

UNDERSTANDING THE PROPOSED LOS ANGELES COUNTY Commercial Cannabis Framework



A comprehensive approach to protect our communities, support social equity, and ensure safe and responsible cannabis operations in unincorporated Los Angeles County.

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This overview outlines the County's proposed regulatory framework for commercial cannabis, explaining its structure and how it addresses community concerns while creating a well-regulated, enforceable program.

THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK AT A GLANCE



1 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR)

Evaluates potential environmental impacts and identifies mitigation measures.

The EIR analyzes potential environmental effects of the commercial cannabis program and identifies needed mitigation measures to address impacts.



2 TITLE 22 (ZONING)

Determines where cannabis businesses may be considered.

Title 22 establishes where commercial cannabis businesses may potentially be considered to locate through zoning and land use compatibility requirements. It guarantees that cannabis businesses are allowed in suitable locations.



3 TITLE 8 (LICENSING)

Establishes how businesses are licensed, monitored, and held accountable.

Title 8 establishes who can operate, the number and types of licenses available, geographic distribution requirements, community protections, the County's enforcement authority, and authority for the Social Equity Program.



4 REGULATIONS

Provides detailed implementation requirements consistent with the policy direction established through the ordinances.

Regulations outline detailed operational standards and administrative procedures essential for managing the program. These include application procedures, Social Equity Program requirements, and various compliance procedures.



A COMPLETE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Title 22, Title 8, and the Regulations, together with the EIR, serve different purposes. Together, they create the County's complete regulatory framework, establishing where businesses may locate, how they are regulated, and how communities are protected.



COMMUNITY CONCERNS. COUNTY RESPONSE.

Our framework is built on community input and designed to balance community protections and responsible cannabis businesses.

The proposed framework was developed through years of outreach, stakeholder engagement, public meetings, workshops, environmental review, and policy discussions. Many of the policies and safeguards in this framework reflect input received from residents, community organizations, and stakeholders throughout the process.

COMMUNITY CONCERN	FRAMEWORK RESPONSE
 OVERCONCENTRATION Concern that too many cannabis businesses could locate in the same neighborhoods.	 MULTIPLE LAYERS OF PROTECTION Countywide license caps, Supervisorial District limits, additional Planning Area safeguards, buffer requirements, and storefront spacing regulations help prevent overconcentration.
 YOUTH EXPOSURE Concern about youth access to cannabis and exposure to businesses and advertising.	 STRONG YOUTH PROTECTIONS Reasonable buffers from schools, parks, libraries, and other youth-oriented uses; age verification; restrictions on advertising and marketing; and delivery restrictions.
 CRIME AND SECURITY Concern about crime, theft, and impacts on public safety.	 SECURITY REQUIREMENTS Licensed security personnel, security plans, surveillance cameras, lighting, and alarm systems improve operational security and protect surrounding communities.
 BAD OPERATORS Concern that some businesses may not follow the rules.	 STRONG ENFORCEMENT TOOLS Inspections and penalties ensure accountability by allowing the County to remove non-compliant businesses from the industry.
 NEIGHBORHOOD IMPACTS Concern about odors, noise, traffic, and other quality of life impacts.	 OPERATING STANDARDS & OVERSIGHT Operating requirements, security plans, and complaint processes ensure responsible business operations and address neighborhood impacts.
 LACK OF ACCOUNTABILITY Concern about having a voice and knowing who to contact.	 COMMUNITY LIAISON & TRANSPARENCY Each business must maintain a Community Liaison to respond to concerns and serve as a direct point of contact for the community.

MULTI-YEAR POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT



2018–2026

Multi-year policy development and engagement



Engaged thousands of community members, advocacy organizations, and industry stakeholders through numerous community meetings and workshops throughout the County.



Community input informed policy discussions on land use, safeguards, social equity, and implementation.

HOW OVERCONCENTRATION IS PREVENTED

Concerns about overconcentration were one of the most frequently raised issues during outreach. In response, the County has built multiple layers of safeguards to ensure cannabis businesses do not become concentrated in any one community.

MULTIPLE LAYERS OF PROTECTION



TOGETHER, THESE MEASURES HELP ACHIEVE A BALANCED AND EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF CANNABIS BUSINESSES ACROSS THE COUNTY.



ONGOING MONITORING

The County will monitor the distribution of cannabis businesses over time and may recommend adjustments if needed to maintain a well-regulated and balanced program.

BALANCING PROTECTION AND OPPORTUNITY

These complementary measures work together to provide access for qualified businesses while aiming to protect our communities.

