



MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 28, 2023

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers
Dave Perrault, City Administrator

FROM: Julie Hanson, Assistant to the City Administrator/City Clerk

SUBJECT: Interim Ordinance 2023-010 Establishing a Moratorium related to Adult Use Cannabis Products

Budgeted Amount:	Actual Amount:	Funding Source:
N/A	N/A	N/A

Council Should Consider

Holding a public hearing regarding a proposed Interim Ordinance Prohibiting the Operation of Cannabis Businesses and Authorization to Publish Summary Ordinance.

Background/Discussion

Earlier this spring, the Minnesota State Legislature legalized adult-use cannabis. This law, effective August 1, 2023, permits the operation of cannabis businesses and the sale of cannabis products for consumption but provides little guidance on how cities are to regulate, leaving zoning and compliance to local control.

The law also created a new agency, the Office of Cannabis Management (OCM), that will license businesses regarding sales of cannabis products, but the OCB will not be operational until approximately January 1, 2025.

The City Council previously discussed this topic and directed staff to draft an interim ordinance that would establish a moratorium in effect until January 1, 2025, allowing the Council and staff adequate time to further study the matter, or until such time it is apparent the OCM has its department operational. Staff has worked with the City Attorney regarding ordinance language (Attachment A) as well as a summary ordinance (Attachment B).

It is important to note that this moratorium does not apply to the selling, testing, manufacturing, or distributing of products related to the Medical Cannabis Program as administered by the Minnesota Department of Health, provided that such activity is done in accordance with the regulations and laws of Minnesota regarding Medical Cannabis.

A Notice of Public Hearing was published in the August 18, 2023 Pioneer Press in conformance with State statute. No comments have been received to date.

Budget Impact

N/A

Attachments

N/A