

## **Draft Text of Denver Retail Marijuana Licensing Ordinance**

**Section 1.** Amend the title of Chapter 6, D.R.M.C. by adding the language underlined, to read as follows:

### **Chapter 6**

#### **Alcohol Beverages and Retail Marijuana**

**Section 2.** Amend Chapter 6, D.R.M.C. by adding a new Article V, to read as follows:

### **ARTICLE V**

#### **DENVER RETAIL MARIJUANA CODE**

##### **Sec. 6-200. Purpose and legislative intent.**

Section 16 of Article XVIII of the Colorado Constitution, also commonly known as Amendment 64 of 2012, authorizes a system of state licensing for businesses engaging in the cultivation, testing, manufacturing, and retail sale of marijuana, collectively referred to as “marijuana establishments” by the constitution. Subsection 16 (5)(f) of Article XVIII allows localities, within their respective jurisdictions: to prohibit state licensing of marijuana establishments; to regulate the time, place, and manner in which marijuana establishments may operate; and to limit the total number of marijuana establishments. The authority of localities to prohibit or regulate marijuana establishments within their respective jurisdictions, including the authority to engage in local licensing of marijuana establishments, is also reflected in various provisions of the Colorado Retail Marijuana Code, Article 43.4 of Title 12, C.R.S. The purpose of this article V is to exercise the authority of the City and County of Denver to allow state-licensed marijuana establishments to exist in Denver in accordance with applicable state laws and regulations as well as the additional local licensing requirements and other restrictions set forth herein. This Article is adopted pursuant to the aforesaid constitutional and statutory authority, as well as the

city's plenary authority as a home rule city and county to adopt and enforce ordinances under its police power in order to preserve the public health, safety, and general welfare.

**Sec. 6-201. Defined terms.**

The definitions set forth in subsection 16 (2) of article XVIII of the Colorado Constitution as well as the Colorado Retail Marijuana Code, § 12-43.4-103, C.R.S., as amended, shall apply equally to this article V. In addition, the following terms shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them:

(1) *Alcohol or drug treatment facility* means any facility located within a medical office or hospital, as these terms are defined by the zoning code, with the primary purpose of counseling or providing medical services to patients who suffer from addictions to alcohol or drugs.

(2) *Child care establishment* means any child care establishment as defined by and regulated under chapter 11 of the City Code.

(3) *Colorado Retail Marijuana Code or CRMC* means Article 43.4 of Title 12 of the Colorado Revised Statutes, as amended.

(3) *Department* means the Denver department of excise and licenses.

(4) *Director* means the director of the Denver department of excise and licenses.

(5) *School* means a public or private preschool or a public or private elementary, middle, junior high, or high school.

**Sec. 6-202. Effective date; applicability.**

(a) This article shall be effective October 1, 2013, and shall govern all applications submitted to the state licensing authority for licensing of any retail marijuana establishment in the city under the Colorado Retail Marijuana Code on and after that date.

(b) Except as otherwise specifically provided herein, this article shall not affect or apply to any business licensed under the Colorado Medical Marijuana Code,

article 43.3 of title 12, C.R.S. and the Denver Medical Marijuana Code, article XII of chapter 24, D.R.M.C.

**Sec. 6-203. Transition provision.**

(a) Prior to January 1, 2016, no retail marijuana store, retail marijuana cultivation facility, or retail marijuana products manufacturer shall be licensed or otherwise permitted in the city unless:

(1) The applicant for licensing of a retail marijuana establishment was, as of October 1, 2013, operating in good standing a licensed medical marijuana center, a medical marijuana optional premises cultivation operation, or a medical marijuana-infused products manufacturing operation; the applicant is, as of the time of application for a local license under this Article V, currently licensed under both the Colorado Medical Marijuana Code and the Denver Medical Marijuana Code; and the applicant proposes to surrender the existing medical marijuana licenses upon receipt of a retail marijuana license, thereby entirely converting an existing medical marijuana establishment into a retail marijuana establishment; or

(2) The applicant for licensing of a retail marijuana establishment was, as of October 1, 2013, operating in good standing a licensed medical marijuana center, a medical marijuana optional premises cultivation operation, or a medical marijuana-infused products manufacturing operation; the applicant is, as of the time of application for a local license under this Article V, currently licensed under both the Colorado Medical Marijuana Code and the Denver Medical Marijuana Code; and the applicant proposes to retain the existing medical marijuana license while locating a retail marijuana establishment under common ownership at the same location.

