City Council Work Session
Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at 6:00 PM
Public Meeting Room

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Items for Discussion**
   A. Homeless Encampment Policy Discussion
   B. Cannabis Regulations Discussion
3. **Future Discussion**
4. **Adjournment**

(The Council may meet as a group for dinner)

Please contact the City Administrator's Office if you need special accommodations while attending this meeting.

Para pedir este documento en otro idioma, envíe un correo electrónico y adjunte el documento a accessibility@faribault.org.

Si aad u codsato dukumeentigan oo ku qoran luqad kale, fadlan e-mail u soo dir oo ku soo lifaaq dukumiintiga accessibility@faribault.org.

Council Work Session Memorandum

TO:	Mayor and City Council
THROUGH:	Jessica Kinser, City Administrator
FROM:	John Sherwin, Chief of Police
MEETING DATE:	July 16, 2024
SUBJECT:	Homeless Encampment Policy Discussion

Discussion:

The Faribault Police Department, in coordination with other city departments, follows a homeless encampment policy drafted in October 2022 (see attached). The policy was drafted during a time of legal uncertainty as several court rulings were making their way through the Federal Appeals Court regarding the constitutionality of ordinances banning camping on public property.

On June 28, 2024, the Supreme Court of the United States held, "The enforcement of generally applicable laws regulating camping on public property does not constitute cruel and unusual punishment prohibited by the Eighth Amendment." in City of Grants Pass v. Johnson. In question was the constitutionality of Grants Pass Municipal Code, which prohibits activities on public property such as overnight camping or parking overnight in city parks. In light of the recent Supreme Court ruling, the City is seeking feedback and direction from the Council regarding the existing Homeless Encampment policy and the consideration of a broader ordinance regarding camping on public property.

Attachments:

1. City of Faribault Homeless Encampment Policy and Procedure

Faribault City Policy and Procedure – Homeless Encampments

1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

This policy establishes a standard procedure for clearing encampments on property being used unlawfully by encampment residents for shelter or temporary residence within the City of Faribault. This policy also outlines the procedures for managing and—when necessary—storing personal property discovered during an encampment closure.

This policy is intended to provide guidance and direction to Faribault governmental officials and employees in evaluating and closing areas of public space being used by people experiencing homelessness for shelter or temporary residence. Nothing in this policy is intended, or should be understood, as the City of Faribault criminalizing or punishing people experiencing homelessness. The City of Faribault recognizes people experiencing homelessness—like everyone—should be treated with dignity and respect.

2. DEFINITIONS

A. Encampment. A location where one or more tent, structure, or assembly of camping equipment or personal property has been erected within the City of Faribault, and which appears to a reasonable person as being used for camping or shelter.

B. Personal property. An item that can be reasonably recognized as belonging to a person; has apparent use in its present condition and circumstances; and is not hazardous or otherwise a danger to health or safety (for example, a needle-strewn tent), or is not reasonably expected to become a hazard during storage (for example, wet/soiled bedding materials or food capable of spoiling).

Examples of personal property include, but are not limited to, identification, personal papers and documents, tents, bicycles, radios and other electronic equipment, eyeglasses, prescription medications, photographs, jewelry, clothing, crutches, and wheelchairs. Personal property does not include building materials such as wood products, metal, pallets, or rigid plastic.

3. INITIATING AN ENCAMPMENT CLEARING

A. Criteria to initiate an encampment clearing. An encampment may be cleared if the encampment is a documented threat to the health, safety, or security of the encampment's residents, or to City residents neighboring the encampment. Documentation may include, but is not limited to, photographs of the encampment, police reports, fire department reports, calls for service, eyewitness statements, or reports from other City officials. Evidence of the condition of the encampment should be collected prior to clearing. Records of encampment conditions should be retained after the clearing is complete.

B. Factors. Risk factors will be considered in determining the urgency of encampment removal, including but not limited to:

- **i.** Presence of especially vulnerable people within the encampment (children, youth, women seniors, people with disabilities, people with addiction).
- **ii.** Dangers posed by physical location (proximity to traffic, unsafe structures).
- **iii.** Environmental hazards (fires, used needles, dangerous weather, and other natural hazards).
- **iv.** Health hazards (disease, infestations).
- **v.** Extreme weather (precipitation, very high and low temperatures).

vi. Reports of violence, drug or sex trafficking and other criminal behavior.
vii. Size and duration, including build-up of trash and waste.
viii. Fire/asphyxiation risks (including flammable shelter materials, evidence of prior uncontrolled fires, layering of tents, generator use, dangerous heating agents near/within flammable materials).
ix. Difficulty for first responders to reach the encampment in case of emergency or in a location that may create a notification delay

C. Approval for encampment clearing. The decision to initiate an encampment closure will be made by the Faribault Chief of Police. The Chief will consult with the Faribault Police Department; Faribault Fire Department; the Faribault City Attorney; and any other relevant department, governmental agency, or community partners before initiating an encampment cleanup.

D. No criminal penalties. If the city is unable to identify and document available alternative housing for the encampment residents, prior to the clearing of the encampment, then no criminal penalties shall be imposed on the encampment's residents.

E. Outreach to residents. Faribault officers will work with Rice County Community Based Coordinators to offer services, referrals, and alternative housing or shelter assistance to encampment residents prior to initiating an encampment clearing action.

4. NOTICE OF ENCAMPMENT SITE CLEARING

A. Timing of notice. Ideally 5 days, but no fewer than 72 hours before an encampment clearing, the City shall post conspicuous notices/signs (the "Clearing Notice") throughout the immediate area of an encampment site, which shall be visible to residents of the encampment site.

B. Contents of notice. The Clearing Notice shall contain the following information:
i. The day the notice was posted.
ii. The future date and time the encampment clearing is scheduled for.
iii. An advisement that all residents of the encampment site should gather their personal property and leave the encampment site by the time of the scheduled encampment clearing.

C. Exceptions to Notice Requirement. The minimum 72-hour notice is not required if Faribault Police are currently performing law enforcement activities in response to credible information regarding a threat of imminent harm and complying with the minimum 72-hour notice requirement would undermine those ongoing police activities or in the event of an emergency when there is an immediate danger to human life or safety.

5. ENCAMPMENT CLEARING

A. Police Presence. The Faribault Police Department will be present at every encampment closure to ensure the safety of the occupants as well as city staff. If an officer cannot be present, the encampment closure will pause until an officer is available.

B. **Personal property**. Personal property shall be stored as provided for in Section 6 and may be recovered as provided for in Section 8.

C. **Disposal of non-personal property**. The City may remove and dispose of any non-personal property that is hazardous or otherwise a danger to health or safety or is reasonably expected to become a hazard during storage including, but not limited to garbage, debris, waste, a needle-strewn tent, wet bedding materials, perishable foods, or food contaminated property.

D. **Determining personal property**. City staff member assisting in the encampment clearing will determine if an item is personal property based on the totality of circumstances. In cases when the status of an item cannot reasonably be determined in the staff member's judgment based on the totality of the circumstances, the staff member will treat the item as personal property.

6. PERSONAL PROPERTY STORAGE

A. Storing personal property. The City shall store all safely storable personal property encountered when clearing an encampment.

B. Itemized-property procedure. Personal property removed from a camp must be listed on an itemized inventory.

C. Storage location. Personal property shall be stored at a location commonly used by the City for storing property.

D. Personal property deemed abandoned. Any personal property that is collected and stored by the City, and which is not reclaimed by its owner within 60 days of its associated encampment clearing, shall be considered abandoned by the City per City policy.

7. POST ENCAMPMENT-CLEARING

A. Contents of notice. After an encampment has been cleared where personal property has been stored, the City shall prominently post a notice/sign (the "Post Clearing Notice") at the encampment site. The Post Clearing Notice shall contain:

i. The date the encampment was cleared.
ii. The general location where any personal property was taken and is now being stored.
iii. How any personal property being stored by the City may be reclaimed by its owner.
iv. An advisement that personal property will be stored for 60 days following the encampment cleanup.

B. Timing. The Post Clearing Notice shall not be removed by the City for a minimum of 10 days.

8. RECLAIMING PERSONAL PROPERTY

A. A property owner claiming their personal property was removed from an encampment may contact the Faribault Police Department. The department will coordinate the recovery of personal property.

B. The property owner shall identify themselves and describe the personal property with particularity. No proof of identification is required for an owner to recover the property. The City shall maintain a log of personal property that indicates who received the recovered property.

C. Storage and recovery of personal property shall be at no cost to the individual that owns the property within the City of Faribault.

9. PROVIDING ALTERNATIVE SHELTER

A. As mentioned in section 3(E) of this policy, the City and any outreach partners, to the best of their abilities, will assist encampment residents in identifying available resources for alternative housing or other shelter.

B. While the City and any outreach partners will attempt to identify all alternative housing options, the City is not required to provide supplemental alternatives to individuals who have been previously or are currently excluded from available alternatives because of the individual's past behavior at these locations.

Council Work Session Memorandum

TO:	Mayor and City Council
THROUGH:	Jessica Kinser, City Administrator
FROM:	Heather Slechta, City Clerk
MEETING DATE:	July 16, 2024
SUBJECT:	Cannabis Regulations Discussion

Discussion:

The City Council extended its moratorium on cannabis businesses until August 1, 2024. Since the extension, the Office of Cannabis Management has provided cities with its Guide for Local Governments on Adult-Use Cannabis, which includes an example ordinance. Staff has reviewed the ordinance and is now seeking guidance from the Council on the ordinance, prior to working with the city attorney's office on a formal ordnance for consideration.

Section 1. Administration, 1.5 Definitions, 3. Cannabis Retail Businesses: A retail location and the retail location(s) of a mezzobusiness with a retail operations endorsement, microbusiness with a retail operations endorsement, medical combination businesses operating a retail location, (and/excluding)lower-potency hemp edible retailers.

- Does the Council want to regulate lower-potency hemp edible retailers? We currently do not. However, there may be a benefit to some type of registration so that the city is aware of locations.

Section 2. Registration of Cannabis Businesses, 2.1 Consent to registering of Cannabis Businesses, states that any state-licensed cannabis retail business that sells to a customer or patient without valid retail registration shall incur a civil penalty of (up to $2,000)for each violation.

- Does the Council want to use what is in state statute, or change the amount?

Section 2. Registration of Cannabis Businesses, 2.3 Registration & Application Procedure, 2.3.1 Fees, the state has set the following fees: A registration fee, as established in the city of Faribault's fee schedule, shall be charged to applicants depending on the type of retail business license applied for.

- An initial retail registration fee shall not exceed $500 or half the amount of an initial state license fee under Minn. Stat. 342.11, whichever is less. The initial registration fee shall include the initial retail registration fee and the first annual renewal fee.
- Any renewal retail registration fee imposed by the city of Faribault shall be charged at the time of the second renewal and each subsequent renewal thereafter.
- A renewal retail registration fee shall not exceed $1,000 or half the amount of a renewal state license fee under Minn. Stat. 342.11, whichever is less.
- A medical combination business operating an adult-use retail location may only be charged a single registration fee, not to exceed the lesser of a single retail registration fee, defined under this section, of the adult-use retail business.

Does the City want to follow the provided fees, or set our own fees following the guidelines above?

Section 2. Registration of Cannabis Businesses, 2.3 Registration & Application Procedure, 2.3.2 Application Submittal, The city of Faribault shall issue a retail registration to a state-licensed cannabis retail business that adheres to the requirements of Minn. Stat. 342.22.

(A) An applicant for a retail registration shall fill out an application form, as provided by the city of Faribault. Said form shall include, but is not limited to:
i. Full name of the property owner and applicant;
ii. Address, email address, and telephone number of the applicant;
iii. The address and parcel ID for the property which the retail registration is sought;
iv. Certification that the applicant complies with the requirements of local ordinances established pursuant to Minn. Stat. 342.13.

(B) The applicant shall include with the form:
i. the application fee as required in [Section 2.3.1];
ii. a copy of a valid state license or written notice of OCM license preapproval;
iii. (Insert additional standards here)

- Is there additional information/standards that the Council feels should be submitted, similar to liquor license applications, such as proof of property taxes paid, background check at the local level, one will be done at the state level, proof of insurance, proof that there are no outstanding utility or other fees owed to the City on the business property.

2.4 Renewal of Registration, 2.4.2 Renewal Application, The application for renewal of a retail registration shall include, but is not limited to:

- Items required under Section 2.3.2 of this Ordinance.
- Insert additional items here

Staff would recommend that this section follow the standards set in 2.3.2 Application Submittal for continuity.

