

The Skinny – Los Angeles Commercial Cannabis Activity Regulations¹

I. Location Restrictions (Land Use) – CF 14-0366-S4

A. On-Site (Storefront) Retail Sales:

1. Allowed only in Commercial (including CM-Manufacturing), Industrial and certain (non-Palisades) Specific Plan (SP) zones – location in the Palisades is unlikely (see below).
2. Prohibited within a 700 ft. radius of certain specified sensitive uses (“buffer zone”) – as measured in a straight line from the closest property line of the sensitive use to the closest external wall of the retail business (same buffer zone applies between external walls of cannabis businesses with on-site retail sales).²
3. Sensitive uses: Public parks (including the beach), public libraries, schools (grades K-12, public or private), licensed day care centers (including preschools), alcohol and drug abuse recovery or treatment facilities, permanent supportive housing.

B. Off-Site Delivery Only (Non-Storefront/No On-Site Retail Sales):

1. Allowed only in Commercial (including CM-Manufacturing), Industrial and certain (non-Palisades) SP zones – location in the Palisades may be unlikely or infeasible.³
2. Prohibited within a 600 ft. radius of schools only.

C. Other Commercial Activities (Indoor Cultivation, Testing, Manufacturing, Distributor, Microbusiness (combined activities)): Allowed only in Industrial, CM-Manufacturing (Testing only) and certain other SP zones (some buffers apply) – thus disallowed in Pacific Palisades.

D. Disallowed Commercial Activities: Outdoor cultivation disallowed everywhere; all activities entirely disallowed in three specified zones (LAX, Alameda, Port of LA) and in any “zone or area” not identified in the ordinance (*e.g.*, Residential). (*Note:* the ordinance governs all areas zoned Commercial in the Palisades SP boundaries; our SP does not disallow or address cannabis activities: <http://pacpalicc.org/index.php/about/community-specific-plans/>; see SP Secs. 3, 6).

II. Licensing/Operating Regulations – CF 14-0366-S5

A. Numerous regulations adopted: These include application requirements, business appearance, security, inspections, operating procedures for on-site retail, delivery and other activities, and a “social equity” component (*i.e.*, all aspects of commercial cannabis activity).

B. Core licensing/operating regulations (as of 11/28/17): Summarized in the following article: <https://www.natlawreview.com/article/city-los-angeles-approves-cannabis-ordinances> *Please consult the Council File linked in FN1 below for changes since publication.*

Chris Spitz, PPCC Chair/President Emeritus, 12/7/17

¹ This summary highlights certain provisions of the new ordinances that may be most relevant to the Palisades community; those interested should review the relevant Council Files and ordinances for complete information: <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=14-0366-S4>; <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=14-0366-S5>. (*Note:* The City Council is expected to consider various amendments and/or additional regulations in early 2018.)

² There are no Industrial or (the author believes) CM-Manufacturing zones in Pacific Palisades; pending actual measurements, the required buffer zone and close proximity of all commercial areas to sensitive uses make location of on-site cannabis retail sales unlikely in most if not all areas of Pacific Palisades (map recently submitted by the Planning Dept. shows only two potential retail sales locations in the Palisades, both within the Village Project area – which Caruso has publicly stated will not include cannabis businesses).

³ Given that delivery-only businesses require sufficient space for inventory and parking for delivery vehicles, most are expected to locate in Industrial or CM-Manufacturing zones; it is unknown whether, as a practical matter, location in any Palisades commercial areas would be feasible. (*Note:* Licensed delivery-only businesses physically based in other LA areas will be allowed to make in-person deliveries to any “physical address” within the Palisades, but not to addresses on publicly-owned or leased land/property; other delivery regulations apply.)