(b) Prior to January 1, 2016, any person who obtains a transfer of ownership of a medical marijuana business that was operating in good standing as of October 1, 2013 and is duly licensed under both the Colorado Medical Marijuana Code and the Denver Medical Marijuana Code may qualify for licensing as a retail marijuana establishment in the city as allowed by subsection (a) of this section.

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2 (c) Prior to January 1, 2016, any person who obtains a change of location of a  
3 medical marijuana business that **was operating in good standing as of October 1, 2013**  
4 **and** is duly licensed under both the Colorado Medical Marijuana Code and the Denver  
5 Medical Marijuana Code may qualify for licensing as a retail marijuana establishment in  
6 the new location as allowed by subsection (a) of this section; **provided, however, no**  
7 **change of location of a medical marijuana center with the intent to apply for licensing as**  
8 **a retail marijuana store in the new location shall be approved unless and until a public**  
9 **hearing is conducted in accordance with section 6-212 and the director has determined**  
10 **that the applicant qualifies for licensing of a retail marijuana store in the new location.**  
11 **For any application involving transfer of location of an existing medical marijuana center**  
12 **and conversion to or co-location of a retail marijuana store at the new location, good**  
13 **cause for denial of the retail marijuana store license shall include evidence that the**  
14 **medical marijuana center was operated in a manner that adversely affected the public**  
15 **health, welfare, or safety of the immediate neighborhood in which the center was**  
16 **previously located.**

17 (d) On and after January 1, 2016, any person who otherwise qualifies for  
18 licensing under applicable state and city laws may apply for licensing of a retail  
19 marijuana establishment in the city, regardless of whether or not the applicant is the  
20 owner of an existing medical marijuana business in the city.

21 (e) On and after October 1, 2013, state and local licensing of retail marijuana  
22 testing facilities shall be permitted in the city, regardless of whether or not a medical  
23 marijuana testing facility previously existed in the location that is proposed for licensing.

24  
25 **Sec. 6-204. Local licensing authority.**

26 (a) The director of the Denver department of excise and licenses is hereby  
27 designated to act as the local licensing authority for the city within the  
28 meaning of the Colorado Retail Marijuana Code. Under any and all  
29 circumstances in which state law requires communication to the city by the  
30 state licensing authority or any other state agency in regard to the licensing of  
31 retail marijuana establishments by the state, or in which state law requires  
32 any review or approval by the city of any action taken by the state licensing

authority, the exclusive authority for receiving such communications and granting such approvals shall be exercised by the director.

(b) The director is authorized to appoint one (1) or more hearing officers to conduct such hearings as may be required by this article V, to consult with the director with respect thereto, and to certify the record or a summary thereof as required by the director along with the hearing officer's recommended findings, conclusions and decision. Any party to such hearing shall have an opportunity to file with the director written objections to any such summary, and to the recommended findings, conclusions and decision of the hearing officer, prior to the director's decision thereon.

(c) Under no circumstances shall the director receive or act upon any application for local licensing of a retail marijuana establishment in circumstances where the state has failed to act in accordance with section 16 of article XVIII of the Colorado Constitution, it being the intent of this article that no retail marijuana establishment may lawfully exist in Denver absent the issuance of a state license and full regulatory oversight of the retail marijuana establishment by the state as well as the city. Accordingly, the director shall not receive or act upon any application for licensing submitted independently and in lieu of state licensing:

(1) If the state has failed to adopt regulations for retail marijuana by July 1, 2013 in accordance with paragraph 16(5)(a) of article XVIII of the Colorado Constitution;

(2) If state has failed to begin receiving and processing applications for state licensing by October 1, 2013 in accordance with paragraph 16(5)(g) of Article XVIII of the Colorado Constitution;

(3) If the state fails to act within ninety (90) days on any specific application for licensing of a retail marijuana establishment in accordance with paragraph 16(5)(g)(III) of Article XVIII of the Colorado Constitution; or

(4) If the state has not issued any retail marijuana licenses by January 1, 2014 in accordance with paragraph 16(5)(h) of Article XVIII of the Colorado Constitution.

**Sec. 6-205. Relationship to Colorado Retail Marijuana Code; other laws.**

Except as otherwise specifically provided herein, this article V incorporates the requirements and procedures set forth in the Colorado Retail Marijuana Code. In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this article V and the provisions of the Colorado Retail Marijuana Code or any other applicable state or local law, the more restrictive provision shall control.

