December 5, 2017

Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

SUBJECT: Merit Hearing of Proposed Ordinance Repealing Marin County Code Chapter 6.85 Medical Cannabis Dispensaries

Dear Supervisors,

RECOMMENDATION:
Conduct a merit hearing and adopt the proposed ordinance to repeal Chapter 6.85 Medical Cannabis Dispensaries.

SUMMARY:
On June 27, 2017, the State adopted the Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation Act (MAUCRSA), which established a consolidated regulatory framework for the licensing and enforcement of cultivation, manufacturing, distribution, testing, and retail sale of both medicinal and adult-use cannabis. MAUCRSA repealed the Medical Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act (MCRSA), and amended the provisions established by the Adult Use of Marijuana Act (AUMA), an initiative measure enacted by the approval of Proposition 64 on November 8, 2016.

On December 8, 2015, Marin County Code 6.85 was adopted, which established a regulatory framework for licensing Medical Cannabis Dispensaries in conjunction with MCRSA. The County underwent an application process, but did not award any medical cannabis dispensary licenses under the Medical Cannabis Dispensary (MCD) ordinance. During the license application review process significant concerns were voiced by the public, with a focus on traffic and neighborhood compatibility issues. In response, the Board of Supervisors provided direction to staff to evaluate a delivery-only dispensary (retailer) ordinance to address key concerns. Over the past several months staff has worked with the cannabis subcommittee of the Board of Supervisors, comprised of Supervisors Arnold and Connolly, to develop the Medicinal Cannabis Delivery-Only Retailer (MCDORe) ordinance. With the adoption of MAUCRSA and the MCDORe ordinance, Chapter 6.85 has been superseded and should be repealed.

On November 14, 2017, the Board conducted a first reading of the proposed ordinance, and has received no public comments regarding the proposed repeal.
FISCAL/STAFFING IMPACT:
These code amendments are not expected to have a fiscal or staffing impact.

REVIEWED BY:
[  ] Department of Finance [X] N/A
[X] County Counsel [  ] N/A
[  ] Human Resources [X] N/A

SIGNATURE:  

Inge Lundegaard  
Planner

Reviewed By:  

Brian C. Crawford  
Director

Attachments: (1) Proposed Ordinance