Section 2. Registration of Cannabis Businesses, Section 2.6 Limiting Registration allows the City to set a limit on the number of retail registrations within its boundaries. However, the city may not limit the number of registrations to fewer than 12,500 residents. It would be an assumption that the City should have at least 2 registrations due to our population size. The City could also choose to limit registrations to a number greater than the minimum required. Off-Sale Liquor is limited to 8 locations within the City and On-Sale Liquor is limited to 18 excluding restaurants, bowling centers and clubs.

Section 3. Requirements for Cannabis Businesses
State Statutes note that jurisdictions may "adopt reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of the operation of a cannabis business." A jurisdiction considering other siting requirements (such as a buffer between cannabis businesses, or a buffer from churches) should consider whether there is a basis to adopt such restrictions.

Section 3. Requirements for Cannabis Businesses, 3.1 Minimum Buffer Requirements
The City can adopt buffer requirements that prohibit the operation of a cannabis business within a certain distance of schools, daycares, residential treatment facilities, or from an attraction within a public park that is regularly used by minors, including a playground or athletic field. Buffer requirements are optional. A city cannot adopt larger buffer requirements than the requirements here in Section 3.1.

Staff is looking for direction on the following, it should be noted that at prior worksessions, the Council was not in favor of limitations, however, prior to moving to the next steps on the ordinance, staff would like to revisit this to ensure that the correct language is in the ordinance. State allows for the following:

- no more than 1000 feet from a school
- no more than 500 feet from a daycare
- no more than 500 feet of a residential treatment facility
- no more than 500 feet of an attraction within a public park used by minors

The City also has the ability to prohibit the operation of a cannabis retail business within so many feet of another cannabis business.

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. 462.367 subd. 14, nothing in Section 3.1 shall prohibit an active cannabis business or a cannabis business seeking registration from continuing operation at the same site if a (school/daycare/residential treatment facility/attraction within a public park that is regularly used by minors) moves within the minimum buffer zone.

3.2 Zoning and Land Use,
The city can limit what zone(s) Cannabis businesses can operate in. As with other uses in a Zoning Ordinance, a jurisdiction can also determine if such use requires a Conditional or Interim Use permit. A jurisdiction cannot outright prohibit a cannabis business. A jurisdiction should amend their Zoning Ordinance and list what zone(s) Cannabis businesses are permitted in, and whether they are permitted, conditional, or interim uses. While each locality conducts its zoning differently, a few themes have emerged across the country. For example, cannabis manufacturing facilities are often placed in industrial zones, while cannabis retailers are typically found in commercial/retail zones. Cannabis retail facilities align with general retail establishments and are prohibited from allowing consumption or use onsite and are also required to have plans to prevent the visibility of cannabis and hemp-derived products to individuals outside the retail location. Cannabis businesses should be zoned under existing zoning ordinances in accordance with the license type or endorsed activities held by the cannabis business. Staff are recommending the following zoning for each of the various cannabis businesses as recommended by OCM.

3.2.1. Cultivation. Cannabis businesses licensed or endorsed for cultivation are permitted as a (type of use) in the following zoning districts:
- Industrial

3.2.1. Cannabis Manufacturer. Cannabis businesses licensed or endorsed for cannabis manufacturer are permitted as a (type of use) in the following zoning districts:
- Industrial

3.2.1. Hemp Manufacturer. Businesses licensed or endorsed for low-potency hemp edible manufacturers permitted as a (type of use) in the following zoning districts:
- Industrial

3.2.1. Wholesale. Cannabis businesses licensed or endorsed for wholesale are permitted as a (type of use) in the following zoning districts:
- Industrial

3.2.1. Cannabis Retail. Cannabis businesses licensed or endorsed for cannabis retail are permitted as a (type of use) in the following zoning districts:
- Industrial, C-1, C-2, C-3, CBD

3.3 Hours of Operation
The city may adopt an ordinance limiting hours of operation between 10 a.m. and 9 p.m., seven days a week, and State statute prohibits the sale of cannabis between 2a.m. and 8 a.m., Monday through Saturday, and between 2 a.m. and 10 a.m. on Sundays.

- Does the Council want to regulate the hours of sales, similar to liquor licenses?

3.4 (Optional) Advertising, Cannabis businesses are permitted to erect up to two fixed signs on the exterior of the building or property of the business, unless otherwise limited by the city of Faribault's sign ordinances.

- Staff recommends that signs for cannabis businesses follow the current sign ordinances in place.

Section 4. Temporary Cannabis Events, 4.1 License or Permit Required for Temporary Cannabis Events, 4.1.3 Application Submittal & Review.
The city of Faribault shall require an application for Temporary Cannabis Events.
(A) An applicant for a retail registration shall fill out an application form, as provided by the city of Faribault. Said form shall include, but is not limited to:
i. Full name of the property owner and applicant;
ii. Address, email address, and telephone number of the applicant;
iii. (Insert additional standards here)
(B) The applicant shall include with the form:
i. the application fee as required in (Section 4.1.2);
ii. a copy of the OCM cannabis event license application, submitted pursuant to 342.39 subd. 2.

- Is there any additional information that the Council feels should be included? Currently the Police Department conducts a background check on all temporary licenses. Should the same be done for Temporary Cannabis Events?

The City may establish standards for Temporary Cannabis Events which the event organizer must meet, including restricting or prohibiting any on-site consumption. If there are public health, safety, or welfare concerns associated with a proposed cannabis event, a jurisdiction would presumably be authorized to deny approval of that event.

- The Council can regulate where Temporary Cannabis Events can take place, should events be allowed on certain city property as well as zoning districts?

- Should hours be set for Temporary Cannabis Events?

Finally, if the Council chooses to regulate Lower-Potency Hemp Edibles, standards and requirements should be discussed at a future work-session.

Attachments:

1. A Guide for Local Governments on Adult Cannabis Use
2. Office of Cannabis Management Ordinance - City of Faribailt

MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF CANNABIS MANAGEMENT

A Guide for Local Governments on Adult-Use Cannabis

Version 1.2
June 25, 2024

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Introduction

This guide serves as a general overview of **Minnesota's new adult-use cannabis law**, and how **local governments** can expect to be involved. The guide also provides important information about Minnesota's new Office of Cannabis Management (OCM), and the office's structure, roles, and responsibilities. While medical cannabis continues to play an important role in the state's cannabis environment, this guide is primarily focused on the adult-use cannabis law and marketplace.

The following pages outline the variety of cannabis business licenses that will be issued, provide a broad summary of important aspects of the adult-use cannabis law, and cover a wide range of expectations and authorities that relate to local governments. This guide also provides best practices and important requirements for developing a local cannabis ordinance.

Chapter 342 of Minnesota law was established by the State Legislature in 2023 and was updated in 2024. Mentions of "adult-use cannabis law" or "the law" throughout this guide refer to Chapter 342 and the changes made to it.

As of this guide's date of publication, state regulations governing the adult-use cannabis market have not yet been published—**this document will be updated** when such regulations become effective.

This guide is not a substitute for legal advice, nor does it seek to provide legal advice. Local governments and municipal officials seeking legal advice should consult an attorney.

About OCM

Minnesota's **Office of Cannabis Management** is the state regulatory office created to oversee the implementation and regulation of the adult-use cannabis market, the medical cannabis market, and the consumer hemp industry. Housed within OCM are the **Division of Medical Cannabis** (effective July 1, 2024), which operates the medical cannabis program, and the **Division of Social Equity**, which promotes development, stability, and safety in communities that have experienced a disproportionate, negative impact from cannabis prohibition and usage.

MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF CANNABIS MANAGEMENT

OCM, through Chapter 342, is tasked with establishing rules and policy and exercising its regulatory authority over the Minnesota cannabis industry. In its duties, OCM is mandated to:

- Promote public health and welfare.
- Protect public safety.
- Eliminate the illicit market for cannabis flower and cannabis products.
- Meet the market demand for cannabis flower and cannabis products.
- Promote a craft industry for cannabis flower and cannabis products.
- Prioritize growth and recovery in communities that have experienced a disproportionate, negative impact from cannabis prohibition.

OCM governs the application and licensing process for cannabis and hemp businesses, specific requirements for each type of license and their respective business activities, and conducts enforcement and inspection activities across the Minnesota cannabis and hemp industries.

License Types

Minnesota law allows for **13** different types of business licenses, each fulfilling a unique role in the cannabis and hemp supply chain. In addition to license types below, OCM will also issue endorsements to license holders to engage in specific activities, including producing, manufacturing, and sale of medical cannabis for patients.

Microbusiness

Microbusinesses may cultivate cannabis and manufacture cannabis products and hemp products, and package such products for sale to customers or another licensed cannabis business. Microbusiness may also operate a single retail location.

Mezzobusiness

Mezzobusinesses may cultivate cannabis and manufacture cannabis products and hemp products, and package such products for sale to customers or another licensed cannabis business. Mezzobusiness may also operate up to three retail locations.

Cultivator

Cultivators may cultivate cannabis and package such cannabis for sale to another licensed cannabis business.

Manufacturer

Manufacturers may manufacture cannabis products and hemp products, and package such products for sale to a licensed cannabis retailer.

Retailer

Retailers may sell immature cannabis plants and seedlings, cannabis, cannabis products, hemp products, and other products authorized by law to customers and patients.

Wholesaler

Wholesalers may purchase and/or sell immature cannabis plants and seedlings, cannabis, cannabis products, and hemp products from another licensed cannabis business. Wholesalers may also import hemp-derived consumer products and lower-potency hemp edibles.

License Types (continued)

Transporter

Transporters may transport immature cannabis plants and seedlings, cannabis, cannabis products, and hemp products to licensed cannabis businesses.

Testing Facility

Testing facilities may obtain and test immature cannabis plants and seedlings, cannabis, cannabis products, and hemp products from licensed cannabis businesses.

Event Organizer

Event organizers may organize a temporary cannabis event lasting no more than four days.

Delivery Service

Delivery services may purchase cannabis, cannabis products, and hemp products from retailers or cannabis business with retail endorsements for transport and delivery to customers.

Medical Cannabis Combination Business

Medical cannabis combination businesses may cultivate cannabis and manufacture cannabis and hemp products, and package such products for sale to customers, patients, or another licensed cannabis business. Medical cannabis combination businesses may operate up to one retail location in each congressional district.

Lower-Potency Hemp Edible Manufacturer

Lower-potency hemp edible manufacturers may manufacture and package lower-potency hemp edibles for consumer sale, and sell hemp concentrate and lower-potency hemp edibles to other cannabis and hemp businesses.

Lower-Potency Hemp Edible Retailer

Lower-potency hemp edible retailers may sell lower-potency hemp edibles to customers.

Each license is subject to further restrictions on allowable activities. Maximum cultivation area and manufacturing allowances vary by license type. Allowable product purchase, transfer, and sale between licensees are subject to restrictions in the law.

The Adult-Use Cannabis Law

Minnesota's new adult-use cannabis law permits the personal use, possession, and transportation of cannabis by those 21 years of age and older, and allows licensed businesses to conduct cultivation, manufacturing, transport, delivery, and sale of cannabis and cannabis products.

For Individuals

- **Possession limits**:
  - Flower - 2 oz. in public, 2 lbs. in private residence
  - Concentrate - 8 g
  - Edibles (including lower-potency hemp) - 800 mg THC
- **Consumption** only allowed on private property or at licensed businesses with on-site consumption endorsements. Consumption not allowed in public.
- **Gifting** cannabis to another individual over 21 years old is allowed, subject to possession limits.
- **Home cultivation** is limited to four mature and four immature plants (eight total) in a single residence. Plants must be in an enclosed and locked space.
- **Home extraction** using volatile substances (e.g., butane, ethanol) is not allowed.
- **Unlicensed sales** are not allowed.

For Businesses

- **Advertising**:
  - May not include or appeal to those under 21 years old.
  - Must include proper warning statements.
  - May not include misleading claims or false statements.
  - Billboards are not allowed.
- The flow of all products through the supply chain must be tracked by the state-authorized **tracking system**.
- All products sold to consumers and patients must be **tested for contaminants**.
- **Home delivery** is allowed by licensed businesses.

The Cannabis Licensing Process

An applicant will take the following steps to proceed from application to active licensure. As described, processes vary depending on social equity status and/or whether the type of license being sought is capped or uncapped in the general licensing process.