**Sec. 6-206. Unlawful Acts.**

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any retail marijuana establishment in the city without a license duly issued therefor by the state licensing authority under the Colorado Retail Marijuana Code and compliance with any and all applicable state laws.
- (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any retail marijuana establishment in the city without a license duly issued therefor by the director under this article V and compliance with any and all applicable city laws.
- (c) It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in any form of business or commerce involving the cultivation, processing, manufacturing, storage, sale, distribution or consumption of marijuana other than those forms of businesses and commerce that are expressly contemplated by section 16 of article XVIII of the Colorado Constitution, the Colorado Retail Marijuana Code, or the Colorado Medical Marijuana Code.
- (d) It shall be unlawful for any person to sell marijuana or marijuana products at a licensed retail marijuana store at any time other than between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. daily.

**Sec. 6-207. Classes of licensing authorized.**

For the purpose of regulating the cultivation, manufacture, testing, distribution, offering for sale, and sale of retail marijuana, the director in the director's discretion, upon application in the prescribed form made to the director, may issue and grant to the applicant a local license from any of the following classes, and the city hereby authorizes issuance of the licenses of the following classes by the state licensing authority in locations in the city, subject to the provisions and restrictions provided in this article V:

- (1) Retail marijuana store.

(2) Retail marijuana cultivation facility.

(3) Retail marijuana products manufacturer.

(4) Retail marijuana testing facility.

**Sec. 6-209. Screening and response to state license applications.**

(a) Upon receipt of notice from the state licensing authority of any application for a license under the Colorado Retail Marijuana Code, the director shall:

(1) For all applications received prior to January 1, 2016, determine whether the applicant qualifies for licensing as an existing medical marijuana business in the city, to the extent allowed by section 6-203. If the director makes an initial determination that the applicant does not qualify for licensing prior to January 1, 2016, the director shall, no later than forty-five (45) days from the date the application was originally received by the state licensing authority, notify the state licensing authority and the applicant for state licensing in writing that the application is disapproved by the city. The failure of the director to make such a determination upon the initial review of a state license application shall not preclude the director from later determining that proposed license is in violation of city zoning laws or any other restriction on location set forth in city laws, and disapprove the issuance of a state or city license on this basis.

(2) Determine, in consultation with the manager of the department of community planning and development, whether or not the location proposed for licensing complies with any and all zoning and land use laws of the city, and any and all restrictions on location of retail marijuana establishments set forth in this Article V. If the director makes an initial determination that the proposed license would be in violation of any zoning law or other restriction on location set forth in city laws, the director shall, no later than forty-five (45) days from the date the application was originally received by the state licensing authority, notify the state licensing authority and the applicant for state licensing in writing that the application is disapproved by the city. The failure of the director to make such a determination upon the initial review of a state license application shall not preclude the director from later determining that proposed license is in violation of city zoning

laws or any other restriction on location set forth in city laws, and disapprove the issuance of a state or city license on this basis.

- (3) For any application that is not disapproved as provided in paragraphs (1) or (2) of this subsection (a), the director shall notify the state licensing authority **and the applicant for state licensing** in writing that the city's further consideration of the application is subject to a local licensing process, and that the city's ultimate decision to approve or disapprove the issuance of the state license in Denver is subject to the completion of the local licensing process as set forth in this article V, after which the city will notify the state licensing authority in writing of whether or not the retail marijuana establishment proposed in the application has or has not been approved by the city.

**Sec. 6-210. Licensing requirements—Provisions applicable to all licenses.**

- (a) *Criteria for licensing.* The director shall consider and act upon all local license applications in accordance with the standards and procedures set forth in this article V. The director shall deny any application for a license that is not in full compliance with the Colorado Retail Marijuana Code, this article V, and any other applicable state or city law or regulation. The director shall also deny any application that contains any false or incomplete information.
- (b) *Application forms and supplemental materials.* All applications for local licensing shall be made upon forms provided by the director and shall include such supplemental materials as required by the Colorado Retail Marijuana Code and rules adopted pursuant thereto, including by way of example: proof of possession of the licensed premises, disclosures related to ownership of the proposed business, fingerprints of the applicants, building plans, and security plans. To the extent any of the foregoing supplemental materials have been included with the applicant's state license application and forwarded to the city by the state licensing authority, the director may rely upon the information forwarded from the state without requiring re-submittal of the same materials in conjunction with the local license application. The director may, at the director's discretion, require additional documentation associated with the application as may be necessary to enforce the requirements of the Colorado Retail Marijuana Code and this article V.
- (c) *Notice of applications to departments and agencies.* Upon receipt of an application for any class of local license, the director shall give notice of the



application to the department of community planning and development, the department of finance, the department of environmental health, the Denver Police Department, and the Denver Fire Department. Any applicant for a license under this article V shall obtain any and all necessary permits, licenses and other regulatory approvals from the other affected city departments and agencies prior to the issuance of a license under this article V.

