



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

AGENDA DATE: October 27, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: Conduct a Public Hearing to consider the adoption of an Ordinance amending and updating sections of Chapter 30 Land Development Regulations and Chapter 14 Businesses.

PREPARED BY: Will Richter, Zoning Administrator

BACKGROUND:

Last October, City Council amended the City Code to regulate cannabis businesses. Chapter 14 specifies retail licensed cannabis businesses shall be located in Central Business District, General Business, or Shoreland General Business zoning districts. The Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) is beginning to grant licenses for production cannabis businesses - subject to city zoning approval - making now the time to consider zoning requirements for those businesses. State law does not restrict local government zoning designations for cannabis businesses, except that a municipality may not prohibit the establishment or operation of a licensed cannabis business.

Considerations for licensed cannabis production zoning include the large amount of space required, high water and energy usage, and need for transportation to and from the facility. Another key consideration is OCM security requirements. These business attributes support zoning cannabis production and related activities within Industrial zoning districts. This is consistent with Office of Cannabis Management guidance and how other municipalities are zoning cannabis production related activities.

The Planning Commission has forwarded the following recommendation(s):

1. Amend 30-421 Definitions to include: Production licensed cannabis, means businesses licensed by the Office of Cannabis (OCM) for cultivation, processing / extraction, manufacturing, and wholesale activities.
2. Amend 30-512 Table 1 Permitted Uses to include production licensed cannabis as a permitted use in I-1, SI-1, I-2, and SI-2 zones.
3. Amend 14-187(a) to include: Production licensed cannabis businesses shall be located in Industrial Business Park, Shoreland Industrial Business Park, General Industrial Park, or Shoreland General Industrial Park zoning districts as defined in the City of Grand Rapids Zoning ordinance.

Both the Chapter 30 and Chapter 14 amendments were discussed at the October 2nd Planning Commission meeting and action taken to forward them with Planning Commission recommendation to the City Council for consideration as text amendments to the City Code.

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Conduct a Public Hearing to consider amending and updating sections of Chapter 30 Land Development Regulations and Chapter 14 Businesses.