Proposal to reduce the Marijuana License Buffer Zone a minimum of 400 feet.

I am asking to the City of Stevenson to consider reducing Marijuana License buffer zone from 1,000 feet to minimum of 400 feet to allow this type of business entity to exist within Stevenson’s City Limits. Doing so could provide opportunities for retail business or building owners to seek tenants that not only provide additional jobs but have a solid a regulated business model.

Currently Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board (WSLCB) allow local governments the ability to reduce the 1000-foot buffer requirements to 100 feet around all entities except elementary and secondary schools and public playgrounds.

The WSLCB requires a signed and dated ordinance from the City of Stevenson planning department confirming a change in the buffer size before a Licensed Cannabis Retail Store can rent retail space.

**Distance from Restricted Entities**

Per RCW 69.50.331(8) the board shall not issue a new marijuana license if the proposed licensed business is within one thousand feet of the following entities.

The distance will be measured as the shortest straight line between the property line of the potential location to the property line of the grounds of the entities listed below:

- Elementary or secondary school;
- Playground;
- Recreation center or facility;
- Child care center;
- Public park;
- Public transit center;
- Library; or
- Any game arcade (where admission is not restricted to persons age twenty-one or older).

Recent legislation allows local governments to reduce the 1000-foot buffer requirements to 100 feet around all entities except elementary and secondary schools and public playgrounds.

Each city and county is able to adopt ordinances in the way they see fit by means of their city council or based on local voting.

- 53.26% of the voters in Skamania county Voted to legalize marijuana according to the NWHIDTA Marijuana Impact Report (Washington State Marijuana Impact Report, March 2016)
- Skamania County has determined that a business can be located in specific designated zones.
- State law requires the WSLCB to notify the local authority (i.e. mayor or county commission) of the city or county your proposed business is located in that you...
have applied for a marijuana license. The local authority has 20 days to respond with an approval, objection or no response to your license application.

![Recreational Marijuana Business Ordinances for Washington State Counties]

The Municipal Research Services Center (MRSC) collects data on local jurisdictions and the ordinances they enact involving all types of marijuana business licenses. The zonings are categorized in six major groups:

- Allowed under existing zoning: businesses are not specifically allowed, but are allowed in appropriate zones;
- Permanent zoning: specifically allowed in designated zones;
- Interim zoning: provisional zoning for businesses that includes review processes and amendments with set time periods;
- Moratorium zoning: prohibited businesses until the state legislature deliberates on the subject more thoroughly;
- Prohibited zoning: businesses are not allowed;
- No action: have not taken a specific stance regarding marijuana businesses.

The position a county takes with regard to its zoning can be much different than the views of its voters. The following tables on the right detail how counties decided on their zoning in relation to how the county voted on legalization:

(https://lcb.wa.gov/mjlicense/distance_from_restricted_entities)
**TAX PAID BY RETAILER:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Retailer</th>
<th>Total Tax Paid</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Cannabis Corner</td>
<td>$992,194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Bonneville</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forbidden Cannabis Club</td>
<td>$46,751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(https://www.502data.com/county/skamania)
WHY HAVE CANNABIS RETAIL BUSINESS IN STEVENSON:

- **JOBS:** Adjacent cities have retail stores and two grow operations are located within the county.
  
  Cannabis Corner employs- 6 full time 3 part-time
  Forbidden Cannabis Club employs – 6

- Businesses being financially able to give back and support our community.

- Adults can find a solution to a wide range of problems that other drugs or chemicals are not offering.

- It is a legal and profitable business model.

- **Cannabis Enforcement** A non-retail enforcement team of 16 Liquor and Cannabis Board enforcement officers with support staff regulates licensed producers and processors. The unit's focus is the inspection of license applicants, education for new producers and processors, security and traceability system compliance and ensuring licensed operations are conducted by the true party of interest. Officers conduct youth access compliance checks and monitor traceability and transportation compliance. *Each licensed and operating retail location received at least three compliance checks by the end of the fiscal year. No-sales-to-minors compliance rates were at 90 percent for FY 2017.*
  
  ([Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Control Board's FY 2017 Annual Report pg 6])

- **TAX REVENUE:**
  
  **WASHINGTON STATE INCOME FROM TAXES & LICENSING 2017:**

  ![Financial Statement]

  **Income**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liquor Taxes and License Fees (includes penalties)</td>
<td>$120 million</td>
<td>$135 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spirit Fees</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beer Tax</td>
<td>$31 million</td>
<td>$29 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wine Tax (not including assessment)</td>
<td>$25 million</td>
<td>$26 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liquor License Fees</td>
<td>$15 million</td>
<td>$17 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liquor Income</strong></td>
<td>$201 million</td>
<td>$206 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cannabis Taxes and License Fees (includes penalties)</td>
<td>$186 million</td>
<td>$315 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cannabis Tax</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cannabis License Fees</td>
<td>$2 million</td>
<td>$4 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Cannabis Income</strong></td>
<td>$188 million</td>
<td>$319 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco Related Income</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Tobacco Income</strong></td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>$290 million</td>
<td>$266 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

