

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
OF THE CITY OF SONORA CITY COUNCIL**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SONORA TO AMEND
CHAPTER 8.35, PERSONAL CANNABIS CULTIVATION REGULATION, OF THE
SONORA MUNICIPAL CODE, RELATING TO PERSONAL CANNABIS
CULTIVATION**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SONORA TO AMEND
CHAPTER 8.36, CANNABIS BUSINESS REGULATION, OF THE SONORA
MUNICIPAL CODE, RELATING TO CANNABIS BUSINESSES**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that public hearings will be held by the City Council of the City of Sonora (“City”) on Monday, December 18, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. at Council Chambers located at 94 N. Washington Street, Sonora, California 95370 to consider the adoption of two cannabis related ordinances. The first ordinance amends Chapter 8.35, Personal Cannabis Cultivation Regulation, of the Sonora Municipal Code, relating to personal cannabis cultivation. The second ordinance amends Chapter 8.36, Cannabis Business Regulation, of the Sonora Municipal Code, relating to commercial cannabis businesses.

In 2016, the voters of California approved Proposition 64 entitled the “Control, Regulate and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana” (“AUMA”). AUMA legalized the adult-use and possession of cannabis by persons 21 years of age and older and the personal cultivation of up to six cannabis plants within a private residence. However, AUMA authorizes local jurisdictions to reasonable regulate that personal cultivation.

The proposed ordinance amending Chapter 8.35, Personal Cannabis Cultivation Regulation (“Personal Cultivation Ordinance”) would reasonably regulate the noncommercial, personal cultivation of cannabis pursuant to state law.

In 2011, the Sonora City Council adopted Ordinance 803 to prohibit medical marijuana dispensaries within the City. Currently, no other cannabis businesses are permitted. On May 23, 2017, the City Council of the City of Sonora (“City Council”) held a public meeting to discuss the regulatory framework of cannabis in California and ultimately moved to form a Marijuana Working Group (the “Working Group”). The goal of the Working Group was to make recommendations to the City Council concerning the local regulation of cannabis for the City Council’s consideration. On November 20, 2017, the City Council moved to accept the Working Group’s cannabis recommendations to regulate cannabis businesses (“Cannabis Business Ordinance”).

The Cannabis Business Ordinance would eliminate the City’s existing ban on all cannabis businesses and instead would establish a regulatory structure for cannabis dispensaries, cannabis cultivation and manufacturing businesses, and cannabis testing laboratories. The Cannabis Business Ordinance would require that all cannabis businesses operate pursuant to a development agreement and conditional use permit. The Cannabis Business Ordinance would also codify the

requirements under California law prohibiting cannabis businesses from being located within a 600-foot radius of certain sensitive uses.

ALL INTERESTED PARTIES: are invited to attend the Monday, December 18, 2017, public hearings to express opinions or submit evidence for or against the approval of the ordinances. At the above noted time and place, testimony from interested persons will be heard and considered by the City Council prior to taking action or making any recommendation on the ordinances. Upon request, the agenda and the documents in the meeting agenda packet can be made available to persons with a disability. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the special meeting process. Any person requiring special assistance to participate in the meeting should call (209) 532-4541 at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting.

Interested individuals will be given an opportunity to speak in favor or opposition to the above proposed actions. Written comments are also accepted, prior to the meeting at 94 N. Washington Street, Sonora, CA 95370. Information regarding the meeting is on file and may be viewed by interested individuals at City Hall, 94 N. Washington Street, Sonora, CA 95370. If a challenge to the above proposed actions is made in court, persons may be limited to raising only those issues they or someone else raised at the public hearings described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City before the hearings.

Copies of the proposed ordinances will be available for public review at City Hall, 94 N. Washington Street, Sonora, CA 95370. If you have any questions, please call the City Administrator at (209) 532-4541, or stop by the office at 94 N. Washington Street, Sonora, CA 95370.

Timothy A. Miller

City Administrator

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The Union Democrat, Sonora, CA

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