License Preapproval: Early Mover Process for Social Equity Applicants

The license preapproval process is a one-time application process available for verified social equity applicants. State law requires OCM to open the application window on July 24, 2024, and close the window on August 12, 2024. The preapproval process is available for the following license types, and all are capped in this process: microbusiness, mezzobusiness, cultivator, retailer, wholesaler, transporter, testing facility, and delivery service.

Preapproval steps:

1. Applicant's social equity applicant (SEA) status verified.
2. Complete application and submit application fees.
3. Application vetted for minimum requirements by OCM.
4. Application (if qualified) entered into lottery drawing.
5. If selected in lottery, OCM completes background check of selected applicant and issues license preapproval.
6. Applicant with license preapproval* submits business location and amends application accordingly.
7. OCM forwards completed application to local government.
8. Local government completes certification of zoning compliance.
9. OCM conducts site inspection.
10. When regulations are adopted, license becomes active, operations may commence.

*For social equity applicants with license preapproval for microbusiness, mezzobusiness, or a cultivator license, they may begin growing cannabis plants prior to the adoption of rules if OCM receives approval from local governments in a form and manner determined by the office. This is only applicable to cultivation and does not authorize retail sales or other endorsed activities of the licenses prior to the adoption of rules.

The Cannabis Licensing Process (cont.)

The general licensing process will align with the adoption of rules and OCM will share more information about the timing of general licensing process. The general licensing process includes social equity applicants and non-social equity applicants.

General Licensing: Cultivator, Manufacturer, Retailer, Mezzobusiness

1. Complete application and submit application fees.
2. Application vetted for minimum requirements by OCM.
3. Application (if qualified) entered into lottery drawing.
4. If selected in lottery, OCM completes background check of selected applicant and issues preliminary approval.
5. Applicant with preliminary approval submits business location and amends application accordingly.
6. OCM forwards completed application to local government.
7. Local government completes certification of zoning compliance.
8. OCM conducts site inspection.
9. License becomes active, operations may commence.*

General Licensing: Microbusiness, Wholesaler, Transporter, Testing Facility, Event Organizer

1. Complete application and submit application fees.
2. Application vetted for minimum requirements by OCM.
3. For qualified applicants, OCM completes background check of vetted applicant and issues preliminary approval.
4. Selected applicant submits business location and amends application accordingly.
5. OCM forwards completed application to local government.
6. Local government completes certification of zoning compliance.
7. OCM conducts site inspection.
8. License becomes active, operations may commence.*

*For businesses seeking a retail endorsement (microbusiness, mezzobusiness, and retailer), a valid local retail registration is required prior to the business commencing any retail sales. See Page 16 for information on the local retail registration process.

General Authorities

Local governments in Minnesota have various means of oversight over the cannabis market, as provided by the adult-use cannabis law. Local governments may not issue outright bans on cannabis business, or limit operations in a manner beyond what is provided by state law.

Cannabis Retail Restrictions (342.13)

Local governments may limit the number of retailers and microbusiness/mezzobusinesses with retail endorsements allowed within their locality, as long as there is **at least one retail location per 12,500 residents**. Local units of government are not obligated to seek out a business to register as cannabis business if they have not been approached by any potential applicants, but cannot prohibit the establishment of a business if this population requirement is not met. Local units of government may also issue more than the minimum number of registrations. Per statutory direction, a municipal cannabis store (Page 19) cannot be included in the minimum number of registrations required. For population counts, the state demographer estimates will likely be utilized.

Tribal Governments (342.13)

OCM is prohibited from and will not issue state licenses to businesses in Indian Country without consent from a tribal nation. Tribal nations hold the authority to license tribal cannabis businesses on tribal lands – this process is separate than OCM's licensing process and authority. Subject to compacting, Tribal nations may operate cannabis businesses off tribal lands. There will be more information available once the compacting processes are complete.

Taxes (295.81; 295.82)

Retail sales of taxable cannabis products are subject to the state and local sales and use tax and a 10% gross receipts tax. Cannabis gross receipts tax proceeds are allocated as follows: 20% to the local government cannabis aid account and 80% to the state general fund. Local taxes imposed solely on sale of cannabis products are prohibited.

Cannabis retailers will be subject to the same real property tax classification as all other retail businesses. Real property used for raising, cultivating, processing, or storing cannabis plants, cannabis flower, or cannabis products for sale will be classified as commercial and industrial property.

General Authorities (cont.)

Retail Timing Restrictions (342.13)

Local governments may prohibit retail sales of cannabis between the hours of 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Monday-Saturday, and 9 p.m. and 2 a.m. the following day.

Operating Multiple Locations with One License

Certain cannabis licenses allow for multiple retail locations to be operated under a single license, with the following limitations:

- **Retailers**: up to five retail locations.
- **Mezzobusinesses**: up to three retail locations.
- **Microbusinesses:** up to one retail location.
- **Medical cannabis combination businesses**: one retail location per congressional district. Additionally, medical cannabis combination businesses may cultivate at more than one location within other limitations on cultivation.

For all other license types, one license permits the operation of one location. Each retail location requires local certification and/or registration.

Zoning and Land Use

Buffer Guidelines (342.13)

State law does not restrict how a local government conducts its zoning designations for cannabis businesses, except that they may prohibit the operation of a cannabis business within 1,000 feet of a school, or 500 feet of a day care, residential treatment facility, or an attraction within a public park that is regularly used by minors, including playgrounds and athletic fields.

Zoning Guidelines

While each locality conducts its zoning differently, a few themes have emerged across the country. For example, cannabis manufacturing facilities are often placed in industrial zones, while cannabis retailers are typically found in commercial/retail zones. Cannabis retail facilities align with general retail establishments and are prohibited from allowing consumption or use onsite, and are also required to have plans to prevent the visibility of cannabis and hemp-derived products to individuals outside the retail location. Industrial hemp is an agricultural product, and should be zoned as such.

Cannabis businesses should be zoned under existing zoning ordinances in accordance with the license type or endorsed activities held by the cannabis business. Note that certain types of licenses may be able to perform multiple activities which may have different zoning analogues. In the same way municipalities may zone a microbrewery that predominately sells directly to onsite consumers differently than a microbrewery that sells packaged beer to retailers and restaurants, so too might a municipality wish to zone two microbusinesses based on the actual activities that each business is undertaking. Table 1, included on Pages 13 and 14, explains the types of activities that cannabis businesses might undertake, as well as, some recommended existing zoning categories.

Zoning and Land Use (cont.)

Table 1: Cannabis and Hemp Business Activities

Endorsed Activity	License Type Eligible to Do Endorsed Activity	Description of Activity	Comparable Districts	Municipal Considerations
Cultivation	Cultivator Mezzobusiness Microbusiness Medical Cannabis Combination	"Cultivation" means any activity involving the planting, growing, harvesting, drying, curing, grading, or trimming of cannabis plants, cannabis flower, hemp plants, or hemp plant parts.	Indoor: Industrial, Commercial, Production Outdoor: Agricultural	Odor Potential need for transportation from facility Waste, water, and energy usage Security
Cannabis Manufacturing, Processing, Extraction	Manufacturer Mezzobusiness Microbusiness Medical Cannabis Combination	This group of endorsed activities turn raw, dried cannabis and cannabis parts into other types of cannabis products, e.g. edibles or topicals.	Industrial, Commercial, Production	Odor Potential need for transportation from facility Waste, water, and energy usage Security
Hemp Manufacturing	Lower-Potency Hemp Edible (LPHE) Manufacturing	These business convert hemp into LPHE edible prodcuts.	Industrial, Commercial, Production	Odor Waste, water, and energy
Wholesale	Wholesale Cultivator Manufacturer Mezzobusiness Microbusiness Medical Cannabis Combination	This activity and license type allows a business to purchase from a business growing or manufacturing cannabis or cannabis products and sell to a cannabis business engaged in retail.	Industrial, Commercial, Production	Need for transportation from facility Security

Zoning and Land Use (cont.)

Table 1: Cannabis and Hemp Business Activities (continued)

Endorsed Activity	License Type Eligible to Do Endorsed Activity	Description of Activity	Comparable Districts	Municipal Considerations
Cannabis Retail	Retailer Mezzobusiness Microbusiness Medical Cannabis Combination	This endorsed activity and license types allow a business to sell cannabis and cannabis products directly to consumers.	Retail, Neighborhood Shopping Districts, Light Industrial, Existing districts where off-sale liquor or tobacco sales are allowed.	Micros may offer onsite consumption, similar to breweries. Micros and Mezzos may include multiple activities: cultivation, manufacture, and/or retail.
Transportation	Cannabis Transporter	This license type allows a company to transport products from one license type to another.		Fleet based business that will own multiple vehicles, but not necessarily hold a substantial amount of cannabis or cannabis products.
Delivery	Cannabis Delivery	This license type allows for transportation to the end consumer.		Fleet based business that will own multiple vehicles, but not necessarily hold a substantial amount of cannabis or cannabis products.
Events	Event Organizer	This license entitles license holder to organizer a temporary event lasting no more than four days.	Anywhere that the city permits events to occur, subject to other restrictions related to cannabis use.	On site consumption. Retail sales by a licensed or endorsed retail business possible.

Local Approval Process

Local governments play a critical role in the licensing process, serving as a near-final approval check on cannabis businesses nearing the awarding of a state license for operations. Once an applicant has been vetted by OCM and is selected for proceeding in the verification process, they are then required to receive the local government's certification of zoning compliance and/or local retail registration before operations may commence.

Local Certification of Zoning Compliance (342.13; 342.14)

Following OCM's vetting process, local governments must **certify** that the applicant with preliminary approval has achieved **compliance with local zoning ordinances** prior to the licensee receiving final approval from OCM to commence operations.

During the application and licensing process for cannabis businesses, OCM will notify a local government when an applicant intends to operate within their jurisdiction and request a certification as to whether a proposed cannabis business complies with local zoning ordinances, and if applicable, whether the proposed business complies with state fire code and building code.

According to Minnesota's cannabis law, a local unit of government has 30 days to respond to this request for certification of compliance. If a local government does not respond to OCM's request for certification of compliance within the 30 days, the cannabis law allows OCM to issue a license. OCM may not issue the final approval for a license if the local government has indicated they are not in compliance.

OCM will work with local governments to access the licensing software system to complete this zoning certification process.

Local Approval Process (cont.)

Local Retail Registration Process (342.22)

Once the licensing process begins, local government registration applies to cannabis retailers or other cannabis/hemp businesses seeking a retail endorsement. Local governments must issue a retail registration after verifying that:

- The business has a valid license or license preapproval issued by OCM.
- The business has paid a registration fee or renewal fee to the local government;
    - Initial registration fees collected by a local government may be $500 or half the amount of the applicable initial license fee, whichever is less, and renewal registration fees may be $1,000 or half the amount of the applicable renewal license fee, whichever is less.
- The business is found to be in compliance with Chapter 342 and local ordinances.
- If applicable, the business is current on all property taxes and assessments for the proposed retail location.

Local registrations may also be issued by counties if the respective local government transfers such authorities to the county.

Determining a Process for Limiting Retail Registrations

If a local government wishes to place a limitation on the number of retailers and microbusiness/mezzobusinesses with retail endorsements allowed within their locality (as long as there is at least one retail location per 12,500 residents, see Page 10), state law does not define the process for a local government's selection if there are more applicants than registrations available. A few options for this process include the use of a lottery, a first-come/first-serve model, a rolling basis, and others. Local governments should work with an attorney to determine their specific process for selection if they wish to limit the number of licensed cannabis retailers per 342.13. Local governments are not required to limit the number of licensed cannabis retailers.

Local Approval Process (cont.)

Local governments are permitted specific authorities for registration refusal and registration suspension, in addition to—and not in conflict with—OCM authorities.

Registration and Renewal Refusals

Local governments may refuse the registration and/or certification of a license renewal if the license is associated with an individual or business who no longer holds a valid license, has failed to pay the local registration or renewal fee, or has been found in noncompliance in connection with a preliminary or renewal compliance check.

Local Registration Suspension (342.22)

Local governments may suspend the local retail registration of a cannabis business or hemp business if the business is determined to not be operating in compliance with a local ordinance authorized by 342.13 or if the operation of the business poses an immediate threat to the health and safety of the public. The local government must immediately notify OCM of the suspension if it occurs. OCM will review the suspension and may reinstate the registration or take enforcement action.

