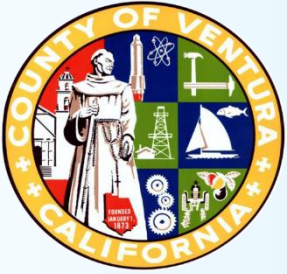




Community Meeting Medical Marijuana Regulations in the Ventura County Area

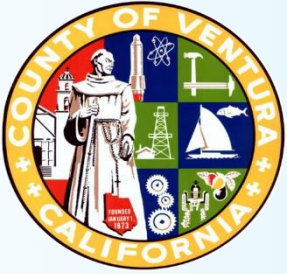
MAY, 2016



Tonight's Agenda

- Welcome
- Meeting Purpose
- Current County Regulations
- Current Industry
- Community Comments/Discussion

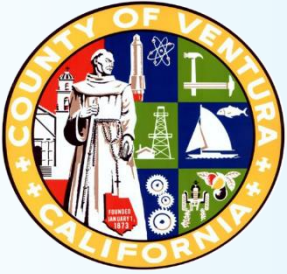
Medical Marijuana Regulations Community Meeting



Meeting Purpose

- Information Sharing
 - What is the County doing?
 - What does the community think?

Medical Marijuana Regulations Community Meeting



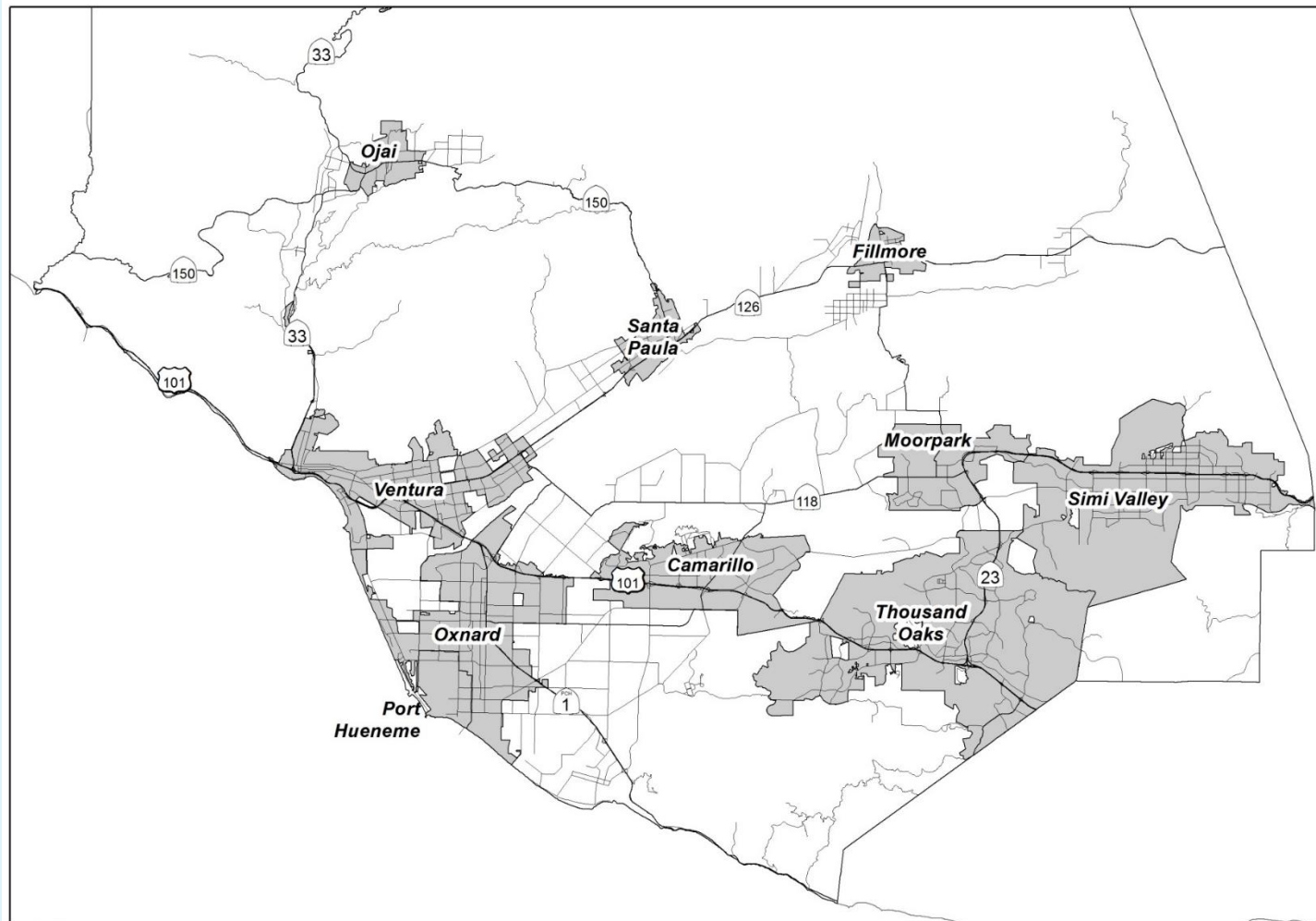
County Regulatory Programs

- Zoning and Land Use
- Issuance of ID Cards
- Law Enforcement

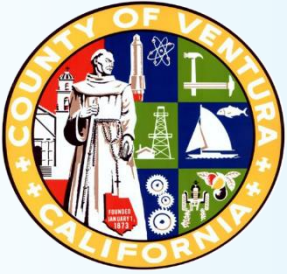
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Zoning & Land Use Regulations



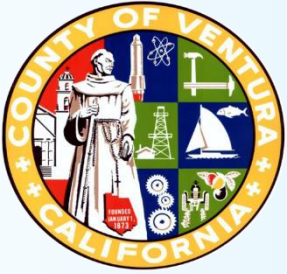
Medical Marijuana Regulations Community Meeting



