



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

IRAM FAROOQ
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To: City of Cambridge Planning Board
From: Central Square Advisory Committee
Date: 11/20/2019
Re: Revolutionary Clinics – 541 Mass Ave

The Central Square Advisory Committee (the “Committee”) met on November 20, 2019 to review and comment on the Revolutionary Clinics (the “Applicant”) proposal to co-locate recreational marijuana use with its permitted registered medical marijuana dispensary at 541 Mass Ave. The Applicant was granted its Special Permit for medical marijuana use on December 18, 2018.

* * *

The Committee first met with the Applicant on November 2018 when they were seeking to operate a registered medical marijuana facility at the same location. The proposal remains largely the same, as did the Committee’s comments. There was a question raised regarding the viability of three (3) potential recreational use facilities in Central Square. The Applicant believes that the market is large enough for three (3) facilities and that, as customers and communities become more acclimated to the legal market, “competition” would level out. A Committee member pointed out that there are numerous bars and liquor stores in Central Square which, collectively, help to make the district a destination. Sometimes, having more than one type of amenity works to the benefit of many. Overall, the Committee spoke favorably of the Applicant’s proposal.

Additional Committee Questions/Comments

- ***Should the State Legislature allow for cannabis cafes, would that be a possible future for this site in addition to recreational use?***
 - No, this use would not be featured on this site.
- ***Where are people expected to consume these products? Clement Morgan Park has already become more of a destination for individuals who want to smoke marijuana.***
 - The City is currently looking into the legality and liability of designated smoking areas for marijuana.
- ***Do you have any ideas for the retail space?***
 - We are engaged in talks with a potential tenant that sell clothing.
- ***Please consider coordinating with MIT’s Job Connector to recruit and hire Cambridge residents.***

Committee Members Present

- Esther Hanig
- Christopher Sol Gully
- Robert Winters

Committee Members Absent

- Joel Altstein
- Melissa Greene
- Tahir Kapoor
- Michael Monestime

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Project Team

- Keith Cooper, *Revolutionary Clinics*
- Timothy Flaherty, *Revolutionary Clinics*

Public Questions/Comment

- ***Is it still State Law that transactions can only be in cash?***
 - The State allows for cash and debit. 70% of our customers use debit card.

submitted on behalf of the Committee,

Wendell Joseph, *Neighborhood Planner*
Community Development Department