Expedited Complaint Process (342.13)

Per state law, OCM will establish an expedited complaint process during the rulemaking process to receive, review, read, and respond to complaints made by a local unit of government about a cannabis business. Upon promulgation of rules, OCM will publish the complaint process.

At a minimum, the expedited complaint process shall require the office to provide an initial response to the complaint within seven days and perform any necessary inspections within 30 days. Within this process, if a local government notifies OCM that a cannabis business poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of the public, the office must respond within one business day.

Inspections & Compliance Checks

Local governments are permitted specific business inspection and compliance check authorities, in addition to—and not in conflict with—OCM authorities.

Inspections and Compliance Checks (342.22)

Local governments must conduct **compliance checks** for cannabis and hemp businesses holding retail registration **at least once per calendar year**. These compliance checks must verify compliance with age verification procedures and compliance with any applicable local ordinance established pursuant to 342.13. OCM maintains inspection authorities for all cannabis licenses to verify compliance with operation requirements, product limits, and other applicable requirements of Chapter 342.

Municipal Cannabis Stores

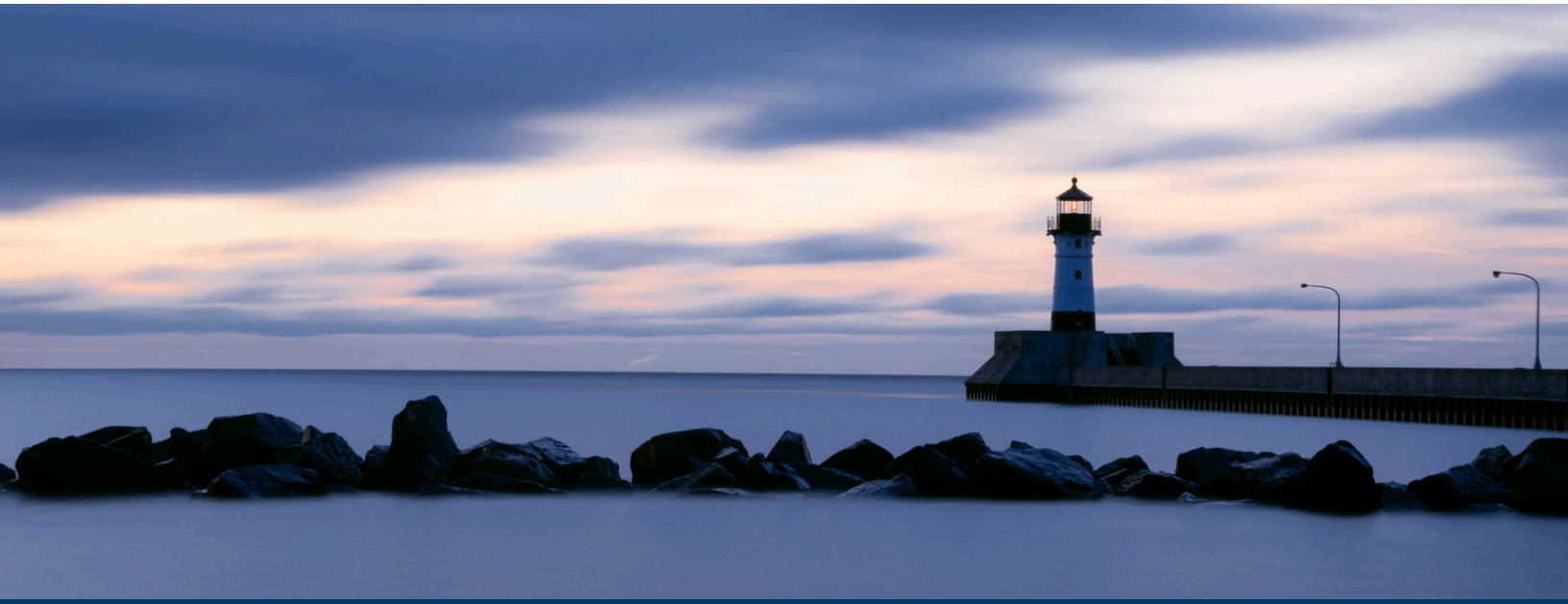
As authorized in Chapter 342.32, local governments are permitted to apply for a cannabis retail license to establish and operate a municipal cannabis store.

State law requires OCM issue a license to a city or county seeking to operate a single municipal cannabis store if the city or county:

- Submits required application information to OCM,
- Meets minimum requirements for licensure, and
- Pays applicable application and license fee.

A municipal cannabis store will not be included in the total count of retail licenses issued by the state under Chapter 342.

A municipal cannabis store cannot be counted as retail registration for purposes of determining whether a municipality's cap on retail registrations imposed by ordinance.



Creating Your Local Ordinance

As authorized in 342.13, a local government may adopt a local ordinance regarding cannabis businesses. Establishing local governments' ordinances on cannabis businesses in a timely manner is critical for the ability for local cities or towns to establish local control as described in the law, and is necessary for the success of the statewide industry and the ability of local governments to protect public health and safety. The cannabis market's potential to create jobs, generate revenue, and contribute to economic development at the local and state level is supported through local ordinance work. The issuance of local certifications and registrations to prospective cannabis businesses is also dependent on local ordinances.

- Local governments may not prohibit the possession, transportation, or use of cannabis, or the establishment or operation of a cannabis business licensed under state law.
- Local governments may adopt reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of cannabis business operations (see Page 11).
- Local governments may adopt interim ordinances to protect public safety and welfare, as any studies and/or further considerations on local cannabis activities are being conducted, until January 1, 2025. A public hearing must be held prior to adoption of an interim ordinance.
- If your local government wishes to operate a municipal cannabis store, the establishment and operation of such a facility must be considered in a local ordinance.

Model Ordinance

For additional guidance regarding the creation of a cannabis related ordinance, please reference the addendum in this packet.

Additional Resources

OCM Toolkit for Local Partners

Please visit OCM webpage (mn.gov/ocm/local-governments/) for additional information, including a toolkit of resources developed specifically for local government partners. The webpage will be updated as additional information becomes available and as state regulations are adopted.

These resources are also included in the addendum of this packet.

Toolkit resources include:

- Appendix A: Model Ordinance
- Appendix B: Hemp Flower and Hemp-Derived Cannabinoid Product Checklist
- Appendix C: Enforcement Notice from the Office of Cannabis Management
- Appendix D: Notice to Unlawful Cannabis Sellers

Local Organizations

There are several organizations who also have developed resources to support local governments regarding the cannabis industry. Please feel free to contact the following for additional resources:

- League of Minnesota Cities
- Association of Minnesota Counties
- Minnesota Public Health Law Center

Appendix A: Model Ordinance

Cannabis Model Ordinance

The following model ordinance is meant to be used as a resource for cities, counties, and townships within Minnesota. The italicized text in red is meant to provide commentary and notes to jurisdictions considering using this ordinance and should be removed from any ordinance formally adopted by said jurisdiction. Certain items are not required to be included in the adopted ordinance: 'OR' and (optional) are placed throughout for areas where a jurisdiction may want to consider one or more choices on language.

Section 1	Administration
Section 2	Registration of Cannabis Business
Section 3	Requirements for a Cannabis Business (Time, Place, Manner)
Section 4	Temporary Cannabis Events
Section 5	Lower Potency Hemp Edibles
Section 6	Local Government as a Retailer
Section 7	Use of Cannabis in Public

AN ORDINANCE OF THE (CITY/COUNTY OF _____) TO REGULATE CANNABIS BUSINESSES

The (city council/town board/county board) of (city/town/county) hereby ordains:

Section 1. Administration

1.1 Findings and Purpose

(insert local authority) makes the following legislative findings:

The purpose of this ordinance is to implement the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 342, which authorizes (insert local authority) to protect the public health, safety, welfare of (insert local here) residents by regulating cannabis businesses within the legal boundaries of (insert local here).

(insert local authority) finds and concludes that the proposed provisions are appropriate and lawful land use regulations for (insert local here), that the proposed amendments will promote the community's interest in reasonable stability in zoning for now and in the future, and that the proposed provisions are in the public interest and for the public good.

1.2 Authority & Jurisdiction

A county can adopt an ordinance that applies to unincorporated areas and cities that have delegated authority to impose local zoning controls.

(insert local authority) has the authority to adopt this ordinance pursuant to:

a) Minn. Stat. 342.13(c), regarding the authority of a local unit of government to adopt reasonable restrictions of the time, place, and manner of the operation of

a cannabis business provided that such restrictions do not prohibit the establishment or operation of cannabis businesses.

b) Minn. Stat. 342.22, regarding the local registration and enforcement requirements of state-licensed cannabis retail businesses and lower-potency hemp edible retail businesses.
c) Minn. Stat. 152.0263, Subd. 5, regarding the use of cannabis in public places.
d) Minn. Stat. 462.357, regarding the authority of a local authority to adopt zoning ordinances.

Ordinance shall be applicable to the legal boundaries of (insert local here).

(Optional) (insert city here) has delegated cannabis retail registration authority to (insert county here). However, (insert city here) may adopt ordinances under Sections (2.6, 3 and 4) if (insert county here) has not adopted conflicting provisions.

1.3 Severability

If any section, clause, provision, or portion of this ordinance is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

1.4 Enforcement

The elected body of a jurisdiction can choose to designate an official to administer and enforce this ordinance.

The (insert name of local government or designated official) is responsible for the administration and enforcement of this ordinance. Any violation of the provisions of this ordinance or failure to comply with any of its requirements constitutes a misdemeanor and is punishable as defined by law. Violations of this ordinance can occur regardless of whether or not a permit is required for a regulated activity listed in this ordinance.

1.5 Definitions

1. Unless otherwise noted in this section, words and phrases contained in Minn. Stat. 342.01 and the rules promulgated pursuant to any of these acts, shall have the same meanings in this ordinance.
2. Cannabis Cultivation: A cannabis business licensed to grow cannabis plants within the approved amount of space from seed or immature plant to mature plant. harvest cannabis flower from mature plant, package and label immature plants and seedlings and cannabis flower for sale to other cannabis businesses, transport cannabis flower to a cannabis manufacturer located on the same premises, and perform other actions approved by the office.
3. Cannabis Retail Businesses: A retail location and the retail location(s) of a mezzobusinesses with a retail operations endorsement, microbusinesses with a retail operations endorsement, medical combination businesses operating a retail location, (and/excluding) lower-potency hemp edible retailers.

4. Cannabis Retailer: Any person, partnership, firm, corporation, or association, foreign or domestic, selling cannabis product to a consumer and not for the purpose of resale in any form.
5. Daycare: A location licensed with the Minnesota Department of Human Services to provide the care of a child in a residence outside the child's own home for gain or otherwise, on a regular basis, for any part of a 24-hour day.
6. Lower-potency Hemp Edible: As defined under Minn. Stat. 342.01 subd. 50.
7. Office of Cannabis Management: Minnesota Office of Cannabis Management, referred to as "OCM" in this ordinance.
8. Place of Public Accommodation: A business, accommodation, refreshment, entertainment, recreation, or transportation facility of any kind, whether licensed or not, whose goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages or accommodations are extended, offered, sold, or otherwise made available to the public.
9. Preliminary License Approval: OCM pre-approval for a cannabis business license for applicants who qualify under Minn. Stat. 342.17.
10. Public Place: A public park or trail, public street or sidewalk; any enclosed, indoor area used by the general public, including, but not limited to, restaurants; bars; any other food or liquor establishment; hospitals; nursing homes; auditoriums; arenas; gyms; meeting rooms; common areas of rental apartment buildings, and other places of public accommodation.
11. Residential Treatment Facility: As defined under Minn. Stat. 245.462 subd. 23.
12. Retail Registration: An approved registration issued by the (insert local here) to a state-licensed cannabis retail business.
13. School: A public school as defined under Minn. Stat. 120A.05 or a nonpublic school that must meet the reporting requirements under Minn. Stat. 120A.24.
14. State License: An approved license issued by the State of Minnesota's Office of Cannabis Management to a cannabis retail business.

Section 2. Registration of Cannabis Businesses

A city or town can delegate authority for registration to the County. A city or town can still adopt specific requirement regarding zoning, buffers, and use in public places, provided said requirements are not in conflict with an ordinance adopted under the delegated authority granted to the County.

2.1 Consent to registering of Cannabis Businesses

No individual or entity may operate a state-licensed cannabis retail business within (insert local here) without first registering with (insert local here).

