# WASHOE COUNTY

*Integrity Communication Service*

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## STAFF REPORT

**BOARD MEETING DATE: October 11, 2022**

**DATE:** September 21, 2022

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Kelly Mullin, AICP, Planning and Building Division Director, Community Services Department, 328-3619, kmullin@washoecounty.gov

**THROUGH:** Dave Solaro, Arch., P.E., Assistant County Manager 328-3600, dsolaro@washoecounty.gov

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to initiate amendments to Washoe County Code Chapter 25 (Business Licenses, Permits and Regulations) and Chapter 110 (Development Code) to create the necessary code language to facilitate the Board's policy direction regarding cannabis consumption lounges as provided during their regular meeting of September 20, 2022. The amendments may include, but are not limited to, the establishment of definitions, standards, location limitations, permitting requirements, and fees associated with cannabis consumption lounges, as well as the resolution of discrepancies that may arise within existing WCC chapters as a result of any new code language. (All Commission Districts.)

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## SUMMARY

Pursuant to WCC Sections 2.030 and 110.818.05, the Washoe County Board of Commissioners (Board) is asked to initiate amendments to Chapters 25 and 110 to create the necessary code language to facilitate the Board's policy direction. The amendments may include, but are not limited to, the items listed in the subject of this staff report.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Support a thriving community.

## PREVIOUS ACTION

September 20, 2022. The Board voted 3 in favor, 2 opposed, to pursue the creation of ordinances that allow cannabis consumption lounges in unincorporated Washoe County, including independent and outdoor lounges.

## BACKGROUND

Formally initiating an ordinance is the first step in fulfilling the Board's September 20, 2022 direction to amend code to allow for cannabis consumption lounges in unincorporated Washoe County. Staff will work with the District Attorney's Office to draft ordinance language amending both Chapter 110 (Development Code) and Chapter 25 (Business Licenses, Permits and Regulations). As required by State law and County Code, proposed amendments to Chapter 110 will be presented to the Planning Commission for their recommendation prior to the Board conducting a first and second reading for possible

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adoption. Amendments to Chapter 25 are not required to be heard by the Planning Commission.

## FISCAL IMPACT

Fiscal impacts associated with cannabis consumption lounges will be defined in future staff reports. This will include a request for Board direction on associated application fees.

## RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the Board initiate amendments to Chapters 25 and 110 to create the necessary code language to facilitate the Board's policy direction of September 20, 2022. This includes, but is not limited to, the categories listed in the possible motion below.

## POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be:

"Move to initiate amendments to Chapter 25 (Business Licenses, Permits and Regulations), and Chapter 110 (Development Code) to create the necessary code language to facilitate the Board's policy direction of September 20, 2022. This may include, but is not limited to, the establishment of definitions, standards, location limitations, permitting requirements, and fees associated with cannabis consumption lounges, as well as the resolution of discrepancies that may arise within existing WCC chapters as a result of any new code language."

Attachment: Letter from Assistant County Manager Requesting Code Amendments