(d) *Background checks and determination of good character.* Prior to the issuance of any local license, the director shall make a finding and determination as to the good moral character of the applicant in accordance with the standards and procedures set forth in the Colorado Retail Marijuana Code. In so doing, the director may incorporate any findings as to good character previously made by the state licensing authority, and shall not be required to perform a criminal background check if the state licensing authority has already performed a criminal background check on the applicant.

#### **Sec. 6-211. Licensing requirements—Retail Marijuana Stores.**

The following requirements shall apply to the issuance of any local license for a retail marijuana store:

(a) *Tax bond.* Before the director issues a local license to an applicant for a retail marijuana store, the applicant shall procure and file with the city evidence of good and sufficient bond in the amount of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) with corporate surety thereon duly licensed to do business with the State of Colorado, approved as to form by the city attorney, and conditioned that the applicant shall report and pay all city sales and use taxes as provided by law. A corporate surety shall not be required to make payments to the city claiming under such bond until a final determination of failure to pay taxes due to the city has been made by the manager of finance or a court of competent jurisdiction. All bonds required pursuant to this subsection shall be renewed at such times as the bondholder's license is renewed. The renewal may be accomplished through a continuation certificate issued by the surety.

(b) *Area maps.* All applications for retail marijuana store licensing submitted pursuant to this article V shall include an area map drawn to scale indicating land uses of other properties within a 1,000-foot radius of

the property upon which the applicant is seeking a license. The map shall depict the proximity to the property to any school or child care establishment; to any other retail marijuana store; to any medical marijuana center, or to any alcohol or drug treatment facility.

(c) *Prohibited locations.* No retail marijuana store license shall be issued for the following locations:

(1) In any residential zone district as defined by the zoning code of the city, in any MS-2, MS-2x, MX-2, MX-2A or MX-2x zone district as defined by the zoning code of the city, or in any location where retail sales are prohibited by the zoning code or by any ordinance governing a planned unit development. The restriction against licensing a retail marijuana store in any MS-2, MS-2x, MX-2, MX-2A or MX-2x zone district shall not apply to any location where the director previously issued a medical marijuana center license under article XII of chapter 24 and a licensed medical marijuana center has existed in continuous operations at the subject location since the time of original licensing.

(2) Within one thousand (1,000) feet of any school or child care establishment, with the distance computed by direct measurement from the nearest property line of the land used for school or child care purposes to the nearest portion of the building in which the retail marijuana store is located, using a route of direct pedestrian access.

(3) Within one thousand (1,000) feet of any other retail marijuana store or medical marijuana center licensed under article XII of chapter 24, with the distance computed by direct measurement from the nearest portion of the building in which one store or center is located to the nearest portion of the building in which the other store or center is located, using a route of direct pedestrian access. This restriction shall not apply to any location proposed for licensing as a retail marijuana store where the director previously issued a medical marijuana center license under article XII of chapter 24 and a licensed medical marijuana center has existed in continuous operations at the subject location since the time of original licensing, nor shall this restriction be construed to prohibit the licensing of a retail marijuana store under common ownership with

and at the same location as a licensed medical marijuana center, to the extent permitted by subsection (f) of this section.

(4) Within one thousand (1,000) feet of any alcohol or drug treatment facility. The 1,000-foot distance shall be computed by direct measurement from the nearest property line of the land used for alcohol or drug treatment facility purposes to the nearest portion of the property upon which the retail marijuana store is proposed to be located, using a route of direct pedestrian access. This restriction shall not apply to any location where the director previously issued a medical marijuana center license under article XII of chapter 24, and a licensed medical marijuana center has existed in continuous operations at the subject location since the time of original licensing.

(d) *Off-site delivery of product by licensee prohibited.* All sales and distribution of retail marijuana by a licensed retail marijuana store shall occur only upon the licensed premises, and the licensee shall be strictly prohibited from delivering retail marijuana to any person at any other location.