Any state-licensed cannabis retail business that sells to a customer or patient without valid retail registration shall incur a civil penalty of (up to $2,000) for each violation.

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the state shall not issue a license to any cannabis business to operate in Indian country, as defined in United States Code, title 18, section 1151, of a Minnesota Tribal government without the consent of the Tribal government.

2.2 Compliance Checks Prior to Retail Registration

A jurisdiction can choose to conduct a preliminary compliance check prior to issuance of retail registration.

Prior to issuance of a cannabis retail business registration, (insert local here) (shall/shall not) conduct a preliminary compliance check to ensure compliance with local ordinances.

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. 342, within 30 days of receiving a copy of a state license application from OCM, (insert local here) shall certify on a form provided by OCM whether a proposed cannabis retail business complies with local zoning ordinances and, if applicable, whether the proposed business complies with the state fire code and building code.

2.3 Registration & Application Procedure

2.3.1 Fees.

(insert local here) shall not charge an application fee.

A registration fee, as established in (insert local here)'s fee schedule, shall be charged to applicants depending on the type of retail business license applied for.

An initial retail registration fee shall not exceed $500 or half the amount of an initial state license fee under Minn. Stat. 342.11, whichever is less. The initial registration fee shall include the initial retail registration fee and the first annual renewal fee.

Any renewal retail registration fee imposed by (insert local here) shall be charged at the time of the second renewal and each subsequent renewal thereafter.

A renewal retail registration fee shall not exceed $1,000 or half the amount of a renewal state license fee under Minn. Stat. 342.11, whichever is less.

A medical combination business operating an adult-use retail location may only be charged a single registration fee, not to exceed the lesser of a single retail registration fee, defined under this section, of the adult-use retail business.

2.3.2 Application Submittal.

The (insert local here) shall issue a retail registration to a state-licensed cannabis retail business that adheres to the requirements of Minn. Stat. 342.22.

(A) An applicant for a retail registration shall fill out an application form, as provided by the (insert local here). Said form shall include, but is not limited to:
   i. Full name of the property owner and applicant;
   ii. Address, email address, and telephone number of the applicant;
   iii. The address and parcel ID for the property which the retail registration is sought;
   iv. Certification that the applicant complies with the requirements of local ordinances established pursuant to Minn. Stat. 342.13.
   v. (Insert additional standards here)

(B) The applicant shall include with the form:

i. the application fee as required in [Section 2.3.1];
ii. a copy of a valid state license or written notice of OCM license preapproval;
iii. (Insert additional standards here)

(C) Once an application is considered complete, the (insert local government designee) shall inform the applicant as such, process the application fees, and forward the application to the (insert staff/department, or elected body that will approve or deny the request) for approval or denial.

(D) The application fee shall be non-refundable once processed.

2.3.3 Application Approval

(A) *(Optional)* A state-licensed cannabis retail business application shall not be approved if the cannabis retail business would exceed the maximum number of registered cannabis retail businesses permitted under Section 2.6.

(B) A state-licensed cannabis retail business application shall not be approved or renewed if the applicant is unable to meet the requirements of this ordinance.

(C) A state-licensed cannabis retail business application that meets the requirements of this ordinance shall be approved.

2.3.4 Annual Compliance Checks.

The (insert local here) shall complete at minimum one compliance check per calendar year of every cannabis business to assess if the business meets age verification requirements, as required under [Minn. Stat. 342.22 Subd. 4(b) and Minn. Stat. 342.24] and this/these [chapter/section/ordinances].

The (insert local here) shall conduct at minimum one unannounced age verification compliance check at least once per calendar year.

Age verification compliance checks shall involve persons at least 17 years of age but under the age of 21 who, with the prior written consent of a parent or guardian if the person is under the age of 18, attempt to purchase adult-use cannabis flower, adult-use cannabis products, lower-potency hemp edibles, or hemp-derived consumer products under the direct supervision of a law enforcement officer or an employee of the local unit of government.

Any failures under this section must be reported to the Office of Cannabis Management.

2.3.5 Location Change

A jurisdiction may decide to treat location changes as a new registration, or alternatively treat a location change as allowable subject to compliance with the rest of the registration process.

A state-licensed cannabis retail business shall be required to submit a new application for registration under Section 2.3.2 if it seeks to move to a new location still within the legal boundaries of (insert local here).

or

If a state-licensed cannabis retail business seeks to move to a new location still within the legal boundaries of (insert local here), it shall notify (insert local here) of the proposed location change, and submit necessary information to meet all the criteria in this paragraph.

2.4 Renewal of Registration

The (insert local here) shall renew an annual registration of a state-licensed cannabis retail business at the same time OCM renews the cannabis retail business' license.

A state-licensed cannabis retail business shall apply to renew registration on a form established by (insert local here).

A cannabis retail registration issued under this ordinance shall not be transferred.

2.4.1 Renewal Fees.

The (insert local here) may charge a renewal fee for the registration starting at the second renewal, as established in (insert local here)'s fee schedule.

2.4.2 Renewal Application.

The application for renewal of a retail registration shall include, but is not limited to:

- Items required under Section 2.3.2 of this Ordinance.
- Insert additional items here

2.5 Suspension of Registration

2.5.1 When Suspension is Warranted.

The (insert local here) may suspend a cannabis retail business's registration if it violates the ordinance of (insert local here) or poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of the public. The (insert local here) shall immediately notify the cannabis retail business in writing the grounds for the suspension.

2.5.2 Notification to OCM.

The (insert local here) shall immediately notify the OCM in writing the grounds for the suspension. OCM will provide (insert local here) and cannabis business retailer a response to the complaint within seven calendar days and perform any necessary inspections within 30 calendar days.

2.5.3 Length of Suspension.

A jurisdiction can wait for a determination from the OCM before reinstating a registration.

The suspension of a cannabis retail business registration may be for up to 30 calendar days, unless OCM suspends the license for a longer period. The business may not make sales to customers if their registration is suspended.

The (insert local here) may reinstate a registration if it determines that the violations have been resolved.

The (insert local here) shall reinstate a registration if OCM determines that the violation(s) have been resolved.

2.5.4 Civil Penalties.

Subject to Minn. Stat. 342.22, subd. 5(e) the (insert local here) may impose a civil penalty, as specified in the (insert local here)'s Fee Schedule, for registration violations, not to exceed $2,000.

2.6 Limiting of Registrations

A jurisdiction may choose to set a limit on the number of retail registrations within its boundaries. The jurisdiction may not however, limit the number of registrations to fewer than one per 12,500 residents.

(Optional) The (insert local here) shall limit the number of cannabis retail businesses to no fewer than one registration for every 12,500 residents within (insert local legal boundaries here).

(Optional) If (insert county here) has one active cannabis retail businesses registration for every 12,500 residents, the (insert local here) shall not be required to register additional state-licensed cannabis retail businesses.

(Optional) The (insert local here) shall limit the number of cannabis retail businesses to (insert number <= minimum required).

Section 3. Requirements for Cannabis Businesses

State Statutes note that jurisdictions may "adopt reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of the operation of a cannabis business." A jurisdiction considering other siting requirements (such as a buffer between cannabis businesses, or a buffer from churches) should consider whether there is a basis to adopt such restrictions.

3.1 Minimum Buffer Requirements

A jurisdiction can adopt buffer requirements that prohibit the operation of a cannabis business within a certain distance of schools, daycares, residential treatment facilities, or from an attraction within a public park that is regularly used by minors, including a playground or athletic field. Buffer requirements are optional. A jurisdiction cannot adopt larger buffer requirements than the requirements here in Section 3.1. A jurisdiction should use a measuring system consistent with the rest of its ordinances, e.g. from lot line or center point of lot.

(Optional) The (insert local here) shall prohibit the operation of a cannabis business within [0-1,000] feet of a school.

(Optional) The (insert local here) shall prohibit the operation of a cannabis business within [0-500] feet of a day care.

(Optional) The (insert local here) shall prohibit the operation of a cannabis business within [0-500] feet of a residential treatment facility.

(Optional) The (insert local here) shall prohibit the operation of a cannabis business within [0-500] feet of an attraction within a public park that is regularly used by minors, including a playground or athletic field.

(Optional) The (insert local here) shall prohibit the operation of a cannabis retail business within [X] feet of another cannabis retail business.

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. 462.367 subd. 14, nothing in Section 3.1 shall prohibit an active cannabis business or a cannabis business seeking registration from continuing operation at the same site if a (school/daycare/residential treatment facility/attraction within a public park that is regularly used by minors) moves within the minimum buffer zone.

3.2 Zoning and Land Use

For jurisdictions with zoning, said jurisdiction can limit what zone(s) Cannabis businesses can operate in. As with other uses in a Zoning Ordinance, a jurisdiction can also determine if such use requires a Conditional or Interim Use permit. A jurisdiction cannot outright prohibit a cannabis business. A jurisdiction should amend their Zoning Ordinance and list what zone(s) Cannabis businesses are permitted in, and whether they are permitted, conditional, or interim uses. While each locality conducts its zoning differently, a few themes have emerged across the country. For example, cannabis manufacturing facilities are often placed in industrial zones, while cannabis retailers are typically found in commercial/retail zones. Cannabis retail facilities align with general retail establishments and are prohibited from allowing consumption or use onsite and are also required to have plans to prevent the visibility of cannabis and hemp-derived products to individuals outside the retail location. Cannabis businesses should be zoned under existing zoning ordinances in accordance with the license type or endorsed activities held by the cannabis business.

3.2.1. Cultivation.

Cannabis businesses licensed or endorsed for cultivation are permitted as a (type of use) in the following zoning districts:

- (Insert zoning districts use is permitted in here)
- (Insert zoning districts use is permitted in here)

3.2.1. Cannabis Manufacturer.

Cannabis businesses licensed or endorsed for cannabis manufacturer are permitted as a (type of use) in the following zoning districts:

- (Insert zoning districts use is permitted in here)
- (Insert zoning districts use is permitted in here)

3.2.1. Hemp Manufacturer.

Businesses licensed or endorsed for low-potency hemp edible manufacturers permitted as a (type of use) in the following zoning districts:

- (Insert zoning districts use is permitted in here)
- (Insert zoning districts use is permitted in here)

3.2.1. Wholesale.

Cannabis businesses licensed or endorsed for wholesale are permitted as a (type of use) in the following zoning districts:

- (Insert zoning districts use is permitted in here)
- (Insert zoning districts use is permitted in here)

3.2.1. Cannabis Retail.

Cannabis businesses licensed or endorsed for cannabis retail are permitted as a (type of use) in the following zoning districts:

- (Insert zoning districts use is permitted in here)
- (Insert zoning districts use is permitted in here)

3.2.1. Cannabis Transportation.

Cannabis businesses licensed or endorsed for transportation are permitted as a (type of use) in the following zoning districts:

- (Insert zoning districts use is permitted in here)
- (Insert zoning districts use is permitted in here)

3.2.1. Cannabis Delivery.

Cannabis businesses licensed or endorsed for delivery are permitted as a (type of use) in the following zoning districts:

- (Insert zoning districts use is permitted in here)
- (Insert zoning districts use is permitted in here)

3.3 Hours of Operation

A jurisdiction may adopt an ordinance limiting hours of operation between 10 a.m. and 9 p.m., seven days a week, and that State statute prohibits the sale of cannabis between 2 a.m. and 8 a.m., Monday through Saturday, and between 2 a.m. and 10 a.m. on Sundays.

(Optional) Cannabis businesses are limited to retail sale of cannabis, cannabis flower, cannabis products, lower-potency hemp edibles, or hemp-derived consumer products between the hours of (insert time here) and (insert time here).

3.4 (Optional) Advertising

Cannabis businesses are permitted to erect up to two fixed signs on the exterior of the building or property of the business, unless otherwise limited by (insert local here)'s sign ordinances.

Section 4. Temporary Cannabis Events

Any individual or business seeking to obtain a cannabis event license must provide OCM information about the time, location, layout, number of business participants, and hours of operation. A cannabis event organizer must receive local approval, including obtaining any necessary permits or licenses issued by a local unit of government before holding a cannabis event.

4.1 License or Permit Required for Temporary Cannabis Events

4.1.1 License Required.

A cannabis event organizer license entitles the license holder to organize a temporary cannabis event lasting no more than four days. A jurisdiction should determine what type of approval is consistent with their existing ordinances for events.