COUNTYWIDE LICENSE CAPS (MAXIMUM LICENSES)

	Storefront Retail	25
	Delivery Retail	25
	Cultivation	10
	Manufacturing	10
	Distribution	10
	Testing	10

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT LIMITS (For Storefront & Delivery)

Each Supervisorial District is limited to:



5

Storefront Retail Licenses



5

Delivery Retail Licenses

PLANNING AREA SAFEGUARDS

RETAIL & DELIVERY BUSINESSES

(Storefront & Delivery-Only)

NO MORE THAN 3 businesses

within a Planning Area in each Supervisorial District segment.

NON-RETAIL BUSINESSES

(Cultivation, Manufacturing, Distribution, Testing)

NO MORE THAN 5 businesses

of each license type within a Planning Area.



ACCOUNTABILITY, COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT

The County's framework includes strong accountability measures and enforcement tools to ensure compliant operations and protect our communities.

OUR COMMITMENT

We are committed to fair and consistent enforcement that promotes public health and safety while supporting responsible, well-regulated cannabis businesses.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITY REQUIREMENTS



COMMUNITY LIAISON

Each licensed business must designate a Community Liaison to serve as a direct point of contact for the community.



INSPECTIONS

County and State officials conduct announced or unannounced inspections to verify compliance with all applicable laws, ordinances, and regulations.



SECURITY REQUIREMENTS

Businesses must maintain approved security plans, including, personnel, cameras, lighting, alarms, and other measures to ensure public safety.



RESPONSIVE TO CONCERNS

The County takes complaints seriously and will investigate concerns regarding compliance, operations, and community impacts.

IF A BUSINESS VIOLATES TITLE 8 REQUIREMENTS



NOTICE TO CORRECT

Minor violations may result in a Notice to Correct, requiring the business to fix the issue within a specified time.



ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES

Violations may result in monetary penalties based on severity and nature of the violation.



LICENSE SUSPENSION

The County may suspend a license and order a business to cease operations when violations pose an immediate threat to public health or safety.



LICENSE REVOCATION

The County may revoke a license for serious or repeated violations or failure to comply with applicable requirements.



LICENSED BUSINESS COMPLIANCE OVERSIGHT

The Office of Cannabis Management will oversee compliance with Title 8 through inspections, operational monitoring, and review of complaints.



UNLICENSED CANNABIS BUSINESSES

Unlicensed operations remain prohibited. Enforcement involves the Sheriff's Department and other enforcement agencies, including investigation, enforcement, and legal remedies, as applicable.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?



REGULATORY PROCESS & NEXT STEPS

The County has completed extensive outreach, environmental review, and draft ordinance development. The proposed commercial cannabis framework will continue through the public review and decision-making process.

A thoughtful, transparent process leads to a safe, equitable, and well-regulated cannabis program that protects our communities and supports opportunities for all.

THE ROAD AHEAD



OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT COMPLETED

Multiple rounds of community outreach and stakeholder engagement conducted over several years informed the development of the framework.



ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMPLETED

The Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been completed to evaluate potential environmental impacts and identify needed mitigation measures.



REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION CONSIDERATION

The proposed land use framework under Title 22 and EIR will be presented to the Regional Planning Commission for review and considerations.



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CONSIDERATION

The Board of Supervisors will hold public hearings and consider adoption of Title 22, EIR, and Title 8 licensing ordinance.



FRAMEWORK IMPLEMENTATION

Following Board action, the County will implement the adopted framework and preparation for the application period.



LICENSING PROCESS LAUNCH

The application period will open and licenses will be issued in accordance with the County's adopted ordinances and regulations.

ONGOING COMMITMENT



The County remains committed to transparency, accountability, and community partnership as we move forward. We will continue to monitor the program, respond to emerging issues, and make adjustments as needed to ensure the long-term success of a safe, equitable, and effective commercial cannabis program.

- ✓ Protecting Communities
- ✓ Promoting Equity
- ✓ Ensuring Accountability
- ✓ Supporting Responsible Business

STAY INFORMED & GET INVOLVED



VISIT OUR WEBSITE

Find the latest updates, ordinance documents, EIR materials, FAQs, and program information.



SUBSCRIBE FOR UPDATES

Sign up on our website to receive emails on program updates.



ATTEND PUBLIC HEARINGS

Opportunities will be provided to attend and provide comments during public hearings.



CONTACT US

We are here to answer your questions and provide information about the program.