



# MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

## Assembly Memorandum

No. AM 344 - 2019

Meeting Date: May 7, 2019

1 **From:** MAYOR

2  
3 **Subject:** AN ORDINANCE OF THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY AMENDING  
4 ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 21, SECTIONS  
5 21.03.020C., 21.03.105, 21.05.055, AND 21.07.090E., AND  
6 AMENDING "OLD CODE" SECTIONS 21.15.030 AND 21.50.420,  
7 TO ESTABLISH LAND USE REGULATIONS FOR ON-SITE  
8 CONSUMPTION OF MARIJUANA ENDORSEMENTS  
9 ASSOCIATED WITH A MARIJUANA RETAIL SALES  
10 ESTABLISHMENT; AND WAIVING REVIEW OF THESE  
11 AMENDMENTS BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION.  
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14 This ordinance will establish land use regulations for on-site marijuana  
15 consumption endorsements associated with a marijuana retail sales  
16 establishment's special land use permit. A team of personnel from the Planning  
17 Department, Municipal Clerk's Office, Office of Economic and Community  
18 Development, Department of Law, and Assembly Counsel's Office worked  
19 collaboratively to produce this ordinance, including revisions after presenting it to  
20 the Assembly's Community and Economic Development Committee at three  
21 separate meetings. This ordinance is proposed in conjunction with another  
22 proposed ordinance amending the Municipality's licensing of marijuana  
23 establishments provisions in Chapter 10.80 of the Anchorage Municipal Code.  
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25 The following amendments to Title 21 of the Anchorage Municipal Code are  
26 proposed:  
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- 28 • Establishment of public involvement standards by requiring an applicant to  
29 hold a community meeting prior to submitting an application, and also  
30 establishes public hearing notice requirements for on-site marijuana  
31 consumption endorsements.  
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- 33 • Clarification on the application submittal requirements for an on-site  
34 marijuana consumption endorsement.  
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- 36 • Establishment of the decision-making body for modifications which involve  
37 the creation or modification of an on-site marijuana consumption area within  
38 a marijuana retail sales establishment. The Assembly decides  
39 modifications that create new on-site consumption areas or major

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modifications to them, the Planning Director decides minor modifications.

- Outline of due process should an endorsement be suspended or revoked.
- Clarification that marijuana consumption is prohibited within a marijuana manufacturing facility, cultivation facility, and testing facility.
- Establishment of use-specific standards for marijuana consumption areas to minimize adverse impacts to adjoining properties.
- Establishment of an off-street parking requirement for marijuana consumption areas that is identical to coffee shops, restaurants, and bars.
- Establishment of compatible and/or identical language within “old” code to regulate on-site marijuana consumption areas within the downtown districts.

Any work will be absorbed by current staffing and resources, and there are no costs by only amending the Code. Therefore, a summary of economic effects is not included.

**THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.**

Prepared by: Ryan Yelle, Senior Planner, Planning Department  
Approved by: Michelle McNulty, Director, Planning Department  
Concur: Christopher M. Schutte, Director  
Office of Economic and Community Development  
Concur: Deitra L. Ennis, Acting Municipal Attorney  
Concur: William D. Falsey, Municipal Manager  
Respectfully submitted: Ethan A. Berkowitz, Mayor