

CANNABIS BUSINESS SURVEY/QUESTIONNAIRE

BACKGROUND: In November 2020 voters in New Jersey approved a constitutional question that, along with related provisions, will potentially facilitate the commercial cultivation, processing, testing, distribution and retail sale of recreational cannabis and cannabis-related products throughout the State to adults over the age of 21. Currently the New Jersey State Legislature is overseeing the adoption of rules that will govern these activities and has formed the Cannabis Regulatory Commission (CRC) charged with regulating all cannabis-related business activities within the State.

In order for an Applicant to procure a license from the CRC to participate in cannabis-related business activities, any application filed through the CRC must also be reviewed by the host municipality to assure compliance with ALL local requirements. These requirements may, at a minimum, involve required buffers or minimum distances to schools, parks and recreation sites, compliance with municipal ordinances that govern the location, number, type and size of cannabis-related businesses permitted; permitted hours of operation and the establishment of civil penalties for violations of adopted ordinances designed to regulate local activities.

POTENTIAL REVENUE IMPACTS: From a municipal revenue perspective, in addition to the current 6.625% New Jersey State sales tax, host municipalities may also charge licensing fees and impose up to a 2% municipal tax on all revenues associated with the processing/manufacture and retail sales of cannabis-related products within the community, payable directly to the municipality.

SUMMARY: In an effort to determine resident attitudes on this issue, City Council has endorsed this survey/questionnaire and is requesting your input. Recently Council readopted an ordinance (# 8 of 2021) prohibiting completely any type of cannabis-related business activities in order to retain local control of any future cannabis business activities within the City, however, this approach can be modified in the future to allow one or more types of cannabis-related businesses.

As a densely developed community, realistic opportunities for the cultivation of cannabis on a commercial scale do not appear to exist within the City of Somers Point. Manufacturing, Wholesaling and Distribution Services would normally be permitted within a community's zoned industrial and/or business park districts, which is also limited within Somers Point, however, smaller scale operations could potentially locate within the City, if conditionally permitted. Delivery services will be permitted throughout the State.

Retail Sales of cannabis and cannabis-related products have the highest potential for locating within the City. These facilities could take several forms from a small "boutique" shop to a larger commercial facility depending on the zoning and land development requirements put in place by the City to control such uses, including where they could be located, size, hours of operation, etc.

**TO SUMBIT YOUR REPSONE FOR THE CANNABIS SURVEY PLEASE FILL OUT THE
GOOGLE FORM LINKED BELOW:**

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeGtVRoUgjuXjkdmDKb8zGF-8GbpnkGjrLooSPH38z8vHKsvg/viewform?usp=sf_link

IF YOU HAVE ALREADY SUBMITTED A PAPER RESPONSE VIA EMAIL YOU DO NOT HAVE TO FILL OUT THE GOOGLE FORM. ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE EMAIL EDAC@visitsomerspoint.com