(e) *Signs and advertising.*

(1) Any person or premises licensed as a retail marijuana store shall comply with all city ordinances regulating signs and advertising. In addition, no licensed retail marijuana store shall use any advertising material that is misleading, deceptive, or false, or that, as evidenced either by the content of the advertising material or by the medium or the manner in which the advertising is disseminated, is designed to appeal to minors.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection (2), it shall be unlawful for any person licensed under this article or any other person to advertise any retail marijuana or retail marijuana product anywhere in the city where the advertisement is visible to members of the public from any street, sidewalk, park or other public place, including advertising utilizing any of the following media: any billboard or other outdoor general advertising device as defined by the zoning code; any sign mounted on a vehicle, any hand-held or other portable sign; or any handbill, leaflet or flier directly handed to any person in a

public place, left upon a motor vehicle, or posted upon any public or private property without the consent of the property owner. The prohibition set forth in this paragraph (3) shall not apply to:

- (i) Any sign located on the same zone lot as a retail marijuana store which exists solely for the purpose of identifying the location of the retail marijuana store and which otherwise complies with the Denver Zoning Code and any other applicable city laws and regulations; or
- (ii) Any advertisement contained within a newspaper, magazine, or other periodical of general circulation within the city; or
- (iii) Advertising which is purely incidental to sponsorship of a charitable event by a retail marijuana store or a retail marijuana products manufacturer.

(5) For purposes of this subsection (e), the terms "advertise," "advertising" or "advertisement" mean the act of drawing the public's attention to a retail marijuana store or retail marijuana products manufacturer in order to promote the sale of retail marijuana by the store or the manufacturer.

(f) *Co-location of retail marijuana store and medical marijuana center.* A retail marijuana store in common ownership with a medical marijuana center may be licensed in the same location, subject to the following restrictions:

- (1) The retail marijuana store and the medical marijuana center shall maintain distinct and separate licensed premises with physical separation between the two licensed premises to the extent required by the CRMC and regulations promulgated by the Colorado Marijuana Enforcement Division.
- (2) The two licensed premises shall maintain separate retail and storage areas, separate entrances and exits, separate inventories, separate point of sale operations, and separate record keeping.
- (3) In no event shall the licensee be relieved of complying with the foregoing separation requirements, regardless of whether or not the licensee limits sale of marijuana and marijuana products to persons twenty-one years of age or older.

**Sec. 6-212. Licensing requirements—Retail Marijuana Stores—Public hearing requirement.**

(a) Upon receipt of an application for a local retail marijuana store license, the director shall schedule a public hearing upon the application not less than thirty days from the date of the application and shall post and publish the public notice thereof not less than ten days prior to such hearing. Public notice shall be given by the posting of a sign in a conspicuous place on the premises for which application has been made and by publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

(b) Notice given by posting shall include a sign of suitable material, not less than twenty-two inches wide and twenty-six inches high, composed of letters not less than one inch in height and stating the type of license applied for, the date of the application, the date of the hearing, and the name and address of the applicant, and such other information as may be required to fully apprise the public of the nature of the application. If the applicant is a partnership, the sign shall contain the names and addresses of all partners, and if the applicant is a corporation, association, or other organization, the sign shall contain the names and addresses of the president, vice-president, secretary, and manager or other managing officers.

(c) Notice given by publication shall contain the same information as that required for signs.

(d) Any sign posted as required in subsections (1) and (2) of this section shall be placed so as to be conspicuous and plainly visible to the general public.

(e)(1) At the public hearing held pursuant to this section, any party in interest shall be allowed to present evidence and to cross-examine witnesses.

(2) As used in this subsection (e), “party in interest” means any of the following:

a. The applicant;

b. An adult resident of the neighborhood under consideration;

c. The owner or manager of a business located in the neighborhood under consideration;

d. An authorized representative of a registered neighborhood organization that encompasses all or part of the neighborhood under consideration; or

e. Any member of city council elected from a district that encompasses all or any part of the neighborhood under consideration.

(3) As used in this section, the term “neighborhood” shall have the same meaning as the director utilizes for purposes of issuance of liquor licenses.

(4) Any party in interest may request that the director schedule a public hearing on or after 5:00 p.m. on any regular business day of the city.

(4) The director, in the director’s discretion, may limit the presentation of evidence and cross-examination so as to prevent repetitive and cumulative evidence or examination.

(f) Not less than five days prior to the date of hearing, the director shall make known the directors findings based on the director’s investigation in writing to the applicant and other interested parties. The director has authority to refuse to issue any retail marijuana store license for good cause, subject to judicial review. For purposes of this subsection (f), the term “good cause” means:

(1) The applicant has violated, does not meet, or has failed to comply with any of the terms, conditions, or provisions of the Colorado Retail Marijuana Code or any rule and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, or this article V or any rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to this article;

(2) With respect to a second or additional retail marijuana store license proposed by the same applicant, the director shall consider the effect on competition of the granting or disapproving of additional licenses to such licensee, and no application for a second or additional license that would have the effect of restraining competition shall be approved.