A license or permit is required to be issued and approved by (insert local here) prior to holding a Temporary Cannabis Event.

4.1.2 Registration & Application Procedure

A registration fee, as established in (insert local here)'s fee schedule, shall be charged to applicants for Temporary Cannabis Events.

4.1.3 Application Submittal & Review.

The (insert local here) shall require an application for Temporary Cannabis Events.

(A) An applicant for a retail registration shall fill out an application form, as provided by the (insert local here). Said form shall include, but is not limited to:
   i. Full name of the property owner and applicant;
   ii. Address, email address, and telephone number of the applicant;
   iii. (Insert additional standards here)

(B) The applicant shall include with the form:
   i. the application fee as required in (Section 4.1.2);
   ii. a copy of the OCM cannabis event license application, submitted pursuant to 342.39 subd. 2.

The application shall be submitted to the (insert local authority), or other designee for review. If the designee determines that a submitted application is incomplete, they shall return the application to the applicant with the notice of deficiencies.

(C) Once an application is considered complete, the designee shall inform the applicant as such, process the application fees, and forward the application to the (insert staff/department, or elected body that will approve or deny the request) for approval or denial.

(D) The application fee shall be non-refundable once processed.

(E) The application for a license for a Temporary Cannabis Event shall meet the following standards:

A jurisdiction may establish standards for Temporary cannabis events which the event organizer must meet, including restricting or prohibiting any on-site consumption. If there are public health, safety, or welfare concerns associated with a proposed cannabis event, a jurisdiction would presumably be authorized to deny approval of that event.

- Insert standards here

(G) A request for a Temporary Cannabis Event that meets the requirements of this Section shall be approved.

(H) A request for a Temporary Cannabis Event that does not meet the requirements of this Section shall be denied. The (insert city/town/county) shall notify the applicant of the standards not met and basis for denial.

(Optional) Temporary cannabis events shall only be held at (insert local place).

(Optional) Temporary cannabis events shall only be held between the hours of (insert start time) and (insert stop time).

Section 5. (Optional) Lower-Potency Hemp Edibles

A jurisdiction can establish different standards or requirements regarding Low-Potency Edibles. A jurisdiction can consider including the following section and subsections in their cannabis ordinance.

5.1 Sale of Low-Potency Hemp Edibles

The sale of Low-Potency Edibles is permitted, subject to the conditions within this Section.

5.2 Zoning Districts

If sales are permitted, a jurisdiction can limit what zone(s) the sales of Low-Potency Edibles can take place in. A jurisdiction can also determine if such activity requires a Conditional or Interim Use permit.

Low-Potency Edibles businesses are permitted as a (type of use) in the following zoning districts:

- (Insert zoning districts use is permitted in here)
- (Insert zoning districts use is permitted in here)

5.3 (Optional) Additional Standards

5.3.1 Sales within Municipal Liquor Store.

A jurisdiction that already operates a Municipal Liquor Store may sell Low-Potency Edibles within the same store.

The sale of Low-Potency Edibles is permitted in a Municipal Liquor Store.

5.3.2 Age Requirements.

A jurisdiction is able to restrict the sale of Low-Potency Edibles to locations such as bars.

The sale of Low-Potency Edibles is permitted only in places that admit persons 21 years of age or older.

5.3.3 Beverages.

The sale of Low-Potency Hemp Beverages is permitted in places that meet requirements of this Section.

5.3.4 Storage of Product.

A jurisdiction is able to set requirements on storage and sales of Low-Potency Edibles.

Low-Potency Edibles shall be sold behind a counter, and stored in a locked case.

Section 6. (Optional) Local Government as a Cannabis Retailer

(insert local here) may establish, own, and operate one municipal cannabis retail business subject to the restrictions in this chapter.

The municipal cannabis retail store shall not be included in any limitation of the number of registered cannabis retail businesses under Section 2.6.

(insert local here) shall be subject to all same rental license requirements and procedures applicable to all other applicants.

Section 7 Use in Public Places

No person shall use cannabis flower, cannabis products, lower-potency hemp edibles, or hemp-derived consumer products in a public place or a place of public accommodation unless the premises is an establishment or an event licensed to permit on-site consumption of adult-use.

Appendix B: Hemp Flower and Hemp-Derived Cannabinoid Product Checklist

MINNESOTA

Office of Cannabis Management
Department of Health

Hemp Flower and Hemp-Derived Cannabinoid Product Checklist

Minnesota Statute 18K.02, Definitions
Minnesota Statute 152.01, Subdivision 9
Minnesota Statute 151.72, Sale of Certain Cannabinoid Products
Minnesota Statute 152.0264, Cannabis Sale Crimes
Minnesota Statute 342.09, Personal Adult Use of Cannabis

Question	Yes	No	Comments	Additional Information
Business License and Registration Compliance				
Is the business registered with the Minnesota Department of Health?				All businesses selling hemp-derived cannabinoid products must be registered. See Hemp-Derived Cannabinoid Products (www.health.state.mn.us/people/cannabis/edibles/index.html)
If the business offers on-site consumption, do they have a liquor license?				Local authorities issue on-site consumption licenses. These are required for all businesses permitting on-site consumption of THC.
Product Compliance – All Products				
Does the business ensure that all sales are made to persons 21 years old or older?				Only persons 21 years of age or older may purchase hemp-derived cannabinoid products, with the exception of topicals. These products may be sold to anyone.
Does the business have all edible cannabinoid products, except beverages, behind the counter or in a locked cabinet?				Businesses must ensure all edible cannabinoid products are secure and inaccessible to customers.

Question	Yes	No	Comments	Additional Information
Only delta-8 and delta-9 are allowed for human consumption. Does the business sell edibles or beverages with any other intoxicating cannabinoids?				MDH has identified products containing many different intoxicating cannabinoids, such as HHC, THC-O, THC-P, PHC, delta-10, delta-11, delta-8p, delta-9p, etc. The product must contain only delta-8 and/or delta-9.
Does the business sell any edible products that are similar to a product marketed to or consumed by children?				Edible products that appear similar to candy or snacks marketed toward or consumed by children are not allowed.
Does the label on the edible or beverage state “Keep out of reach of children”?				All products must include the warning label “Keep out of reach of children.”
Is the manufacturer’s name, address, website, and contact phone number included on the label or provided through a QR code?				If not, the product is not in compliance.
Does the QR code on the product bring the user to a Certificate of Analysis on the website, which includes the name of the independent testing laboratory, cannabinoid profile, and product batch number?				All products must be tested by batch in an independent, accredited laboratory. The results must include the cannabinoid profile.
Does the label on the product indicate the cannabinoids by serving and in total?				The label must indicate the potency by individual serving as well as in total.

Question	Yes	No	Comments	Additional Information
Does the label on the product make any claim the product offers any kind of health benefit?				Health claims are not permitted on hemp or cannabis products unless approved by the FDA. At this time, there is not an approved statement.
Does the label on the product state that the product does not claim to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent any disease?				The manufacturer cannot claim the product will provide any health benefit unless the product has been formally approved by the FDA.
Does the business sell CBD (or other forms of cannabidiol) in the form of a softgel, tablet, or tincture?				Non-intoxicating cannabinoids may only be sold in the form of an edible, beverage, or topical. Therefore, softgels and tablets cannot be sold. Tinctures must be labeled as either an edible or beverage and comply with the edible or beverage requirements.
Product Compliance – Edibles				
Does the edible product contain more than 5 mg delta-8 and/or delta-9 per serving?				Edibles may not exceed 5 mg delta-8 and/or delta-9 per serving.
Does the edible product package/container contain more than 50 mg total THC (delta-8 and/or delta-9)?				Edibles may not exceed 50 mg total delta-8 or delta-9 per package. The edible cannot contain any other form of THC or intoxicating cannabinoid.
Are all the edible product's servings clearly marked, wrapped, or scored on the product?				Edible product servings must be clearly distinguished on the product. Bulk products that require the consumer to measure are not allowed.

Question	Yes	No	Comments	Additional Information
Does the business sell any edible products in the shape of bears, worms, fruits, rings, ribbons?				Edibles in shapes that appeal to children are not allowed.
Is the edible product in a child-proof, tamper-evident, opaque container?				All edibles must be in a container that is child-resistant and tamper evident. If the container is clear, the business must place the edible into an opaque bag at the point of sale. Clear bags are not allowed.
Product Compliance - Beverages				
Does the beverage product contain more than 5 mg delta-8 or delta-9 per serving?				Beverages may not exceed 5 mg delta-8 and/or delta-9 per serving.
Does the beverage product contain more than 2 servings?				Beverages cannot exceed two servings, regardless of the THC potency.
Is the beverage product in an opaque container?				If the beverage is in a clear container, the business must place the beverage in an opaque bag at the point of sale.
Product Compliance – Smokables (non-flower)				
Does the business sell vapes, pre-rolls, dabs, or other smokable products which contain more than 0.3% THC?				A product's certificate of analysis will show the concentration of THC the product contains. The certificate typically is found through the QR code on the product package. In MDH's experience, most vapes contain 50% - 90%+ THC. Pre-rolls may consist of raw hemp flower. These products are not regulated by 151.72. However, if a pre-roll is labeled as "infused" or "coated" have additional cannabinoids applied to the material, of which the product typically exceeds the 0.3% THC limit.

Question	Yes	No	Comments	Additional Information
Does the business sell vapes, pre-rolls, dabs, or other smokeable products that contain other intoxicating cannabinoids, such as HHC?				MN Statutes do not allow any cannabinoid, other than delta-8 or delta-9, to be sold if the cannabinoid is intended to alter the structure or function of the body. HHC is a cannabinoid known to have potency greater than THC.
Does the business sell vapes, pre-rolls, dabs, or other smokable products which contain CBD?				Non-intoxicating cannabinoids cannot be smoked, vaped, or inhaled.
Product Compliance – Flower				
Does the business sell raw hemp flower?				Raw hemp flower must contain 0.3% or less of delta-9 on a dry weight basis. Products exceeding 0.3% delta-9 dry weight are marijuana, and are illegal for sale. THC-A is the non psychoactive precursor to delta-9. Once heated THC-A converts to delta-9. In that process some amount of THC-A is lost. To determine whether, once heated, the hemp flower will exceed the allowable 0.3% of delta-9, one can use a decarboxylation formula which takes into account the conversion of THC-A into delta-9. That formula is as follows: Total THC = (0.877 X THC-A) + d-9 THC) Raw flower must include a certificate of analysis to show testing below 0.3% delta-9. • A lack of a certificate of analysis would constitute an illegal sale.

Question	Yes	No	Comments	Additional Information
				• A certificate of analysis showing that under the decarboxylation formula that delta-9 would exceed the 0.3% threshold would also indicate the flower is cannabis and not hemp and therefore being sold illegally.
Product Compliance – On-Site Consumption				
If the business offers on-site consumption, do they serve the edible or beverage in its original packaging?				The business may not pour out or remove an edible from its original packaging.
If the business offers on-site consumption, do they mix a cannabis-infused beverage with alcohol?				The business may not mix cannabis-infused products with alcohol.
If the business offers on-site consumption, do they permit customers to remove from the premises products which have been removed from their original packaging?				Products which have been removed from their original packaging cannot be removed from the premises by the customer.

NOTE: If a person suspects that a hemp-derived cannabinoid product is being sold in violation of Minnesota law, they can use the complaint form at Submitting Hemp-Derived Cannabinoid Product Complaints (www.health.state.mn.us/people/cannabis/edibles/complaints.html).

Appendix C: Enforcement Notice from the Office of Cannabis Management

MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF CANNABIS MANAGEMENT

Enforcement Notice from the Office of Cannabis Management

Dear Registered Hemp Derived Cannabinoid Business:

The Office of Cannabis Management (OCM), established in 2023, is charged with developing and implementing the operational and regulatory systems to oversee the cannabis industry in Minnesota as provided in Minnesota Statutes Chapter 342.

When Minnesota legalized the sale of adult-use of cannabis flower, cannabis products, and lower-potency hemp edibles/ hemp-derived consumer products, the Minnesota Legislature included statutory provisions, Minnesota Statutes, chapter 152.0264, making the sale of cannabis illegal until a business is licensed by OCM. The Office of Cannabis Management has not yet issued licenses for the cultivation, manufacture, wholesale, transportation or retail sale of cannabis, therefore any retail sales of cannabis products, including cannabis flower, are illegal.

