

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE CITY OF MERCED'S ZONING ORDINANCE RELATING TO CANNABIS,
AND NOTICE OF POTENTIAL INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE RELATING TO
REGULATIONS FOR COMMERCIAL CANNABIS BUSINESSES AND
CULTIVATION OF CANNABIS FOR PERSONAL USE

A public hearing will be held by the Merced City Council on Monday, November 20, 2017, at 6:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as may be heard in the City Council Chambers located at 678 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA, concerning Zoning Ordinance Amendment #17-01, initiated by the City of Merced. This application involves proposed amendments to the City's Zoning Ordinance (Title 20 of the Merced Municipal Code) to regulate all commercial cannabis activities and cultivation for personal use in the City of Merced.

At the meeting, the City Council will also consider the introduction of the Ordinance entitled:

“AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERCED, CALIFORNIA, REPLACING 20.44.170 (“MEDICAL MARIJUANA AND CULTIVATION”); AMENDING SECTION 20.10.020 AND TABLE 20.10-1 (“COMMERCIAL ZONING DISTRICTS”), AND AMENDING SECTION 20.12.020 AND TABLE 20.12-1 (“INDUSTRIAL ZONING DISTRICTS”) OF THE MERCED MUNICIPAL CODE; AND ADDING LAND USE TABLE 20.44-1 TO REGULATE ALL COMMERCIAL CANNABIS ACTIVITIES AND CULTIVATION FOR PERSONAL USE IN THE CITY OF MERCED.”

If enacted, this ordinance would establish regulations to allow Commercial Cannabis Businesses, including cultivation, distribution, manufacturing, deliveries, and dispensaries/retail sales, in certain zones, subject to certain restrictions, with a Commercial Cannabis Business Permit. A copy of the full text of the proposed ordinance is available for review in the Office of the City Clerk, City of Merced, 678 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA, and on the City's website at www.cityofmerced.org.

On November 8, 2017, the Planning Commission considered this matter at a duly noticed public hearing. After weighing all the issues and taking public testimony, the Planning Commission recommended, by a 5-1-1 (5 ayes, 1 no, 1 abstain) vote, that the ordinance be

approved by the City Council as proposed, but with an addition to Land Use Table 20.44-1 to allow cannabis dispensaries/retail sales in the Light Industrial (I-L) zone.

An environmental review checklist has been filed for this project, and a categorical exemption has been prepared (i.e., no further environmental review would be required) under the California Environmental Quality Act. A copy of this staff evaluation is available for public inspection at the City of Merced Planning Department, during regular business hours, at 678 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA. A copy of this document can also be purchased at the Planning Department for the price of reproduction. Please feel free to call the Planning Department at (209) 385-6858 for additional information.

All persons in favor of, opposed to, or in any manner interested in the proposed amendments to the City's zoning ordinance relating to commercial cannabis businesses and cultivation of cannabis for personal use are invited to attend this public hearing. The public is also invited to provide any oral or written comments regarding these matters at or before the public hearing date. If you challenge the decision of the City Council in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Merced at, or prior to, the public hearing.

November 9, 2017

/s/ Kim Espinosa
Kim Espinosa, Planning Manager