CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU
MARIJUANA COMMITTEE

CBJ Marijuana Committee

There is created within the City and Borough of Juneau a seven-member Marijuana Committee. The committee is composed of at least four Assembly members appointed by the Mayor and three Planning Commissioners appointed by the Planning Commission Chair to serve for a one year period, unless extended by the Mayor. The membership consists of Deputy Mayor Mary Becker, Assemblymembers Jesse Kiehl, Debbie White, and Maria Gladziszewski and Planning Commissioners Mike Satre, Bill Peters and Gordon Jackson.

Background

On November 4, 2014, Alaskan voters approved a citizens’ initiative ballot measure related to the legalization of marijuana: An Act to Tax and Regulate the Production, Sale, and Use of Marijuana. [Hereafter referred to as Ballot Measure 2.] The initiative, under AS 17.38, goes into effect on February 24, 2015 and allows the State nine months to enact regulations concerning the registration and oversight of marijuana establishments, defined by the initiative as marijuana cultivation, testing and product manufacturing facilities and marijuana retail stores. The initiative requires the State to begin accepting and processing applications for the registration of marijuana establishments within one year of the effective date of the act. The initiative authorizes local governments to enact legislation concerning the time, place and manner related to the operation of registered marijuana establishments (for example, hours of operation, allowable locations, and limitations on the number of establishments allowed within the municipality.)

On January 12, 2015, the Assembly adopted Ordinance 2014-50 An Ordinance Imposing a Limited Moratorium on the Receipt or Processing of Applications, Permits, or Pending Approvals Pertaining to Marijuana Establishments. The purpose of the moratorium was to allow CBJ time to consider and enact legislation that did not conflict with state laws or regulations concerning the operation of local marijuana establishments. The moratorium is set to expire October 19, 2015.

At the January 14, 2015 Assembly Retreat, the Assembly created this special committee made up of four Assembly members and three Planning Commissioners to review and make recommendations to the Assembly on all issues pertaining to the ballot measure and its implementation at the local level.
Purpose

The purpose of the task force in particular is:

- To monitor the progress of any state, federal or municipal legislative and/or regulatory action pertaining to Ballot Measure 2;
- To review the current CBJ code and plans and identify those sections of the codes that may be affected by Ballot Measure 2; and
- Report and make recommendations to the Assembly related to the implementation of Ballot Measure 2 at the local municipal level including, but not limited to, recommendations pertaining to possible CBJ code, zoning maps, and regulation changes.

Meetings, Officers, Records, Quorum, and Staff Support

The committee shall determine its meeting schedule according to its workload and at the call of the chair. All meetings shall be open to the public and advertised through the Municipal Clerk’s office.

At its first meeting, the committee shall appoint a Chair and Vice-Chair from among its members.

The committee shall follow the procedures used by the Assembly for transaction of its business, as interpreted by the City Attorney as necessary. The committee shall keep a record of its meetings, transactions, findings, determinations, and written public comments received, which shall be filed with the Municipal Clerk and be open to public inspection at reasonable times.

A majority of the committee members shall constitute a quorum for the transactions of business.

The City Manager and City Attorney will provide staff support and assistance to the task force as appropriate.

Dated: February 9, 2015

Merrill Sanford  
Mayor