The Office of Cannabis Management has received complaints of retailers selling cannabis flower under the label of hemp flower. Under an agreement between The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and OCM, inspectors from MDH will begin to examine any flower products being sold during their regular inspections to determine whether they are indeed hemp flower or cannabis flower.

In distinguishing between hemp and cannabis flower, OCM, consistent with federal rules and regulations related to hemp under 7 CFR 990.1, will consider the total concentration of THC post- decarboxylation, which is the process by which THC-A is converted into Delta-9 to produce an intoxicating effect. The examination of raw flower products will include reviewing the certificate of analysis for compliance in several areas, including:

Compliance with the requirement that raw flower listed for sale includes a Certificate of Analysis (COA). Products for sale without a COA will constitute an illegal sale.

A COA that affirms concentrations of 0.3% or less of Delta-9 on a dry weight basis. Products exceeding 0.3% Delta-9 dry weight are considered marijuana and are therefore illegal to sell.

A COA that confirms that the total levels of Delta-9 and THC-A after the decarboxylation process do not exceed 0.3%. A COA that indicates the raw flower will exceed 0.3 percent Delta-9 post-decarboxylation, or a subsequent test conducted by an independent laboratory utilized by OCM that confirms Delta-9 in excess of 0.3 percent will be considered illegal.

Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 342 governs Minnesota's cannabis market, and empowers OCM to ensure regulatory compliance. Minnesota Statutes, chapter 342.09, subdivision 4 prohibits the retail sale of cannabis flower and cannabis products "without a license issued under this chapter that authorizes the sale."

To date, the Office of Cannabis Management has not issued any cannabis licenses, applications for licenses are expected to be available in the first half of 2025. As such, selling cannabis is a clear violation of law. Be aware that under Minnesota Statutes, 342.09, subdivision 6, OCM may assess fines in excess of a $1 million for violations of this law. Likewise, under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 342.19, OCM is empowered to embargo any product that it has "probable cause to believe . . . is being distributed in violation of this chapter or rules adopted under this chapter[.]" Furthermore, violations of law may be considered in future licensing decisions made by OCM.

As inspectors enter the field, we encourage you to review the products you are currently selling to ensure they fall within the thresholds outlined above. If you have any questions related to the products you are selling, please send an email to cannabis.info@state.mn.us.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Charlene Briner
Interim Director
Office of Cannabis Management

Appendix D: Notice to Unlawful Cannabis Sellers

MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF CANNABIS MANAGEMENT

Notice to Unlawful Cannabis Sellers

This notice is to inform you that your current course of action may run afoul of Minnesota law, and continuing this course of action may result in civil actions and potential criminal prosecution. To avoid such outcomes, you should immediately cease and desist any plans to engage in the unlicensed sale of cannabis and cannabis products.

Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 342 (www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/342) governs Minnesota's cannabis market, and empowers OCM to ensure regulatory compliance. Minnesota Statutes, chapter 342.09, subdivision 4 (www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/342.09#stat.342.09.4) prohibits the retail sale of cannabis flower and cannabis products "without a license issued under this chapter that authorizes the sale." To date the Office of Cannabis Management has not issued any retail, or other, cannabis licenses. As such, your plan to sell cannabis in a retail setting at this date would be in flagrant violation of the law. Be aware that under Minnesota Statutes, 342.09, subdivision 6 (www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/342.09#stat.342.09.6), OCM may assess fines in excess of a $1,000,000 for violations of this law.

Likewise, under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 342.19 (www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/342.19), OCM is empowered to embargo any product that it has "probable cause to believe . . . is being distributed in violation of this chapter or rules adopted under this chapter[.]" It is believed that products attempted to be sold at your retail location might be distributed in violation of the law, and would therefore be subject to embargo by OCM. Under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 342.19, subd. 2 (www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/342.19#stat.342.19.2), once embargoed OCM "shall release the cannabis plant, cannabis flower, cannabis product, artificially derived cannabinoid, lower-potency hemp edible, or hemp-derived consumer product when this chapter and rules adopted under this chapter have been complied with or the item is found not to be in violation of this chapter or rules adopted under this chapter."

While Minnesota has legalized the sale of adult-use of cannabis flower, cannabis products, lower-potency hemp edibles, or hemp-derived consumer products, the legislature did add new statutory provisions, Minnesota Statutes, chapter 152.0264 (www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/152.0264), making illegal the unlawful sale of cannabis. As there are not yet any licenses issued by OCM for the cultivation, manufacture, wholesale, transportation, or retail of cannabis, any sales of cannabis products in excess of the limits in 152.0264 is illegal.

If you are only planning to sell cannabinoid products that are derived from hemp, you should ensure that the sale of those products is consistent with Minnesota Statutes, chapter 151.72 (www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/151.72), including but not limited to the requirement that your business be registered with the Commissioner of Health, and that all products are in compliance with the relevant statutes.

Finally, in addition to the state laws outlined above, please be aware that any retail location must be in compliance with local government ordinances and zoning requirements.

OCM takes seriously its charge to enforce Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 342, and its responsibility to ensure a safe and legal cannabis market. In order to avoid the above-described actions, all attempts to open a cannabis retail dispensary in Minnesota without the appropriate license should be ceased.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FARIBAULT TO REGULATE CANNABIS BUSINESSES

The City Council of Faribault hereby ordains:

Section 1. Administration

1.1 Findings and Purpose

The city of Faribault makes the following legislative findings:

The purpose of this ordinance is to implement the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 342, which authorizes the city of Faribault to protect the public health, safety, welfare of the city of Faribault residents by regulating cannabis businesses within the legal boundaries of the city of Faribault.

The city of Faribault finds and concludes that the proposed provisions are appropriate and lawful land use regulations for the city of Faribault, that the proposed amendments will promote the community's interest in reasonable stability in zoning for now and in the future, and that the proposed provisions are in the public interest and for the public good.

1.2 Authority & Jurisdiction

The city of Faribault has the authority to adopt this ordinance pursuant to:

a) Minn. Stat. 342.13(c), regarding the authority of a local unit of government to adopt reasonable restrictions of the time, place, and manner of the operation of a cannabis business provided that such restrictions do not prohibit the establishment or operation of cannabis businesses.
b) Minn. Stat. 342.22, regarding the local registration and enforcement requirements of state-licensed cannabis retail businesses and lower-potency hemp edible retail businesses.
c) Minn. Stat. 152.0263, Subd. 5, regarding the use of cannabis in public places.
d) Minn. Stat. 462.357, regarding the authority of a local authority to adopt zoning ordinances.

Ordinance shall be applicable to the legal boundaries of the city of Faribault.

1.3 Severability

If any section, clause, provision, or portion of this ordinance is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

1.4 Enforcement

The City Clerk and Police Chief is responsible for the administration and enforcement of this ordinance. Any violation of the provisions of this ordinance or failure to comply with any of its requirements constitutes a misdemeanor and is punishable as defined by law. Violations of this ordinance can occur regardless of whether or not a permit is required for a regulated activity listed in this ordinance.

1.5 Definitions

1. Unless otherwise noted in this section, words and phrases contained in Minn. Stat. 342.01

and the rules promulgated pursuant to any of these acts, shall have the same meanings in this ordinance.

2. Cannabis Cultivation: A cannabis business licensed to grow cannabis plants within the approved amount of space from seed or immature plant to mature plant. harvest cannabis flower from mature plant, package and label immature plants and seedlings and cannabis flower for sale to other cannabis businesses, transport cannabis flowerto a cannabis manufacturer located on the same premises, and perform other actions approved by the office.
3. Cannabis Retail Businesses: A retail location and the retail location(s) of a mezzobusinesses with a retail operations endorsement, microbusinesses with a retail operations endorsement, medical combination businesses operating a retail location, (and/excluding) lower-potency hemp edible retailers.
4. Cannabis Retailer: Any person, partnership, firm, corporation, or association, foreign or domestic, selling cannabis product to a consumer and not for the purpose of resale in any form.
5. Daycare: A location licensed with the Minnesota Department of Human Services to provide the care of a child in a residence outside the child's own home for gain or otherwise, on a regular basis, for any part of a 24-hour day.
6. Lower-potency Hemp Edible: As defined under Minn. Stat. 342.01 subd. 50.
7. Office of Cannabis Management: Minnesota Office of Cannabis Management, referred to as “OCM” in this ordinance.
8. Place of Public Accommodation: A business, accommodation, refreshment, entertainment, recreation, or transportation facility of any kind, whether licensed or not, whose goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages or accommodations are extended, offered, sold, or otherwise made available to the public.
9. Preliminary License Approval: OCM pre-approval for a cannabis business license for applicants who qualify under Minn. Stat. 342.17.
10. Public Place: A public park or trail, public street or sidewalk; any enclosed, indoor area used by the general public, including, but not limited to, restaurants; bars; any other food or liquor establishment; hospitals; nursing homes; auditoriums; arenas; gyms; meeting rooms; common areas of rental apartment buildings, and other places of public accommodation.
11. Residential Treatment Facility: As defined under Minn. Stat. 245.462 subd. 23.
12. Retail Registration: An approved registration issued by the city of Faribault to a state-licensed cannabis retail business.
13. School: A public school as defined under Minn. Stat. 120A.05 or a nonpublic school that must meet the reporting requirements under Minn. Stat. 120A.24.
14. State License: An approved license issued by the State of Minnesota’s Office of Cannabis Management to a cannabis retail business.

Section 2. Registration of Cannabis Businesses

2.1 Consent to registering of Cannabis Businesses

No individual or entity may operate a state-licensed cannabis retail business within the city of Faribault without first registering with the city of Faribault.

Any state-licensed cannabis retail business that sells to a customer or patient without valid retail registration shall incur a civil penalty of (up to $2,000) for each violation.

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the state shall not issue a license to any cannabis business to operate in Indian country, as defined in United States Code, title 18, section 1151, of a Minnesota Tribal government without the consent of the Tribal government.

2.2 Compliance Checks Prior to Retail Registration

Prior to issuance of a cannabis retail business registration, the city of Faribault shall conduct a preliminary compliance check to ensure compliance with local ordinances.

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. 342, within 30 days of receiving a copy of a state license application from OCM, the city of Faribault shall certify on a form provided by OCM whether a proposed cannabis retail business complies with local zoning ordinances and, if applicable, whether the proposed business complies with the state fire code and building code.

2.3 Registration & Application Procedure

2.3.1 Fees.

The city of Faribault shall not charge an application fee.

A registration fee, as established in the city of Faribault's fee schedule, shall be charged to applicants depending on the type of retail business license applied for.

An initial retail registration fee shall not exceed $500 or half the amount of an initial state license fee under Minn. Stat. 342.11, whichever is less. The initial registration fee shall include the initial retail registration fee and the first annual renewal fee.

Any renewal retail registration fee imposed by the city of Faribault shall be charged at the time of the second renewal and each subsequent renewal thereafter.

A renewal retail registration fee shall not exceed $1,000 or half the amount of a renewal state license fee under Minn. Stat. 342.11, whichever is less.

A medical combination business operating an adult-use retail location may only be charged a single registration fee, not to exceed the lesser of a single retail registration fee, defined under this section, of the adult-use retail business.

2.3.2 Application Submittal.

The city of Faribault shall issue a retail registration to a state-licensed cannabis retail business that adheres to the requirements of Minn. Stat. 342.22.

(A) An applicant for a retail registration shall fill out an application form, as provided by the city of Faribault. Said form shall include, but is not limited to:
   i. Full name of the property owner and applicant;
   ii. Address, email address, and telephone number of the applicant;
   iii. The address and parcel ID for the property which the retail registration is sought;
   iv. Certification that the applicant complies with the requirements of local ordinances established pursuant to Minn. Stat. 342.13.

(B) The applicant shall include with the form:
   i. the application fee as required in [Section 2.3.1];
   ii. a copy of a valid state license or written notice of OCM license preapproval;
   iii. (Insert additional standards here)

(C) Once an application is considered complete, the City Clerk shall inform the applicant as such, process the application fees, and forward the application to the Community and Economic Development Department, Police Department and City Council for approval or denial.
(D) The application fee shall be non-refundable once processed.

2.3.3 Application Approval

(A) A state-licensed cannabis retail business application shall not be approved if the cannabis retail business would exceed the maximum number of registered cannabis retail businesses permitted under Section 2.6.
(B) A state-licensed cannabis retail business application shall not be approved or renewed if the applicant is unable to meet the requirements of this ordinance.
(C) A state-licensed cannabis retail business application that meets the requirements of this ordinance shall be approved.