(3) For applications to license any retail marijuana store in the same location where any medical marijuana center is or has previously been licensed, evidence that the licensed premises have been previously operated in a manner that adversely affects the public health, welfare, or safety of the immediate neighborhood in which the establishment is located.

(g) Before entering any decision approving or denying the application, the director shall consider, except where this article specifically provides otherwise, the facts and evidence adduced as a result of its investigation and the public hearing required by this section, and any other pertinent matters affecting the qualifications of the applicant for the conduct of business as a retail marijuana store.

(h) For new retail marijuana store licenses issued on and after January 1, 2016, in addition to the standards set forth in subsection (f) of this section, the director shall also consider:

(1) The reasonable requirements of the neighborhood and the desires of the adult inhabitants as evidenced by petitions, remonstrances, or otherwise;

(2) The number and availability of other retail marijuana stores in or near the neighborhood under consideration;

(3) Whether the issuance of such license would result in or add to an undue concentration of the same class of license and, as a result, require the use of additional law enforcement resources; and

(4) Whether the issuance of the license will adversely impact the health, welfare or public safety of the neighborhood in which the retail marijuana store of the neighborhood.

(i) Any decision of the director approving or denying an application shall be in writing stating the reasons therefor, within thirty days after the date of the public hearing, and a copy of such decision shall be sent by

certified mail to the applicant at the address shown in the application and to the state licensing authority.

**Sec. 6-613. - Licensing requirements—Retail marijuana products manufacturer.**

In addition to the requirements set forth in the Colorado Retail Marijuana Code and any rules or regulations adopted pursuant thereto, the following requirements shall apply to the issuance of any local license for medical marijuana-infused products manufacturing:

(a) *Compliance with zoning; grandfathering of existing locations.* A local license for a retail marijuana products manufacturer may be issued for any zone lot where "food preparation and sales" or "manufacturing, fabrication and assembly, general" is permitted by the Denver Zoning Code. Any zone lot where any person qualified as a "locally approved" medical marijuana-infused product manufacturer as of July 1, 2010, in accordance with subsection 24-411(c) of this code and the Colorado Medical Marijuana Code may also qualify for licensing under this section provided such manufacturing is considered a compliant or nonconforming use in that location under the zoning code.

(b) *Sanitation, product labeling, and public health standards.* Sanitary standards for retail marijuana products manufacturing shall be as provided by the Colorado Retail Marijuana Code and any other applicable state laws and regulations. Any and all retail marijuana products packaged by a licensed retail marijuana products manufacturer shall be labeled in accordance with state law.

(c) *Co-location of retail marijuana products manufacturing facility and medical marijuana-infused products business.* A retail marijuana products manufacturing facility in common ownership with a medical marijuana-infused products business may be licensed at the same location and may share the same licensed premises, to the extent allowed by the CRMC and regulations promulgated by the Colorado Marijuana Enforcement Division.

**Sec. 6-614. Licensing requirements—Retail marijuana cultivation facility**

In addition to the requirements set forth in the Colorado Retail Marijuana Code and any rules or regulations adopted pursuant thereto, the following



requirements shall apply to the issuance of any local license for a retail marijuana cultivation license:

(a) *Compliance with current zoning.*

(1) A local retail marijuana cultivation facility license may be issued in any zone district where, at the time of application for the license, plant husbandry is authorized as a permitted use under the zoning code.

(2) Notwithstanding the requirement set forth in paragraph (1) of this subsection (a), a retail marijuana cultivation license may be issued in a location where plant husbandry is not a permitted use but is already occurring as a compliant or nonconforming use under the zoning code, if and only if the applicant meets the following requirements:

a. A zoning permit for plant husbandry was applied for upon the same zone lot on or before July 1, 2010;

b. The applicant or any person from whom the applicant acquired a medical marijuana business previously applied for an optional premises cultivation license upon the same zone lot with the state medical marijuana licensing authority on or before August 1, 2010, in accordance with § 12-43.3-103(1)(b), C.R.S; and

c. The applicant or any person from whom the applicant acquired a medical marijuana business can produce to the satisfaction of the director documentary or other empirical evidence that the applicant had in fact commenced the cultivation of medical marijuana on the zone lot prior to January 1, 2011.