Zoning & Land Use Regulations

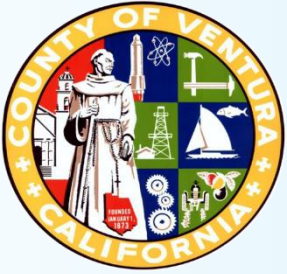
In January, the Board of Supervisors took the following actions:

1. Affirmed the County's prohibition of Commercial Cultivation, Dispensaries, and manufacturing of marijuana and marijuana products.



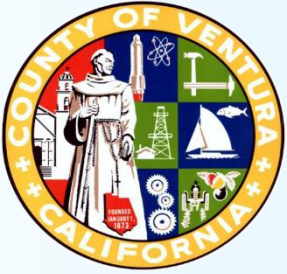
Zoning & Land Use Regulations

2. Expressly allowed personal cultivation of medical marijuana as described in the Medical Marijuana Regulation & Safety Act (MMRSA).



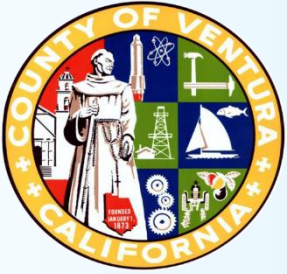
Zoning & Land Use Regulations

3. Did not regulate or restrict the delivery of medical marijuana as allowed under the Medical Marijuana Regulation & Safety Act (MMRSA).



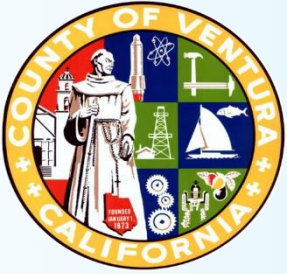
Zoning & Land Use Regulations

4. Directed staff to seek stakeholder and community input and return in December, 2016 with a report and recommended medical marijuana regulations.



