Cannabis Production Study: Proposed Zoning By-law Amendment (PL-06-21)

Community Planning, Regulation and Mobility Committee – Public Meeting November 16, 2021



Project Timeline

Nov 2019

June 2018
Federal Cannabis
Act came into

effect

Staff direction to proceed with Stage 2 of Cannabis Production Study

May 2021
Cannabis
Production
Study resumed

Proposed draft Zoning By-law Amendment posted

October 2021

Final draft Zoning By-law Amendment to Council for decision

Q1 2022



















Dec 2018

Staff direction to undertake Cannabis Production Study May 2020

Cannabis Production Study paused May - July 2021

Provincial consultation on draft Land Use Compatibility Guideline Nov 2021

Statutory
Public Meeting
on proposed
draft Zoning
By-law
Amendment



Overview of Stage 2 Work Plan

Further study to develop and refine the preliminary recommendations, including formal internal and external engagement, to be summarized in a final recommendation report to Council containing:

- a set of cannabis production guidelines that address odour and light nuisance;
- an amendment to the Official Plan to enable the guidelines;
- an amendment to the Zoning By-law to incorporate updated language for cannabis; and
- an amendment to the Site Plan Control By-law to address cannabis production facilities.



Process and Options Considered

To determine the applicable provincial policy framework for cannabis production facilities, staff engaged with three key ministries:

- the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing;
- the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs; and
- the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (specifically, the Niagara Escarpment Commission).

Staff also engaged with Health Canada regarding the federal policy framework.



Community Priorities

1) JobOpportunities2) EconomicDevelopment	Addressed by leveraging the existing regulatory framework, and by avoiding the introduction of redundant or indefensible policies
3) Security	Addressed by the requirements of the Cannabis Act
4) Odour Nuisance	 Addressed by the requirements of the: Cannabis Act D-6 Guideline: Compatibility between Industrial Facilities
5) Lighting Nuisance	Farming and Food Production Protection Act



Proposed Zoning By-law Amendment

- remove the existing policies related to "Medical Marihuana Production Facilities"
- recognize Cannabis Production Facilities as either an industrial or agricultural use, depending on the context of the site
- replace the existing permissions for Medical Marihuana Production Facilities within the GE1 and GE2 Employment Zones (General Employment) with permissions for Cannabis Production Facilities
- add new permissions for Cannabis Production Facilities as an industrial use for the BC1 and BC2 Employment Zones (Business Corridor)

Next Steps

- Review all feedback provided by the public and members of Council
- Revise/refine the proposed draft recommendations, as required
- Bring final draft recommendations to Council for decision in Q1 of 2022