



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
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GERARD AMARAL, *ALT.*

July 18, 2013

The Honorable Board of Aldermen
City Hall
93 Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02143

Re: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SOMERVILLE ZONING ORDINANCE TO ADD SECTION 7.15
TITLED MEDICAL MARIJUANA TREATMENT FACILITIES

Dear Honorable Board of Aldermen:

In keeping with its lawful responsibilities, the Planning Board submits to your Honorable Board its recommendation on an ordinance to add a moratorium on medical marijuana dispensaries through June 30, 2014. This amendment was addressed in a staff report provided to your honorable board dated July 16, 2013. Planning Staff also submitted this initial staff report to the Planning Board.

On July 18, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. the Planning Board and Land Use Committee of the Board of Aldermen jointly held a duly advertised public hearing in the Aldermanic Chambers in City Hall. The purpose of the hearing was to solicit public comments on the proposed amendments and to evaluate the amendments in the context of testimony received and the findings and analysis of the Planning Staff.

This report from the Planning Board to the Board of Aldermen will focus on the discussion at the July 18, 2013 meeting and its final recommendation.



DISCUSSION DURING HEARING

At the public hearing, George Proakis, Director of Planning, explained the proposal as outlined in the staff report. One constituent appeared and stated that odors can be eliminated from medical marijuana facilities and security is regulated at these facilities.

PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDATION

Following due consideration, Kevin Prior made a motion to **RECOMMEND APPROVAL** the proposed amendment as laid out in the Planning Staff Report. James Kirylo seconded the motion, which carried 5-0.

The Land Use Committee kept the written record open until noon on August 17, 2013.

Sincerely,



Kevin Prior
Chair