(3) Any retail marijuana cultivation license granted pursuant to subsection (a)(2) of this section upon a zone lot where plant husbandry is not a permitted use under the zoning code shall be subject to a public hearing prior to any renewal of the license. The director shall assign a hearing officer to conduct the public hearing. The hearing shall not be conducted until the director has posted or caused to be posted a notice of hearing on the licensed premises

for a period of ten (10) days, and provided notice to each of the following at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing: the licensee; the city council representative for the district in which the licensed premises is located; and any registered neighborhood association entitled to receive notice as provided in section 12-96. At the public hearing, the incumbent licensee and any other interested party shall be entitled to speak and present evidence supporting or opposing renewal of the license in the location where plant husbandry is not a permitted use. The hearing officer shall receive and give due consideration to any evidence or testimony submitted by the city council member representing the district in which the licensed premises are located, either in support or opposition to the renewal of the license. The retail marijuana cultivation license shall be eligible for renewal in its current compliant or nonconforming location unless it is shown by a preponderance of the evidence presented at the hearing that:

a. The existence of the retail marijuana cultivation facility on the licensed premises has frustrated the implementation of the city's comprehensive plan and any adopted neighborhood plan applicable to the subject property;

b. The existence of the retail marijuana cultivation facility on the licensed premises has negatively affected nearby properties or the neighborhood in general, including by way of example any adverse effects caused by excessive noise, odors, vehicular traffic, or any negative effects on nearby property values;

c. The existence of the retail marijuana cultivation facility has caused crime rates to increase in the surrounding neighborhood; or

d. The continued existence of a licensed retail marijuana cultivation facility in the subject location will have a deleterious impact on public health, safety and the general welfare of the neighborhood or the city.

*(b) Co-location of a retail marijuana cultivation facility and a medical marijuana optional premises cultivation business. A retail marijuana cultivation facility in*

common ownership with a medical marijuana optional premises cultivation business may be licensed at the same location and may share the same licensed premises, to the extent allowed by the CRMC and regulations promulgated by the Colorado Marijuana Enforcement Division.

**Sec. 6-615. Licensing Requirments--Retail marijuana testing facility.**

In addition to the requirements set forth in the Colorado Retail Marijuana Code and any rules or regulations adopted pursuant thereto, the following requirement shall apply to the issuance of any local license for a retail marijuana testing facility: a local retail marijuana testing facility license may be issued in any zone district where, at the time of application for the license, the land use denominated "laboratory, research, development, and technological services" is allowed by the zoning code.

**Sec. 6-616. Transfer of ownership.**

(a) *In general.* Transfer of ownership of any local license issued pursuant to this article V shall be governed by the standards and procedures set forth in the Colorado Retail Marijuana Code and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, and the director shall administer transfers of local licenses in the same manner as the state licensing authority administers transfers of state licenses.

(b) *Retail marijuana store licenses.* Any transfer of ownership of a retail marijuana store license shall not affect any exemption that the licensed premises may enjoy from the spacing or other location restrictions set forth in subsection 6-211 (c).

(c) *Retail marijuana products manufacturer license.* Any transfer of ownership of a retail marijuana products manufacturer license shall not affect the ability of the new owner to continue to operate under the transferred license in a compliant or nonconforming location as allowed by subsection 6-613 (a).

(d) *Retail marijuana cultivation licenses.* Any retail marijuana cultivation license issued pursuant to subsection 6-614 (a)(2) in a location where plant husbandry is not a permitted use under the zoning code shall not be transferable to a new owner in that location unless the applicant for the transfer proves to the satisfaction of the director that:

(1) The transfer of ownership is required due to extraordinary circumstances forcing the incumbent licensee to divest its interest in the

existing retail marijuana cultivation operation including, by way of example, death, divorce, bankruptcy, court order, or any *force majeure* that may prevent the incumbent licensee from continuing to operate in the subject location;

(2) The transfer of ownership is required due merely to corporate restructuring or any other change in the legal structure of the incumbent owner and licensee; or

(4) In circumstances where the retail marijuana cultivation license is located at the same location and under common ownership with an optional premises medical marijuana cultivation license, the transfer of ownership is required because a medical marijuana center or a medical marijuana-infused products manufacturing license with which the optional premises cultivation license is associated is being transferred to a new owner.

**Sec. 6-617. Change of location; modification of premises.**

Change of location of any license or any modification of the licensed premises shall be governed by the standards and procedures set forth in the Colorado Retail Marijuana Code and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, and the director shall administer applications to change location or modify premises in the same manner as the state licensing authority administers changes of location and modification of premises for state licenses. Any proposed modification and any new location to which an existing licensed business is transferred shall fully comply with the spacing requirements and the requirements for conformance with current zoning as set forth this article V.