Board-Established Objectives

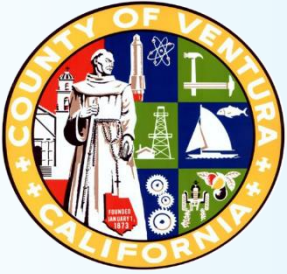
- Promoting public health and safety, and protecting quality of life for all residents.
- Ensuring safe and practical access by residents with a demonstrated medical need.



Board-Established Objectives

- Reducing the size of the illicit market for cultivation and retail sale.
- Preventing non-medical access and use by youth.
- Reducing environmental harm to water, habitat and wildlife.

Medical Marijuana Regulations Community Meeting



Board-Established Objectives

- Minimizing operational impacts to neighbors and the general community.
- Providing clear criteria for responsible businesses and patients who wish to operate within the law.

Medical Marijuana Identification Card Program

Ventura County Public Health Department acts as an agent of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to execute the local program responsibilities required under Proposition 215 (Compassionate Use Act of 1996) and SB 420 (2003).

- Prop. 215 provides protections to seriously ill persons who have a doctor's recommendation to use medical marijuana.
- SB 420 required CDPH to develop a statewide registry and online verification system and required each county to register local residents into the state's system.
- Participation by patients and primary caregivers is voluntary.

Medical Marijuana Identification Card Program

The state's web-based registry allows law enforcement and the public to verify the validity of a qualified patient or primary caregiver's identification card. This helps identify the cardholder as a person legally able to possess, grow, transport and/or use medical marijuana within California.

- Per Health and Safety Code Section 11362.77, a qualified patient or primary caregiver may possess no more than 8oz. of dried marijuana per qualified patient. In addition, a qualified patient or primary caregiver may also maintain no more than 6 mature or 12 immature marijuana plants.

Medical Marijuana Identification Card Program

Qualified patients must be diagnosed with a serious medical condition as defined by SB 420, such as:

- AIDS; anorexia; arthritis; cachexia (wasting syndrome); cancer; chronic pain; glaucoma; migraine; persistent muscle spasms (i.e., spasms associated with multiple sclerosis); seizures (i.e., epileptic seizures); severe nausea; any other chronic or persistent medical symptom as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Qualified patients may also apply for a caregiver, which is a person who is consistently responsible for the housing, health, or safety of a qualified patient.

- Caregiver and patient must apply in person to be photographed. Caregiver cards expire at the same time as the qualified patient.

Medical Marijuana Identification Card Program

Application Process: (Must apply in county of residence)

- Completed Application
- Doctor's Recommendation
- Proof of Identity (CDL or ID or other valid govt. issued photo ID)
- Proof of Residency (rent or mortgage, utility bill or DMV registration)
- Pay Application Fee: \$230 (\$115 for Medi-Cal beneficiaries)
- Have Photograph Taken

Once you submit your completed and signed application form with the required documents, VCPH will verify the information and complete the application, usually within 30 days.

Medical Marijuana Identification Card Program

Ventura County Public Health's responsibilities under the MMIC Program is limited to the following:

- Providing, receiving, and processing applications for MMIC.
- Obtaining an electronically transmissible photo of the applicant (patient and/or primary caregiver).
- Collecting application fees from applicants and transmitting the State portion to the CDPH.
- Utilizing the Web-based system to transmit a limited amount of application information (e.g., designation of patient or primary caregiver, his or her photo, county or its designee and phone number, card expiration date, etc.) to CDPH's card production and data repository system.
- Receiving state produced ID cards and issuing them to the cardholders.
- Maintaining various county records of the MMP.

VENTURA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Medical Marijuana Compliance



- Proposition 215 – Compassionate Use Act – 1996
- Senate Bill 420 – Medical Marijuana Program Act – 2004
- Attorney General Guidelines – 2008
- Assembly Bill 266 – Medical Marijuana Regulations – 2016



VCCA's mission is to bring Ventura County's medical cannabis patients, cultivators, and providers together to work with our elected officials and advocate for common-sense regulation over prohibition.

