

The City Council took up for consideration the matter of a certain proposed change in or amendment of the Laurel Code of Ordinances. A petition has been filed by the City of Laurel, P. O. Box 647, Laurel, MS 39441, under Zoning Amendment Docket No. ZA-22-01, requesting certain additions and/or amendments to the City of Laurel Zoning Ordinance and Definitions Appendix to be further defined hereinafter.

Whereupon motion was made by Councilperson \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Councilperson \_\_\_\_\_, for approval of the First Reading of the following amendment to the *Laurel Code of Ordinances, Appendix B, Definitions and Words, Article II, Section 202*, specifically *Definitions*, and also *Laurel Code of Ordinances, Appendix I, titled Zoning, Section 401, Section 407, Section 408, Section 409, Section 410 and Section 505.04*, which establishes zoning regulations for properties within the City of Laurel.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Laurel that the Laurel Code as referenced above be and the same is hereby amended as follows.

**ORDINANCE NO. 1722-2022 6/21/22**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LAUREL, MISSISSIPPI  
AMENDING THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF THE CITY OF  
LAUREL COMPREHENSIVE ZONING ORDINANCE NO. 1056-1985  
IN ORDER TO REGULATE THE PLACEMENT OF  
MEDICAL CANNABIS ESTABLISHMENTS

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL** of the City of Laurel, Mississippi:

**SECTION I.** That the following definitions be added to the *Laurel Code of Ordinances, Appendix B, Definitions and Words, Article II, Section 202*, specifically *Definitions*, and read as follows:

**MEDICAL CANNABIS CULTIVATION FACILITIES Tiers 1-6.**

*“Medical Cannabis cultivation facility” means a business entity licensed and registered by the Mississippi Department of Health that acquires, grows, cultivates and harvests medical cannabis in an indoor, enclosed, locked and secure area. Tiers 1-6.*

**MEDICAL CANNABIS PROCESSING FACILITIES**

*“Medical Cannabis processing facility” means a business entity that is licensed and registered by the Mississippi Department of Health that:*

*Acquires or intends to acquire cannabis from a medical cannabis cultivation facility;*

*Possesses cannabis with the intent to manufacture a cannabis product;*

*Manufactures or intends to manufacture a cannabis product from unprocessed cannabis or a cannabis extract; and sells or intends to sell a cannabis product to a medical cannabis dispensary, medical cannabis testing facility or cannabis research facility.*

**MEDICAL CANNABIS TESTING FACILITIES**

*“Medical Cannabis testing facility” or “testing facility” means an independent entity licensed and registered by the Mississippi Department of Health that analyzes the safety and potency of cannabis.*

**MEDICAL CANNABIS DISPENSARIES**

*“Medical cannabis dispensary” or “dispensary” means an entity licensed and registered with the Mississippi Dept of Revenue (MDOR) that acquires, possesses, stores, transfers, sells, supplies or dispenses medical cannabis, equipment used for medical cannabis, or related supplies and educational materials to cardholders. All Medical Cannabis Establishments must be located 1000 feet away from a School, Church or Day-Care.*

**MEDICAL CANNABIS TRANSPORTATION ENTITIES**

*“Medical Cannabis transportation entity” means an independent entity licensed and registered by the Mississippi Department of Health that is involved in the commercial transportation of medical cannabis.*

**MEDICAL CANNABIS DISPOSAL ENTITIES**

*“Medical Cannabis disposal entity” means a business licensed and registered by the Mississippi Department of Health that is involved in the commercial disposal or destruction of medical cannabis.*

**MEDICAL CANNABIS RESEARCH FACILITIES**

*“Medical Cannabis research facility” or “research facility” means a research facility at any university or college in this state or an independent entity licensed and registered by the Mississippi Department of Health pursuant to this chapter that acquires cannabis from cannabis cultivation facilities and cannabis processing facilities in order to research cannabis, develop best practices for specific medical conditions, develop medicines and provide commercial access for medical use.*

