispensaries, marijuana retailers, and marijuana delivery services; and

WHEREAS, absent appropriate local regulation authorized by the AUMA, state regulations will control; and

WHEREAS, the "Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act" ("MMRSA"), which took effect January 1, 2016, regulates use of marijuana for medical purposes; and

WHEREAS, the MMRSA contains a provision which provides that the State shall become the sole authority for regulation under certain parts of the Act unless local governments pass their own regulations; and

WHEREAS, in May 2013, the California Supreme Court held in *City of Riverside v. Inland Empire Patients Health and Wellness Center, Inc.*, 56 Cal. 4th 729 (2013) that cities have the authority to regulate or ban outright medical marijuana land uses; and

WHEREAS, the California Attorney General's August 2008 Guidelines for the Security and Non-Diversion of Marijuana Grown for Medical Use recognizes that the cultivation or other concentration of

marijuana in any location or premises without adequate security increases the risk that nearby homes or businesses may be negatively impacted by nuisance activity such as loitering or crime; and

WHEREAS, under the Federal Controlled Substances Act, the use, possession, and cultivation of marijuana are unlawful and subject to federal prosecution without regard to a claimed medical need; and

WHEREAS, the indoor cultivation of marijuana has potential adverse effects to the health and safety of the occupants; including structural damage to the building due to increased moisture and excessive mold growth which can occur and can pose a risk of fire and electrocution; additionally, the use of pesticides and fertilizers can lead to chemical contamination within the structure; and

WHEREAS, based on the experiences of other cities, these negative effects on the public health, safety, and welfare are likely to occur, and continue to occur, in the City due to the establishment and operation of marijuana cultivation, processing, and distribution uses; and

WHEREAS, the subject Ordinance is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2), 15060(c)(3) and 15061(b)(3). The activity is not subject to CEQA because it will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment; the activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378, and the activity is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects, which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA; and

WHEREAS, this Ordinance would amend Chapter 21.33 to clarify the substantive objectives of the Municipal Code regarding the City's regulation of marijuana within its City limits and to preemptively address some proposed changes to California law in the event AUMA passes on November 8, 2016.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: The City Council of the City of El Paso De Robles hereby finds and determines that all of the above Recitals are true and correct and incorporates such Recitals into this Ordinance as if fully set forth herein.

SECTION 2. The City Council of the City of El Paso De Robles hereby amends Chapter 21.33 to read in its entirety as follows:

Chapter 21.33 - MARIJUANA REGULATIONS

21.33.010 Purpose.

The purpose of this Chapter is to regulate personal, medical, and commercial marijuana uses. Nothing in this Chapter shall preempt or make inapplicable any provision of state or federal law.

21.33.020 Definitions.

For purposes of this Chapter, the following definitions shall apply:

A. "Commercial marijuana activity" includes the cultivation, possession, manufacture, distribution, processing, storing, laboratory testing, labeling, transportation, distribution, or sale of marijuana and marijuana products.

B. "Cultivation" means any activity involving the planting, growing, harvesting, drying, curing, grading, or trimming of marijuana.

C. "Delivery" means the commercial transfer of marijuana or marijuana products to a customer. "Delivery" also includes the use by a retailer of any technology platform owned and controlled by the retailer, or independently licensed under California law, that enables customers to arrange for or facilitate the commercial transfer by a licensed retailer of marijuana or marijuana products.

D. "Distribution" means the procurement, sale, and transport of marijuana and marijuana products between entities for commercial use purposes.

E. "Licensee" means the holder of any state issued license related to marijuana activities, including but not limited to licenses issued under Division 10 of the Business & Professions Code.

F. "Manufacture" means to compound, blend, extract, infuse, or otherwise make or prepare a marijuana product.

G. "Marijuana" means all parts of the plant *Cannabis sativa L.*, whether growing or not; 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. It does not include:

1. Industrial hemp, as defined in Section 11018.5 of the California Health & Safety Code; or

2. The weight of any other ingredient combined with marijuana to prepare topical or oral administrations, food, drink, or other product.

H. "Marijuana accessories" means any equipment, products or materials of any kind which are used, intended for use, or designed for use in planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, harvesting, manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing, preparing, testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing, smoking, vaporizing, or containing marijuana, or for ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing marijuana or marijuana products into the human body.

I. "Marijuana products" means marijuana that has undergone a process whereby the plant material has been transformed into a concentrate, including, but not limited to, concentrated cannabis, or an edible or topical product containing marijuana or concentrated cannabis and other ingredients.

J. "Person" includes any individual, firm, co-partnership, joint venture, association, corporation, limited liability company, estate, trust, business trust, receiver, syndicate, or any other group or combination acting as a unit, and the plural as well as the singular.

K. "Private residence" means a house, an apartment unit, a mobile home, or other similar dwelling.

L. "Sale" includes any transaction whereby, for any consideration, title to marijuana is transferred from one person to another, and includes the delivery of marijuana or marijuana products pursuant to an order placed for the purchase of the same and soliciting or receiving an order for the same, but does not include the return of marijuana or marijuana products by a licensee to the licensee from whom such marijuana or marijuana product was purchased.

M. Any term defined in this Section also means the very term as defined in the California Business & Professions Code or the California Health & Safety Code, unless otherwise specified.

21.33.030 Personal Recreational Use.

A. For purposes of this subsection, personal recreational use, possession, purchase, transport, or dissemination of marijuana shall be considered unlawful in all areas of the City to the extent it is unlawful under California law.

