



THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

MAYOR DOMENIC J. SARNO

HOME OF THE BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

PRESS RELEASE



CONTACT

Jim Leydon
Communications Director
Office of Mayor Domenic J. Sarno
JLeydon@springfieldcityhall.com
Tel: (413) 886-5166

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD ADVANCES PROCESS TO PLAN FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION MEDICAL MARIJUANA LAW AND REGULATIONS

December 19, 2013 -Springfield, MA- The beginning of the Phase II process to plan for the implementation in the City of Springfield of the State Medical Marijuana Law and Department of Public Health Regulations has begun.

Baystate Compassion Center, Inc. was the only applicant who qualified in Phase I and the City is inviting this applicant to participate in the City's Phase II process. A copy of the Phase I submission by Baystate Compassion Center, Inc. is posted on the City's website, along with the Phase II RFQ/P. The City plans to meet with Baystate Compassion Center, Inc. in the near future to address any questions they may have about the process, and discuss the Phase II RFQ/P requirements and timeline.

Mayor Sarno stated that: "The City's intent in carrying out this process is to implement, at the local regulatory level, a careful balance of promoting compassionate, appropriate access for patients with needs, while mitigating security and community impacts. The City's Internal Review Committee has developed this process to assure a fair, comprehensive, and open planning process".

A public presentation of the proposal to open a dispensary will be held during the planning process and the public will be invited to ask questions of the proposer and offer input.. It is anticipated that the planning process will conclude by the end of March and will result in the adoption of new zoning provisions. A proposed zoning amendment is posted online, and included in the RFQ/P. Under the proposed zoning amendment, dispensaries would be limited to areas zoned for industrial uses, and would have a radius restriction of 500 feet from uses such as schools or residences.

To view these documents please visit: <http://www3.springfield-ma.gov/law/med-marijuana.html>

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