**MEDICAL CANOPY**

*“Medical Canopy” means the total surface area within a cultivation area that is dedicated to the cultivation of flowering cannabis plants. The surface area of the plant canopy must be calculated in square feet and measured and must include all of the area within the boundaries where the cultivation of the flowering cannabis plants occurs. If the surface area of the plant canopy consists of noncontiguous areas, each component*

area must be separated by identifiable boundaries. If a tiered or shelving system is used in the cultivation area the surface area of each tier or shelf must be included in calculating the area of the plant canopy. Calculation of the area of the plant canopy may not cultivate immature cannabis plants and seedlings, prior to flowering, and that are not used at any time to cultivate mature cannabis plants.

**MEDICAL CANNABIS ESTABLISHMENT**

“Medical cannabis establishment” means a cannabis cultivation facility, cannabis processing facility, cannabis testing facility, cannabis dispensary, cannabis transportation entity, cannabis disposal entity or cannabis research facility licensed and registered by the appropriate agency. The main point of entry of a Medical Cannabis Establishment shall not be located within one thousand (1000) of the nearest property boundary line of any School, Church or Day-Care facility.

Text of the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act can be found at the following website:  
<http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/documents/2022/pdf/SB/2001-2099/SB2095SG.pdf>

**SECTION II.** Add the permitted uses to Appendix I, *Section 401, A-1, General Agricultural District*, of the Zoning Ordinance, which shall read,

401.02.11 Medical Cannabis Cultivation Facility, in which minimum site size shall be three (3) acres

401.02.12 Medical Cannabis Processing Facility (permitted by Conditional Use)

401.02.13 Medical Cannabis Testing Facility (permitted by Conditional Use)

401.02.14 Medical Cannabis Transportation Entity (permitted by Conditional Use)

401.02.15 Medical Cannabis Disposal Entity (permitted by Conditional Use)

401.02.16 Medical Cannabis Research Facility (permitted by Conditional Use)

401.02.17 Medical Cannabis Research Facility on College or University Property (permitted by right)

**SECTION III.** Add permitted uses to Appendix I, *Section 407, C-2, General Commercial District*, of the Zoning Ordinance, which shall read,

407.02.49 Medical Cannabis Cultivation Facility (permitted by Conditional Use)

407.02.50 Medical Cannabis Processing Facility (permitted by Conditional Use)

407.02.51 Medical Cannabis Testing Facility (permitted by Conditional Use)

407.02.52 Medical Cannabis Dispensary (permitted by Conditional Use; must be

feet away from another dispensary.

407.02.53 Medical Cannabis Transportation Entity (permitted by Conditional Use)

407.02.54 Medical Cannabis Disposal Entity (permitted by Conditional Use)

407.02.55 Medical Cannabis Research Facility (permitted by Conditional Use)

407.02.56 Medical Cannabis Research Facility on College or University Property (permitted by right)

**SECTION IV.** Add permitted uses to Appendix I, *Section 408, C-3, Heavy*

*Commercial District*, of the Zoning Ordinance, which shall read,

408.02.29 Medical Cannabis Cultivation Facility (permitted by Conditional Use)

408.02.30 Medical Cannabis Processing Facility (permitted by Conditional Use)

408.02.31 Medical Cannabis Testing Facility (permitted by Conditional Use)

408.02.32 Medical Cannabis Dispensary (permitted by right; must be 1500

feet away from another dispensary.

408.02.33 Medical Cannabis Transportation Entity (permitted by Conditional Use)

408.02.34 Medical Cannabis Disposal Entity (permitted by Conditional Use)

408.02.35 Medical Cannabis Research Facility (permitted by Conditional Use)

408.02.36 Medical Cannabis Research Facility on College or University Property (permitted by right)

**SECTION V.** Add permitted uses to Appendix I, *Section 409, I-1, Restricted*

*Industrial District*, which shall read,

409.02.23 Medical Cannabis Cultivation Facility (permitted by Conditional Use)

409.02.24 Medical Cannabis Processing Facility (permitted by Conditional Use)

409.02.25 Medical Cannabis Testing Facility (permitted by Conditional Use)

409.02.26 Medical Cannabis Dispensary (permitted by right; must be 1500

feet away from another dispensary.