  **Expenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating Expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensing</td>
<td>$5 million</td>
<td>$5 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enforcement</td>
<td>$11 million</td>
<td>$14 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>$25 million</td>
<td>$22 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Expenses</strong></td>
<td>$35 million</td>
<td>$42 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distributions/Appropriations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distributed to State/Local Governments</td>
<td>$313 million</td>
<td>$414 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Distributions/Appropriations</strong></td>
<td>$313 million</td>
<td>$414 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses/Distributions</strong></td>
<td>$378 million</td>
<td>$510 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

  **Note:** Amounts may not add due to rounding.

  ([Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Control Board’s FY 2017 Annual Report pg 15])
CONCERNS FOR CANNABIS RETAIL:

- No actual hard data for Skamania County in 2017 for number of arrests for minors and adults regrading cannabis consumption:
- Sheriff’s office states that they have been called to the schools for minors in possession of cannabis and that they have recovered vape pens and cannabis with local labels on it but feel that they are acquiring from adults in the community. This could be avoided with education.
- Washington State data base on violations regarding selling to minors has shown no violations in Skamania county (https://data.kcb.wa.gov/dataset/Violations-Dataset/dx3itzh2/data)
- Forbidden Cannabis Club – called the sheriff’s office regarding a minor in their parking lot trying to purchase
- Sheriff’s office feels that we should have more education for adults regarding the hazards of supplying or not securing cannabis in regards to minors.
- Have not heard of any complaints from local business regarding the stores.
- Cannabis Taxes State Wide; contribute $35.1 Million To distribute public education materials about the health and safety risks of cannabis; to fund substance abuse programs and mental health services; to fund a cannabis education/public health program and grant programs for the prevention and reduction of cannabis use by youth. (2016 NWHIDTA Marijuana Impact Report pg 23, www.riag.ri.gov/documents/NWHIDTAMarijuanaImpactReportVolume1.pdf)
- Skamania County Has “One Prevention Alliance” to help education and reduce drug abuse in our community.
2016 Washington State Healthy Youth Survey

Data Brief: Marijuana

In fall 2016, over 230,000 students participated in the Healthy Youth Survey. Over 1,000 schools administered the survey, representing all 39 Washington counties and 236 school districts.

Rates of teen marijuana use have remained steady, despite the changing landscape.
• In 2016, six percent of 8th graders, 17 percent of 10th graders, and 26 percent of 12th graders reported past 30-day marijuana use.
• About half of those who used marijuana in the past month indicated they used on six or more days: 41% of 8th graders, 45% of 10th graders, and 52% of 12th graders.

The majority of current marijuana users, about two-thirds of 8th and three-quarters of 10th and 12th graders, usually smoke marijuana.
• A much smaller percentage reported usually eating, drinking, or vaping marijuana.
• There was a decline from 2014 in 12th grade current users who usually vaporized it (7% to 5%).

Perceived ease of obtaining marijuana remained stable (8th & 12th grade) or declined (10th grade) between 2014 and 2016.
• Fewer 10th graders thought marijuana was “very easy” to obtain in 2016 (27%) than 2014 (32%).
• Among 8th and 12th graders, the percentage believing marijuana is very easy to obtain held steady, but about 40 percent of 12th graders think it’s very easy to get.

Where teens obtain marijuana may be changing.
• Of those who obtained marijuana in the past month, the percentage buying it at a store decreased from 2014 to 2016 among 8th graders (11% to 5%) and 10th graders (9% to 6%).
• Among 12th graders who obtained marijuana, the percentage getting it from friends decreased (63% to 57%) and giving money to someone else to purchase it increased (16% to 19%).

Declining perceived risk of regular marijuana use among 8th graders should be carefully monitored.
• The percentage of 8th graders perceiving great risk of regular marijuana use fell from 53% in 2014 to 48% in 2016. Decreases in perceived risk are often followed by increased use.
• Many teens perceive little risk of regular marijuana use. In 2016, about one in five 8th graders, one in three 10th graders, and almost half (45%) of 12th graders perceived no/slight risk to regular use.

Too many teens are driving after using marijuana.
• Half (51%) of the 12th graders who reported using marijuana in the past 30 days reported driving within 3 hours of using marijuana at least once in the past 30 days.

State, local, and community prevention efforts are crucial for addressing youth marijuana use.
• Prevention organizations have worked diligently to prevent the expected rise in teen marijuana use following legalization for adults. See TheAthenaForum.org/SPEplan to learn more.
• Find out more about what you can do at www.starttalkingnow.org learnaboutmarijuanawa.org and .

For more Healthy Youth Survey fact sheets and reports, visit www.AskHYS.net.