

Gibson, Dylan - CM

From: Lindsay Aronson <lindsayg@silverstemcannabis.com>
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2023 9:20 AM
To: Gibson, Dylan - CM
Cc: Igor Kaminer; Stan Zislis; Vlad Feygin
Subject: Public Comment for 4/17/23 City Council Meeting

Good morning Mr. Gibson,

We respectfully submit the below public comment for tonight's city council meeting regarding a marijuana moratorium in Wards 1 & 2:

My name is Lindsay Aronson and I am a Commerce City resident and an employee of Silver Stem Fine Cannabis, which has a dispensary in Commerce City at 5275 Quebec St. We are in support of a moratorium on new dispensaries in Wards 1 and 2. However, we respectfully ask that the city open up Wards 3 and 4 for marijuana stores because right now those wards are effectively prohibited by being zoned out. Perhaps the old City Council did not want marijuana stores near new development, but that's exactly where new retail stores need to go if the city wants the marijuana licensing program to be more efficient and competitive. Currently, the city has 4 stores clustered within a quarter mile in an industrial area and redevelopment is slow to come to that part of town (on Quebec Street). To generate more revenue, the city needs to allow marijuana applicants to follow the fundamental rules of choosing retail locations - new development, population, density, traffic, etc. There are 2 stores back to back in Ward 1 in the only available opening in the WalMart shopping center. Commerce City simply does not have any more suitable and desirable locations outside of Wards 3 and 4, which is counterintuitive both for the city and the industry. Some of Denver's highest revenue generating stores are located just south of DIA on Tower Road and more are edging closer to city borders from other sides as well. To remain competitive and have a fighting chance at increasing vs. decreasing (current) marijuana tax revenue, the City must permit stores in Wards 3 & 4.

Thank you

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Lindsay Aronson

Director of Licensing and Compliance

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