409.02.27 Medical Cannabis Transportation Entity (permitted by Conditional Use)

409.02.28 Medical Cannabis Disposal Entity (permitted by Conditional Use)

409.02.29 Medical Cannabis Research Facility (permitted by Conditional Use)

409.02.30 Medical Cannabis Research Facility on College or University Property (permitted by right)

**SECTION VI.** Add permitted uses to Appendix I, *Section 410, I-2, Light*

*Industrial District*, which shall read,

410.02.32 Medical Cannabis Cultivation Facility (permitted by Conditional Use)

410.02.33 Medical Cannabis Processing Facility (permitted by Conditional Use)

410.02.34 Medical Cannabis Testing Facility (permitted by Conditional Use)

410.02.35 Medical Cannabis Dispensary (permitted by right; must be 1500 feet away from another dispensary).

410.02.36 Medical Cannabis Transportation Entity (permitted by Conditional Use)

410.02.37 Medical Cannabis Disposal Entity (permitted by Conditional Use)

410.02.38 Medical Cannabis Research Facility (permitted by Conditional Use)

410.02.39 Medical Cannabis Research Facility on College or University Property (permitted by right)

**SECTION VII.** Add text to Appendix I, *Section 414.02.55, C-4*,

*Central Business District*, which shall read,

414.02.55 Medical Cannabis Establishments are prohibited in the C-4 District

**SECTION VIII.** Add permitted uses to *Section 505.04, Jefferson Street Overlay*

*District*, which shall read,

505.04.05 Medical Cannabis Cultivation Facility Tiers 1-6. The medical canopy area must be illustrated. Minimum site size in the A-1 District is 3- acres.

- Permitted by Conditional Use Permit in the A-1, C-2, C-3, I-1 and I-2 districts

505.04.06 Medical Cannabis Processing Facility

- Permitted by Conditional Use Permit in the A-1, C-2, C-3, I-1 and I-2 districts

505.04.07 Medical Cannabis Testing Facility

- Permitted by Conditional Use Permit in the A-1, C-2, C-3, I-1 and I-2 districts

505.04.08 Medical Cannabis Dispensaries: must be 1500 feet from another dispensary.

- Permitted by Conditional Use Permit in the C-2 district and is allowed By-Right in the C-3, I-1 and I-2 districts

505.04.09 Medical Cannabis Transportation Entity

- Requires a Conditional Use Permit in the A-1, C-2, C-3, I-1 and I-2 districts

505.04.10 Medical Cannabis Disposal Entity

- Requires a Conditional Use Permit in the A-1, C-2, C-3, I-1 and I-2 districts

505.04.11 Medical Cannabis Research Facility

- Requires a Conditional Use Permit in the A-1, C-2, C-3, I-1 and I-2 districts

505.04.12 Medical Cannabis Research Facility on a College or University property

- Is allowed By-Right in the A-1, C-2, C-3, I-1 and I-2 districts

**SO ORDAINED** this the 7th day of June, A.D., 2022.

The above and forgoing Ordinance, having been reduced to writing, was introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council on June 7th, 2022, and was read and considered and is now submitted herewith for approval of the First Reading. Upon passage of the Second Reading, said Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its approval.

Motion was made by Councilperson \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Councilperson \_\_\_\_\_, that the First Reading of the foregoing Ordinance be approved.

Upon roll call vote, the result was as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSTAINING:

ABSENT:

The President thereupon declared the motion carried and the First Reading approved this the 7th day of June, A.D., 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

ATTESTED AND SUBMITTED TO THE MAYOR BY THE CLERK OF THE COUNCIL ON \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

APPROVED ( ) DATE \_\_\_\_\_

VETO ( ) DATE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
MUNICIPAL CLERK

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