B. Outdoor Cultivation. A person may not plant, cultivate, harvest, dry, or process marijuana plants outdoors in any zoning district of the City. No use permit, building permit, variance, or any other permit or entitlement, whether administrative or discretionary, shall be approved or issued for any such use or activity.

C. Indoor Cultivation.

1. A person may not plant, cultivate, harvest, dry, or process marijuana plants inside a private residence, or inside an accessory structure to a private residence located upon the grounds of a private residence, or inside any other enclosed structure within any zoning district of the City. No use permit, building permit, variance, or any other permit or entitlement, whether administrative or discretionary, shall be approved or issued for any such use or activity.

2. To the extent a complete prohibition on indoor cultivation is not permitted under California law, a person may not plant, cultivate, harvest, dry, or process marijuana plants inside a private residence; however, a person may plant, cultivate, harvest, dry, or process marijuana plants inside an accessory structure to a private residence located upon the grounds of a private residence, but only if the person is first issued an indoor cultivation permit by the Community Development Department. A person may not plant, cultivate, harvest, dry, or process marijuana plants inside any enclosed structure within any zoning district of the City that is not an accessory structure to a private residence located upon the grounds of a private residence.

3. The Community Development Department will issue application and processing guidelines for the indoor cultivation permit. No indoor cultivation permit shall be issued prior to the release of these guidelines, and no permit shall be granted which has not complied fully with the application and processing requirements. The City Council may institute a fee for the indoor cultivation permit by resolution.

21.33.040 Medical Use.

A. Cultivation of medical marijuana pursuant to Section 11362.77 of the California Health & Safety Code is subject to the cultivation requirements laid out in Section 21.33.030 of this Chapter.

B. The establishment or operation of any medical marijuana collective, cooperative, dispensary, operator, establishment, or provider shall be considered a prohibited use in all zoning districts of the City. No use permit, variance, building permit, or any other entitlement or permit, whether administrative or discretionary, shall be approved or issued for the establishment of any collective, cooperative, dispensary, operator, establishment, or provider in any zoning district, and no person shall otherwise establish such businesses or operations in any zoning district.

C. Exception. The establishment or operation of a medical marijuana delivery service is permitted in the City, provided a use permit, variance, building permit, business license, and all other entitlements or permits have been approved pursuant to this Code.

21.33.050 Commercial Use.

A. The establishment or operation of any business of commercial marijuana activity is prohibited. No use permit, variance, building permit, or any other entitlement or permit, whether administrative or discretionary, shall be approved or issued for the establishment or operation of any such business or operation. Such prohibited businesses or operations may include, but are not limited to:

1. The transportation, storage, distribution, or sale of marijuana, marijuana products, or marijuana accessories;
2. The cultivation of marijuana;
3. The manufacturing or testing of marijuana, marijuana products, or marijuana accessories; or
4. Any other business licensed by the state or other government entity under Division 10 of the California Business & Professions Code, as it may be amended from time to time.

21.33.060 Penalty for Violations.

No person, whether as principal, agent, employee or otherwise, shall violate, cause the violation of, or otherwise fail to comply with any of the requirements of this section. Every act prohibited or declared unlawful, and every failure to perform an act made mandatory by this section, shall be a misdemeanor or an infraction, at the discretion of the City Attorney or the District Attorney. In addition to the penalties provided in this section, any condition caused or permitted to exist in violation of any of the provisions of this section is declared a public nuisance and may be abated as provided Chapters 1.02 and 1.03 of this Municipal Code and/or under state law.

SECTION 3: CEQA. This Ordinance is not a project within the meaning of Section 15378 of the State of California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") Guidelines, because it has no potential for resulting in physical change in the environment, directly or indirectly. The City Council further finds, under Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, Section 15061(b)(3), that this Ordinance is nonetheless exempt from the requirements of CEQA in that the activity is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. The City Council, therefore, directs that a Notice of Exemption be filed with the County Clerk of the County of San Luis Obispo in accordance with CEQA Guidelines.

SECTION 4: Severability. If any section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance for any reason is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have adopted this Ordinance, and each section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, subdivisions, sentences, clauses, phrases, or portions thereof be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 5. Custodian of Records. The documents and materials that constitute the record of proceedings on which this Ordinance is based are located at the City Clerk's office located at 1000 Spring Street, Paso Robles, CA 93446. The custodian of these records is the City Clerk.

SECTION 6. Restatement of Existing Law. Neither the adoption of this ordinance nor the repeal of any other ordinance of this City shall in any manner affect the prosecution for violations of ordinances, which violations were committed prior to the effective date hereof, nor be construed as a waiver of any license or penalty or the penal provisions applicable to any violation thereof. The provisions of this ordinance, insofar as they are substantially the same as ordinance provisions previously adopted by the City relating to the same subject matter or relating to the enumeration of permitted uses under the City's zoning code, shall be construed as restatements and continuations, and not as new enactments.

SECTION 7. This Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after its final passage and adoption. A summary of this Ordinance shall be published and a certified copy of the full text of this proposed Ordinance shall be posted in the office of the City Clerk at least five (5) days prior to the City Council meeting at which this proposed Ordinance is to be adopted. Within fifteen (15) days after adoption of this Ordinance, the City Clerk is instructed to publish a summary of this Ordinance with the names of those City Council members voting for and against this Ordinance and the City Clerk shall post in the office of the City Clerk a certified copy of the full text of the adopted Ordinance along with the names of those City Council members voting for and against this Ordinance or amendment at least until the day of such publication.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 4th day of October, 2016 by the following vote:

AYES: Gregory, Strong, Hamon, Reed, Martin

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:



Steven W. Martin, Mayor

ATTEST: 

Kristen L. Buxkemper, Deputy City Clerk