**Sec. 6-618. Term of licenses; renewals.**

Any local license issued pursuant to this article V shall be valid for a period of one year from the date of issuance. Any renewal of the license shall be governed by the standards and procedures set forth in the Colorado Retail Marijuana Code and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, subject to any additional restrictions on renewal for certain classes of licenses in certain locations as provided in this article V.

**Sec. 6-619. - Disciplinary actions; sanctions; penalties.**

(a) Procedures for investigation of license violations and for suspension, revocation or other licensing sanctions as a result of any such violation shall be as provided in Chapter 32 of the code and any rules and regulations promulgated by the director.

(b) In lieu of the maximum fine for license violations set forth in section 32-30 (c), the director is hereby authorized to impose civil penalties for license violations to the same extent and according to the same standards as are utilized by the Colorado Marijuana Enforcement Division in imposing fines for state license violations under the Colorado Medical Marijuana Code and any and all applicable rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

**Section 3.** Amend subsection 24-503 (a), D.R.M.C. concerning the authority of certain pre-existing medical marijuana businesses to continue in operation pending final action on state and local licensing, by the addition of a new paragraph (3), to read as follows:

**Sec. 24-503. - Effective date; applicability.**

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection (a), if the owner of any pre-existing medical marijuana business has not obtained both a state and city license to lawfully continue in operation by July 1, 2014, the business shall cease operation immediately as of that date. On and after July 1, 2014 it shall be unlawful for any person to operate any business involving the cultivation, manufacture or sale of medical marijuana or medical marijuana-infused products without holding a current state and city license.

**Section 4.** Amend Article II of Chapter 32, D.R.M.C. concerning licensing fees by adding a new section 32-92 to read as follows:

**Sec. 32-93. Marijuana licensing.**

Application and license fees for retail marijuana stores, retail marijuana cultivation facilities, retail marijuana products manufacturers, and retail marijuana testing facilities are as follows:

(1) Annual operating fee, per year: \$5000 for all classes of licenses.

(2) Criminal background check fee, per person checked : Actual costs

(3) Transfer of ownership: \$100, plus cost of background check.

(4) Transfer of location: \$750

(5) Modification of premises: \$150

**Section 5.** Amend paragraph 21 of subsection (c) of section 37-50, D.R.M.C. by deleting the language stricken and adding the language underlined, to read as follows:

**Sec. 39-50. Definitions.**

(c) *Public Nuisance, Class one (1)*: Any parcel of real property, personal property, or motor vehicle on or in which any of the following illegal activity occurs, or which is used to commit, conduct, promote, facilitate, or aid the commission of or flight from any of the following activities. For purposes of this section, the illegal activity shall have the same definition as that contained in the section of the Colorado Revised Statute (C.R.S.), as amended, or the section of the Denver Revised Municipal Code (D.R.M.C.), as amended, listed after the illegal activity:

21. Keeping, maintaining, controlling, renting, or making available property for unlawful distribution or manufacture of controlled substances, ~~to~~ C.R.S. § 18-18-411; or the unlawful possession of materials to make amphetamine and methamphetamine, ~~to~~ C.R.S. § 18-18-412.5; or, the unlawful sale or distribution of materials to manufacture controlled substances, C.R.S. § 18-18-412.7; or possession of one or more chemicals or supplies or equipment with intent to manufacture a controlled substance, C.R.S. § 18-18-405; or the unlawful cultivation, manufacturing, sale, offer for sale, or distribution of medical marijuana without a license, Art. XII, Chapter 24, D.R.M.C.; the unlawful cultivation, manufacturing,

sale, offer for sale, or distribution of retail marijuana without a license, Art. V, Chapter 6, D.R.M.C., or

**Section 6.** Amend subsection 12-96 (b), Denver Revised Municipal Code concerning required notification to registered neighborhood organizations by adding the following language to the table appearing in subsection (b):

**Sec. 12-96. Notification.**

(b) The following agencies of the city shall be responsible for the following notification:

<u>Proposed Action</u>	<u>Responsible City Agency for Notification</u>
New application, and/or major modification to premises and/or transfer of retail marijuana store, retail marijuana cultivation facility, retail marijuana products manufacturer, or retail marijuana testing facility; or any action for which a public hearing is required by state or city retail marijuana licensing laws.	Excise and Licenses