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**City Restarts Retail Cannabis Program for Opening of Dispensaries in Oxnard**

OXNARD, Calif. – The City of Oxnard is restarting its retail cannabis program, and will issue 16 dispensaries permits throughout the City. The process is being restarted due to inconsistencies that were discovered in its City Code regarding the appeal process for applicants who were denied a retail permit.

In fairness to all 50 applicants, the City has terminated the current program and will start a new accelerated retail cannabis and local equity retail cannabis program that will issue 16 permits (instead of 10 permits) by March 2021. No new fees will be required for previous applicants to apply to the new program.

“Unfortunately we discovered that the inconsistencies in the appeal process were not fair to everyone and we needed to make it right,” said City Manager Alex Nguyen. “Everyone has to have the same opportunity throughout the permit application process.”

The City is updating its existing cannabis regulations and the retail “Commercial Cannabis Business Application Procedure Guidelines” for the new program and will clarify the appeal process. The City Council will review the amendment during a public hearing scheduled for December 1, 2020.

The new program will open for applications on or before December 4, 2020, with a deadline for submitting applications on January 7, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. It will award 13 retail cannabis permits and three local equity retail cannabis permits to qualified applicants. All Phase 1-3 fees will be waived for previous applicants.

For information or questions regarding the new retail cannabis program, please email [Kathleen.Mallory@oxnard.org](mailto:Kathleen.Mallory@oxnard.org) or call the Community Development Department at (805) 385-7878.

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