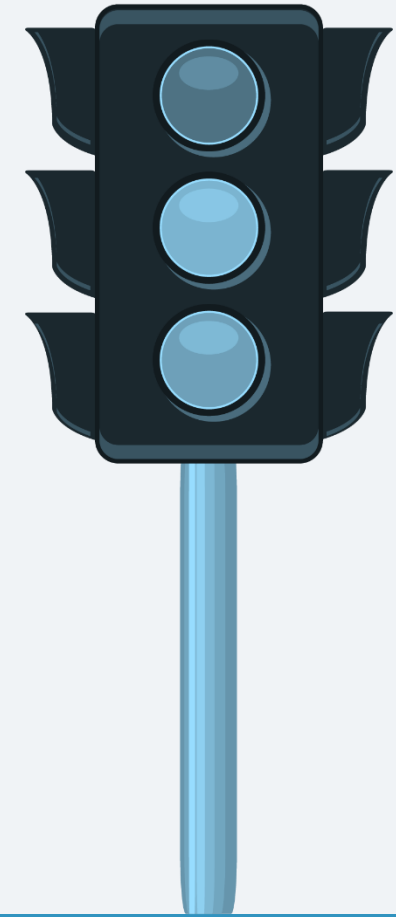
MARI SCOTT, PRESIDENT
CHELSEA SUTULA, INDUSTRY COMMITTEE CHAIR

TYPICAL CANNABIS PATIENT

- + Age 45+
- + Male
- + Caucasian
- + Targeting pain, sleep, anxiety issues
- + Increasingly looking for non-psychoactive strains/infused products
- + Consumes at bedtime



- + Reduces opioid addiction rates and overdoses
- + Safer facilities
- + Safer patients & providers
- + Job creation
- + Tax revenue
- + Keep cannabis away from un-authorized users
- + Preserve/improve safety in the community
- + Make it easier for law enforcement to do their jobs by making the law clear



GOOD REASONS TO REGULATE

HOW COMPLIANT OPERATORS WORK

- + Check IDs and verify doctor recommendations
- + Inspect and test medicine for potency, purity, pesticide
- + Conduct background checks on drivers
- + Collect and pay sales tax
- + Pay fair wages and provide training to employees
- + Stay up-to-date on latest advances in medical cannabis therapeutics
- + Emphasize sustainable cultivation practices
- + Track inventory and keep accurate records



DELIVERY SERVICE BEST PRACTICES

- + No outside advertising on main facility, unlisted address
- + DMV checks on drivers
- + Regular vehicle safety checks
- + Inventory kept in sealed, odor-proof packaging in a discreet outer bag, stored in trunk
- + Right to refuse a delivery if driver feels unsafe or if a patient is not compliant
- + Odor control where product is stored
- + Provide training to employees



- + Form an advisory board to address issues as they arise
- + Adopt a phased approach: permit delivery services and cultivation first; survey the community specifically around the need for storefront dispensaries, manufacturing, other license categories
- + Operating hours could be limited from 9 AM to 9 PM
- + All electrical work and upgrades must be performed with proper permitting
- + Commercial cultivation must not occur within 600 ft of a school
- + Delivery drivers and their vehicles could register for a special license at the local police department
- + Local taxes generated could fund our schools, our police force, youth activity programs, drug prevention programs...

Questions we are here to address:

- + Storefront dispensaries or non-storefront dispensaries (delivery services)? How many? Where should they be located? Open to county residents only or any CA resident with a valid recommendation?
- + Indoor cultivation? Outdoor? Big? Small? Many? A Few?

SOME RECOMMENDATIONS



Board-Established Objectives

- Promote public health and safety; protect the quality of life for all residents.
- Ensure safe and practical access by residents with a demonstrated medical need.
- Reduce the size of illicit cultivation and retail sale markets.
- Prevent non-medical access and use by youth.
- Reduce environmental harm to water, habitat and wildlife.
- Minimize impacts to neighbors and the general community.
- Provide clear criteria for responsible businesses and patients who wish to operate within the law.



Medical Marijuana Regulations

Written comments are welcome and
may be submitted at:

MMJcomments@ventura.org