

Request for Decision



To: Regular Meeting
From: **Development, Engineering & Planning**
Date: January 28, 2019
Subject: First and Second Reading –Amendments to the Zoning Bylaw with respect to cannabis retail stores, accessible parking spaces and other minor changes (File: ZA1901)
Recommendation: **THAT Council gives first and second reading to Zoning Bylaw Amendment No. 2039-A3, 2019.**

Background

Overview

At the regular meeting on January 14, 2019, Council passed a resolution directing staff to bring forward a zoning bylaw amendment to eliminate the 100 metre separation distance between cannabis retail stores in the City and to eliminate the requirement for signs and the front face on these stores to be at least 50 metres from a controlled highway (i.e., Highway No. 3).

Bylaw No. 2039-A3 (attached) addressed these two regulations as well as several other minor “housekeeping” issues intended to clarify the intent of the zoning bylaw and update certain regulations as summarized in Table 1 below.

Section Reference	Amendment	Intent
58.3 Cannabis Retail Overlay (CRO)	To delete the 100 metre separation distance required between cannabis retail stores in the City.	To streamline the provincial licencing and municipal approval process and to create market access equity among cannabis retail store applicants. Eliminates municipal involvement in market competition in this retail sector.
58.4 Cannabis Retail Overlay (CRO)	To delete the requirement for building facades and signage to be set back 50 metres from Highway No. 3.	To permit more equitable access to the cannabis retail market among stores in the city.
26.6 Offstreet Parking	To require 2% of parking spaces for non-residential uses to be accessible, with a minimum of one space per site. To require the size of these spaces to	To ensure that suitably sized accessible parking stalls are provided for non-residential land uses in the City. The British Columbia Building Code 2018 no longer regulates accessible parking so it now the responsibility of the City. This

Section Reference	Amendment	Intent
	be at least 2.8 metres wide with an additional 1.2 metres on both sides of the stall to allow wheelchair access.	amendment brings in regulations for the number and size of accessible parking spaces required for non-residential land uses. The new regulation is based on standards recommended by the <i>Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure</i> and the <i>Institute of Transportation Engineer's</i> publication entitled "Guidelines for Parking Facility Location and Design".
Sections 36.4 (R-1 zone), 39.5 (R-2 zone) and 40.7 (R-3 zone)	Clarify the types of dwelling units permitted in certain residential zones.	To eliminate ambiguity with respect to the interpretation of these sections.
Various sections; NC, I-1, I-2, I-3, I-4, LF, R-4 and R-4A	Add "animal hospitals" as a permitted use in commercial, industrial and rural residential zones.	To allow animal hospitals to locate in areas other than in the downtown or highway commercial areas.
Section 47 HC Highway Commercial Zone and Section 50 I-1 Light Industrial Zone	Add "professional services" as a permitted use in the HC and I-1 zones.	To allow additional flexibility as to where professional offices (i.e., doctors, lawyers) can locate in the City.

Timing

If the zoning amendment receives first and second reading, the next steps and estimated time frame are outlined below:

Activity	Timing
First and second reading of the zoning bylaw amendment.	January 28, 2019
Public Hearing advertised for two consecutive weeks.	January 30 & February 6 th , 2019
Public Hearing held by City Council.	February 11, 2019
Third and final reading of the zoning bylaw amendment.	February 11, 2019 (subject to results of Public Hearing)
Implementation.	February, 2019

Benefits or Impacts

General

The amendments to the cannabis separation/setback distances will create more equitable access to the market for potential retailers and streamline the provincial/municipal licencing process without compromising other siting regulations related to neighbourhood impacts, safety, etc.

The text amendments will eliminate some regulation ambiguities and allow more flexibility for animal hospitals and professional services to locate in the City.

Strategic Impact



Community Engagement

- A statutory Public Hearing will be held to encourage and receive feedback from the community on the zoning amendment proposals.



Community Livability

- Adding best practices for accessible parking into the zoning bylaw will improve community livability for community members with accessibility challenges.



Economic Growth

- The process for applying for a cannabis retail store licence will be more transparent allowing applicants to make more informed decisions as to where they may propose to establish a store.
- Requiring accessible parking will make it easier for those with mobility challenges to fully participate in the local economy.



Fiscal Responsibility

- The text amendments will provide clarification to the zoning bylaw and reduces staff time associated with interpreting and clarifying the intent of the bylaw.

Policy/Legislation

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, Zoning Bylaw, Official Community Plan, Local Government Act, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure Policy No. 5.2.4 and “Guidelines for Parking Facility Location and Design” (Institute of Transportation Engineers).

Attachments

Zoning Bylaw Amendment No. 2039-A3, 2019

Recommendation

THAT Council gives first and second reading to Zoning Bylaw Amendment No. 2039-A3, 2019.

Options

1. THAT Council accepts the report and gives first and second reading to the bylaw.
2. THAT Council does not accept the report.
3. THAT Council refers the bylaw back to staff for further information.