2.3.4 Annual Compliance Checks.

The city of Faribault shall complete at minimum one compliance check per calendar year of every cannabis business to assess if the business meets age verification requirements, as required under [Minn. Stat. 342.22 Subd. 4(b) and Minn. Stat. 342.24].

The city of Faribault shall conduct at minimum one unannounced age verification compliance check at least once per calendar year.

Age verification compliance checks shall involve persons at least 17 years of age but under the age of 21 who, with the prior written consent of a parent or guardian if the person is under the age of 18, attempt to purchase adult-use cannabis flower, adult-use cannabis products, lower-potency hemp edibles, or hemp-derived consumer products under the direct supervision of a law enforcement officer or an employee of the local unit of government.

Any failures under this section must be reported to the Office of Cannabis Management.

2.3.5 Location Change

A state-licensed cannabis retail business shall be required to submit a new application for registration under Section 2.3.2 if it seeks to move to a new location still within the legal boundaries of the city of Faribault.

or

If a state-licensed cannabis retail business seeks to move to a new location still within the legal boundaries of city of Faribault, it shall notify the city of Faribault of the proposed location change, and submit necessary information to meet all the criteria in this paragraph.

2.4 Renewal of Registration

The city of Faribault shall renew an annual registration of a state-licensed cannabis retail business at the same time OCM renews the cannabis retail business' license.

A state-licensed cannabis retail business shall apply to renew registration on a form established by city of Faribault.

A cannabis retail registration issued under this ordinance shall not be transferred.

2.4.1 Renewal Fees.

The city of Faribault may charge a renewal fee for the registration starting at the second renewal, as established in (city of Faribault)'s fee schedule.

2.4.2 Renewal Application.

The application for renewal of a retail registration shall include, but is not limited to:

- Items required under Section 2.3.2 of this Ordinance.
- Insert additional items here

2.5 Suspension of Registration

2.5.1 When Suspension is Warranted.

The city of Faribault may suspend a cannabis retail business's registration if it violates the ordinance of city of Faribault or poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of the public. The city of Faribault shall immediately notify the cannabis retail business in writing the grounds for the suspension.

2.5.2 Notification to OCM.

The city of Faribault shall immediately notify the OCM in writing the grounds for the suspension. OCM will provide city of Faribault and cannabis business retailer a response to the complaint within seven calendar days and perform any necessary inspections within 30 calendar days.

2.5.3 Length of Suspension.

The suspension of a cannabis retail business registration may be for up to 30 calendar days, unless OCM suspends the license for a longer period. The business may not make sales to customers if their registration is suspended.

The city of Faribault may reinstate a registration if it determines that the violations have been resolved.

The city of Faribault shall reinstate a registration if OCM determines that the violation(s) have been resolved.

2.5.4 Civil Penalties.

Subject to Minn. Stat. 342.22, subd. 5(e) the city of Faribault may impose a civil penalty, as specified in the city of Faribault's Fee Schedule, for registration violations, not to exceed $2,000.

2.6 Limiting of Registrations

A jurisdiction may choose to set a limit on the number of retail registrations within its boundaries. The jurisdiction may not however, limit the number of registrations to fewer than one per 12,500 residents.

(Optional) The city of Faribault shall limit the number of cannabis retail businesses to no fewer than one registration for every 12,500 residents within (insert local legal boundaries here).

(Optional) The city of Faribault shall limit the number of cannabis retail businesses to (insert number <= minimum required).

Section 3. Requirements for Cannabis Businesses

State Statutes note that jurisdictions may "adopt reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of the operation of a cannabis business." A jurisdiction considering other siting requirements (such as a buffer between cannabis businesses, or a buffer from churches) should consider whether there is a basis to adopt such restrictions.

3.1 Minimum Buffer Requirements

A jurisdiction can adopt buffer requirements that prohibit the operation of a cannabis business within a certain distance of schools, daycares, residential treatment facilities, or from an attraction within a public park that is regularly used by minors, including a playground or athletic field. Buffer requirements are optional. A jurisdiction cannot adopt larger buffer requirements than the requirements here in Section 3.1. A jurisdiction should use a measuring system consistent with the rest of its ordinances, e.g. from lot line or center point of lot.

(Optional) The city of Faribault shall prohibit the operation of a cannabis business within [0-1,000] feet of a school.

(Optional) The city of Faribault shall prohibit the operation of a cannabis business within [0-500] feet of a day care.

(Optional) The city of Faribault shall prohibit the operation of a cannabis business within [0-500] feet of a residential treatment facility.

(Optional) The city of Faribault shall prohibit the operation of a cannabis business within [0-500] feet of an attraction within a public park that is regularly used by minors, including a playground or athletic field.

(Optional) The city of Faribault shall prohibit the operation of a cannabis retail business within [X] feet of another cannabis retail business.

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. 462.367 subd. 14, nothing in Section 3.1 shall prohibit an active cannabis business or a cannabis business seeking registration from continuing operation at the same site if a (school/daycare/residential treatment facility/attraction within a public park that is regularly used by minors) moves within the minimum buffer zone.

3.2 Zoning and Land Use

For jurisdictions with zoning, said jurisdiction can limit what zone(s) Cannabis businesses can operate in. As with other uses in a Zoning Ordinance, a jurisdiction can also determine if such use requires a Conditional or Interim Use permit. A jurisdiction cannot outright prohibit a cannabis business. A jurisdiction should amend their Zoning Ordinance and list what zone(s) Cannabis businesses are permitted in, and whether they are permitted, conditional, or interim uses. While each locality conducts its zoning differently, a few themes have emerged across the country. For example, cannabis manufacturing facilities are often placed in industrial zones, while cannabis retailers are typically found in commercial/retail zones. Cannabis retail facilities align with general retail establishments and are prohibited from allowing consumption or use onsite and are also required to have plans to prevent the visibility of cannabis and hemp-derived products to individuals outside the retail location. Cannabis businesses should be zoned under existing zoning ordinances in accordance with the license type or endorsed activities held by the cannabis business.

3.2.1. Cultivation.

Cannabis businesses licensed or endorsed for cultivation are permitted as a (type of use) in the following zoning districts:

- Industrial

3.2.1. Cannabis Manufacturer.

Cannabis businesses licensed or endorsed for cannabis manufacturer are permitted as a (type of use) in the following zoning districts:

- Industrial

3.2.1. Hemp Manufacturer.

Businesses licensed or endorsed for low-potency hemp edible manufacturers permitted as a (type of use) in the following zoning districts:

- Industrial

3.2.1. Wholesale.

Cannabis businesses licensed or endorsed for wholesale are permitted as a (type of use) in the following zoning districts:

- Industrial

3.2.1. Cannabis Retail.

Cannabis businesses licensed or endorsed for cannabis retail are permitted as a (type of use) in the following zoning districts:

- Industrial, C-1, C-2, C-3, CBD

3.2.1. Cannabis Transportation.

Cannabis businesses licensed or endorsed for transportation are permitted as a (type of use) in the following zoning districts:

3.2.1. Cannabis Delivery.

Cannabis businesses licensed or endorsed for delivery are permitted as a (type of use) in the following zoning districts:

3.3 Hours of Operation

A jurisdiction may adopt an ordinance limiting hours of operation between 10 a.m. and 9 p.m., seven days a week, and that State statute prohibits the sale of cannabis between 2 a.m. and 8 a.m., Monday through Saturday, and between 2 a.m. and 10 a.m. on Sundays.

(Optional) Cannabis businesses are limited to retail sale of cannabis, cannabis flower, cannabis products, lower-potency hemp edibles, or hemp-derived consumer products between the hours of (insert time here) and (insert time here).

3.4 (Optional) Advertising

Cannabis businesses are permitted to erect up to two fixed signs on the exterior of the building or property of the business, unless otherwise limited by (city of Faribault)'s sign ordinances.

Section 4. Temporary Cannabis Events

Any individual or business seeking to obtain a cannabis event license must provide OCM information about the time, location, layout, number of business participants, and hours of operation. A cannabis event organizer must receive local approval, including obtaining any necessary permits or licenses issued by a local unit of government before holding a cannabis event.

4.1 License or Permit Required for Temporary Cannabis Events

4.1.1 License Required.

A cannabis event organizer license entitles the license holder to organize a temporary cannabis event lasting no more than four days. A jurisdiction should determine what type of approval is consistent with their existing ordinances for events.

A license or permit is required to be issued and approved by the city of Faribault prior to holding a Temporary Cannabis Event.

4.1.2 Registration & Application Procedure

A registration fee, as established in the city of Faribault's fee schedule, shall be charged to applicants for Temporary Cannabis Events.

4.1.3 Application Submittal & Review.

The city of Faribault shall require an application for Temporary Cannabis Events.

(A) An applicant for a retail registration shall fill out an application form, as provided by the city of Faribault. Said form shall include, but is not limited to:
   i. Full name of the property owner and applicant;
   ii. Address, email address, and telephone number of the applicant;
   iii. (Insert additional standards here)

(B) The applicant shall include with the form:
   i. the application fee as required in (Section 4.1.2);
   ii. a copy of the OCM cannabis event license application, submitted pursuant to 342.39 subd. 2.

The application shall be submitted to the City Clerk or other designee for review. If the designee determines that a submitted application is incomplete, they shall return the application to the applicant with the notice of deficiencies.

(C) Once an application is considered complete, the designee shall inform the applicant as such, process the application fees, and forward the application to the Community and Economic Development Department, Police Department and City Council for approval or denial.

(D) The application fee shall be non-refundable once processed.

(E) The application for a license for a Temporary Cannabis Event shall meet the following standards:

A jurisdiction may establish standards for Temporary cannabis events which the event organizer must meet, including restricting or prohibiting any on-site consumption. If there are public health, safety, or welfare concerns associated with a proposed cannabis event, a jurisdiction would presumably be authorized to deny approval of that event.

- Insert standards here

(G) A request for a Temporary Cannabis Event that meets the requirements of this Section shall be approved.

(H) A request for a Temporary Cannabis Event that does not meet the requirements of this Section shall be denied. The City of Faribault shall notify the applicant of the standards not met and basis for denial.

(Optional) Temporary cannabis events shall only be held at (insert local place).

(Optional) Temporary cannabis events shall only be held between the hours of (insert start time) and (insert stop time).

Section 5. (Optional) Lower-Potency Hemp Edibles

A jurisdiction can establish different standards or requirements regarding Low-Potency Edibles. A jurisdiction can consider including the following section and subsections in their cannabis ordinance.

5.1 Sale of Low-Potency Hemp Edibles

The sale of Low-Potency Edibles is permitted, subject to the conditions within this Section.

5.2 Zoning Districts

If sales are permitted, a jurisdiction can limit what zone(s) the sales of Low-Potency Edibles can take place in. A jurisdiction can also determine if such activity requires a Conditional or Interim Use permit.

Low-Potency Edibles businesses are permitted as a (type of use) in the following zoning districts:

- (Insert zoning districts use is permitted in here)
- (Insert zoning districts use is permitted in here)

5.3 (Optional) Additional Standards

5.3.1 Sales within Municipal Liquor Store.

A jurisdiction that already operates a Municipal Liquor Store may sell Low-Potency Edibles within the same store.

The sale of Low-Potency Edibles is permitted in a Municipal Liquor Store.

5.3.2 Age Requirements.

A jurisdiction is able to restrict the sale of Low-Potency Edibles to locations such as bars.

The sale of Low-Potency Edibles is permitted only in places that admit persons 21 years of age or older.

5.3.3 Beverages.

The sale of Low-Potency Hemp Beverages is permitted in places that meet requirements of this Section.

5.3.4 Storage of Product.

A jurisdiction is able to set requirements on storage and sales of Low-Potency Edibles.

Low-Potency Edibles shall be sold behind a counter, and stored in a locked case.

Section 6. (Optional) Local Government as a Cannabis Retailer

The city of Faribault may establish, own, and operate one municipal cannabis retail business subject to the restrictions in this chapter.

The municipal cannabis retail store shall not be included in any limitation of the number of registered cannabis retail businesses under Section 2.6.

The city of Faribault shall be subject to all same rental license requirements and procedures applicable to all other applicants.

Section 7 Use in Public Places

No person shall use cannabis flower, cannabis products, lower-potency hemp edibles, or hemp-derived consumer products in a public place or a place of public accommodation unless the premises is an establishment or an event licensed to permit on-site consumption of adult-use.