Illinois Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act - Recreational Cannabis

VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST

SEPTEMBER 9, 2019

Meeting Overview

- Recreational Cannabis Legislation
- Recreational Cannabis in River Forest
- Public Comment
- Next Steps



Recreational Cannabis Legislation Overview

- Illinois Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act (CRTA): Effective 1/1/2020 adults age 21 and older may possess and consume recreational cannabis (with restrictions)
- Expands the health conditions that qualify for medical marijuana; allows limited home growth by qualifying individuals
- Establishes how cannabis will be taxed and guarantees that the Village will receive a portion of the revenue, but limits the use of the money to law enforcement activities

Public Act 101-0027 HB1438 Enrolled LRB101 04919 JRG 49928 b AN ACT concerning regulation.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly

> ARTICLE 1. SHORT TITLE; FINDINGS; DEFINITIONS

Section 1-1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act.

Section 1-5. Findings.

(a) In the interest of allowing law enforcement to focus on violent and property crimes, generating revenue for education, substance abuse prevention and treatment, freeing public resources to invest in communities and other public purposes, and individual freedom, the General Assembly finds and declares that the use of cannabis should be legal for persons 21 years of age or older and should be taxed in a manner similar to

(b) In the interest of the health and public safety of the residents of Illinois, the General Assembly further finds and declares that cannabis should be regulated in a manner similar to alcohol so that:

(1) persons will have to show proof of age before purchasing cannabis;

Recreational Cannabis Legislation Overview

- Establishes regulations regarding how much recreational cannabis an individual may possess, where they may have it, and where they may consume it
- Recreational cannabis may not be present or consumed on school grounds or other locations identified in the CRTA
- Recreational cannabis may not be consumed
 - In a motor vehicle
 - Knowingly in close proximity to anyone under 21 years of age
 - In any public place
 - In any place where smoking is already prohibited by the Smoke Free Illinois Act

Recreational Cannabis Legislation Overview

- The Village cannot ban adult-use possession or consumption of cannabis where allowed by the CRTA
- The CRTA defines and establishes baseline regulations regarding cannabis business establishments (CBEs) and provides a framework for CBEs to obtain state licenses
- It gives each community the Village the authority to prohibit or permit CBEs and establish certain local regulations related to CBEs

Recreational Cannabis in River Forest: Public Safety

- The RFPD can and will enforce the laws, including applicable Village Ordinances, regarding unlawful cannabis use and possession
- The RFPD will continue to be vigilant about identifying impaired drivers using existing and developing training and technology
- The RFPD will continue to partner with the business community to address safety concerns specific to each business
- The Village will continue to enforce a drug-free workplace

Recreational Cannabis in River Forest: Local Regulatory Authority

- The Village Board will decide whether to prohibit or permit recreational CBEs from locating in River Forest and establish local regulations by the end of the calendar year
- State regulations restricting CBEs to commercial zoning districts and requiring a minimum 1,500 distance between CBEs result in a small number of CBEs that may be located in River Forest (likely 1 or 2)
- If permitted, the Village may determine which recreational CBEs may be located in River Forest (cultivation center, craft grower, dispensary)
- The Village can also establish minimum distance requirements between recreational CBEs and "sensitive uses" such as schools

Recreational Cannabis in River Forest: Local Regulatory Authority

- If permitted, the Village may determine which commercial zoning districts will allow CBEs
 - North Avenue C1
 - Harlem Avenue & Madison Street C2
 - Lake Street (West of Lathrop) C3
 - Lake Street (East of Lathrop) ORIC



Recreational Cannabis in River Forest: Local Regulatory Authority

- If permitted, the Village may determine the process by which recreational or medical CBEs are allowed to locate in River Forest (e.g. Special Use permit which allows the Village to impose conditions of approval)
- Medical CBEs cannot be prohibited, but the State's current minimum distance requirements between medical CBEs and "sensitive uses" such as schools and daycares leave no sites in River Forest where an establishment can be located

Public Comment & Next Steps

- This meeting was scheduled so that the Board could accept public comment regarding the possibility of allowing CBEs in River Forest
- At its next regular meeting, the Village Board will discuss and be asked to direct the Zoning Board of Appeals to hold a public hearing to consider possible text amendments to the Zoning Ordinance regarding CBEs
- At its September 23rd meeting, the Village Board has the ability to adopt an Ordinance imposing a 3% tax on recreational cannabis sales