

2023 | CITY OF VICTORIA | Legislative Services

Recommendation for Flight Cannabis at 182 Wilson Street

Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch Cannabis Retail Store Licence Referral

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE | December 14, 2023




1

LCRB Cannabis Retail Store Licences

- The Province of British Columbia is responsible for licensing cannabis retail stores.
- The Province refers applications to the City for a positive or negative recommendation, which must include residents' views.
- The City's *Cannabis Retail Store Licensing Consultation Policy and Fee Bylaw 18-120* establishes a public consultation process and fees.
- The Bylaw requires the City to send notifications for written comment to owners and occupiers of parcels within 100 metres of the proposed cannabis retail store and the relevant neighbourhood association.
- If Council does not wish to permit new cannabis retail stores, Council may direct staff to decline referrals.

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LCRB Licence Referral Process

Prospective cannabis retailers must undertake a three-step process:

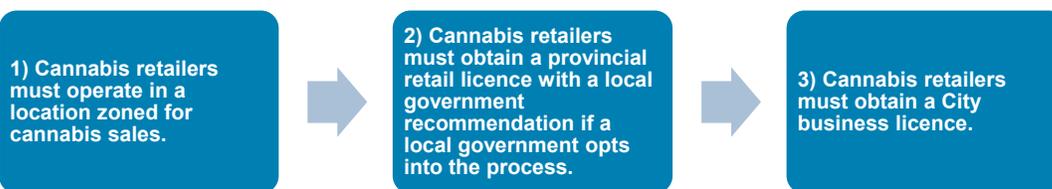
1. If a location is not zoned for cannabis retail, the applicant works with the City to rezone. A report is presented to Council and Council then decides if the property should go to public hearing.
2. After rezoning, or if a property is already zoned for cannabis retail, the applicant applies to the LCRB for a provincial cannabis retail store licence. The LCRB must have a positive local government recommendation from the jurisdiction around the proposed store.
3. As part of this referral, the City seeks input from nearby residents, Bylaw Services and VicPD on the operator of the potential cannabis retail store. A report is presented to Council and Council provides a recommendation to the LCRB. If a Provincial licence is obtained, the retailer must also obtain a City business licence.

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LCRB Licence Referral Process Summary



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Flight Cannabis at 182 Wilson Street

- The City has received a referral from the Province for Flight Cannabis at 182 Wilson Street (Vic West).
- In October 2023, Council rezoned the property to allow for Cannabis retail use.
- Staff conducted a review finding that the applicant has no previous history with City regarding municipal business licencing requirements.
- Staff from Planning, Bylaw Services, and the Victoria Police Department did not raise any concerns.
- The City gathered feedback from owners and occupants within 100 metres of the location as well as the neighbourhood association.

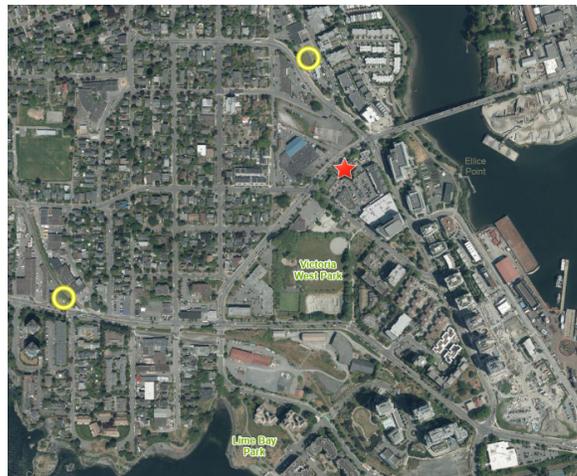
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Location

- The proposed location compared to existing cannabis retail locations.



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Staff Recommendation

- Staff recommend that Council provide a positive recommendation for the applicant to the LCRB, given no indication from staff about potential negative community impact.

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