

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-03

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING TITLE 13 (PLANNING, ZONING, AND DEVELOPMENT), CHAPTER IX (SPECIAL LAND USE REGULATIONS), ARTICLE 21 (LOCATION OF CANNABIS DISTRIBUTING, MANUFACTURING, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, TESTING LABORATOIES, RETAIL STOREFRONT AND RETAIL NONSTOREFRONT USES) OF THE COSTA MESA MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE COSTA MESA MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO CANNABIS STOREFRONTS

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA DOES HEREBY FIND AND DECLARE AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, in November 2020, the Costa Mesa voters approved Measure Q; which allows for storefront and non-storefront retail cannabis uses on commercially zoned properties meeting specific location requirements, and non-storefront retail cannabis uses on Industrial Park (MP) and Planned Development Industrial (PDI) zoned properties;

WHEREAS, Measure Q authorizes the City Council to adopt ordinances to regulate cannabis retail uses;

WHEREAS, on June 15, 2021, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 21-08 and No. 21-09 to amend Titles 9 and 13 of the Costa Mesa Municipal Code (CMMC) to establish regulations for cannabis retail uses;

WHEREAS, at the July 18, 2023 City Council meeting, a Councilmember requested that an item be agendaized to discuss the potential for exploring amendments to the City's cannabis ordinances in response to public input;

WHEREAS, on September 5, 2023, the City Council directed the Planning Commission to explore potential amendments to the City's cannabis retail storefront provisions specific to eight topics;

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission discussed potential amendments to the City's cannabis retail storefront provisions at the November 27, 2023, December 11, 2023, and January 22, 2024, Planning Commission meetings;

Now, therefore, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Title 13, of the Costa Mesa Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as specified in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. Compliance with CEQA. Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Section 15061(b)(3) (“General Rule”), as this action will not have any significant effect on the environment.

Section 3. Inconsistencies. Any provision of the Costa Mesa Municipal Code or appendices thereto inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance, to the extent of such inconsistencies and no further, is hereby repealed or modified to that extent necessary to affect the provisions of this Ordinance.

Section 4. Severability. If any chapter, article, section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance, or the application thereof to any person, is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this Ordinance or its application to other persons. The City Council hereby declares that it would have adopted this Ordinance and each chapter, article, section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase or portion thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more subsections, subdivisions, sentences, clauses, phrases, or portions of the application thereof to any person, be declared invalid or unconstitutional. No portion of this Ordinance shall supersede any local, State, or Federal law, regulation, or codes dealing with life safety factors.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after its final passage.

Section 6. Certification. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this Ordinance and shall cause the same to be published or posted in the manner required by law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ___ day of _____, 2024.

John Stephens, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Brenda Green, City Clerk

Kimberly Hall Barlow, City Attorney

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF ORANGE) ss
CITY OF COSTA MESA)

I, BRENDA GREEN, City Clerk of the City of Costa Mesa, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing Ordinance No. 2024-03 was duly introduced for first reading at a regular meeting of the City Council held on the ___ day of _____ 2024, and that thereafter, said Ordinance was duly passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council held on the ___ day of _____, 2024, by the following roll call vote, to wit:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereby set my hand and affixed the seal of the City of Costa Mesa this ___ day of _____, 2024.

Brenda Green, City Clerk