



Memorandum

To: Mayor Nelson and Members of the City Council
From: Daniel R. Buchholtz, MMC, Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer
Date: August 31, 2022
Subject: Hemp-derived THC edibles

On July 1, 2022 a new Minnesota law took effect that allows people 21 and over to purchase and consume food and beverages with no more than 5mg of hemp-derived THC per serving and no more than 50mg per package.

The City has authority to be more restrictive than state law, but not less restrictive. Some cities have implemented a moratorium on the sale of edibles to allow time to study the issue. Other cities are working on a licensing ordinance. The City of Golden Valley just adopted a licensing ordinance that allows THC edibles to be sold in a variety of venues or on its own. City staff is recommending a more limited licensing ordinance.

The proposed licensing ordinance limits the sale of edible cannabinoid products to exclusive tobacco stores. If the City Council wishes to expand eligible businesses, we can do so at the present time or at a future time through an ordinance amendment.

Staff sent a letter to existing tobacco licensees to receive comment and feedback on the proposed ordinance. Staff also posted the ordinance on its website, pursuant to M.S. 415.19, and posted a link to the ordinance on its Facebook page. Through these outreach efforts, the City has not received any feedback on the proposed ordinance.

The City Council can take the following actions:

1. Adopt the proposed edible cannabinoid ordinance as presented.
2. Table the ordinance and amend it for future consideration
3. Reject the ordinance and establish a moratorium to further study the issue

If you have any questions on the proposed ordinance, please don't hesitate to contact me at 763-784-6491.