



**THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION**

Prince George's County Planning Department  
Office of the Planning Director

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June 9, 2021

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** The Prince George's County Planning Board

**VIA:** Andree Green Checkley, Planning Director, Planning Department  
Derick Berlage, Acting Deputy Planning Director, Planning Department **DB**

**FROM:** Rana Hightower, Intergovernmental Affairs Coordinator <sup>REH</sup>

**SUBJECT:** **CB-41-2021**

**Purpose:** A bill to amend the additional requirements related to Medical Cannabis uses in the Mixed Use - Infill (M-U-I), Mixed Use -Transportation Oriented (M-X-T) Commercial Office (C-O), and Commercial Shopping Center (C-S-C) Zones.

**Policy Analysis:** The bill amends the Additional Requirements for Specific Special Exceptions for a "Medical Cannabis Dispensary" in the Mixed-Use Infill (M-U-I), Mixed Use Transportation-Oriented (M-X-T) Zones to no longer require a dispensary to be located within one-half mile of a Metrorail line station or 500 feet from a medical facility. The bill also revises existing language to require a dispensary to be at least 500 feet from any recreation, center, playground, or trail owned by The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). The change no longer requires the use to be 500 feet from any land owned by M-NCPPC.

In addition, the bill amends the Additional Requirements for Specific Uses for the "Medical Cannabis Dispensary" use in the Commercial Office (C-O) and Commercial Shopping Center (C-S-C) Zones to no longer require a medical dispensary to be 500 feet from a medical facility.

Medical cannabis uses are heavily regulated and not likely to pose any more risk than other uses. Staff supports the removal of the proposed locational barriers to permitting the use.

**Impacted Property:** This legislation will impact all future medical cannabis dispensaries in the M-U-I, M-X-T, C-O and C-S-C Zones.

**Adopted Zoning Ordinance:** The adopted Zoning Ordinance does not carry over the M-U-I and M-X-T Zones. The C-O and C-S-C Zones are renamed the Commercial General and Office (CGO) Zone. The Medical Cannabis use requires Special Exception approval in the CGO Zone. Should the Council enact CB-41-2021, staff recommends incorporating the revisions into the legislative reconciliation package for CB-13-2018.

**Recommendation:** Support.

Staff recommends the Planning Board vote to support CB-41-20201.