



MEMORANDUM

February 15, 2017

TO: Members of the Alameda County Planning Commission
FROM: Medical Cannabis Interdepartmental Work Group
MEETING DATE: February 21, 2017
SUBJECT: Draft Medical Cannabis Dispensary and Cultivation Ordinances

GENERAL INFORMATION

At your February 6th meeting, your Commission received the most recent versions of the proposed draft medical cannabis dispensary and cultivation ordinances, as well as a summary of changes to the ordinances since you received the initial drafts in September of 2016. Your commission adopted a motion to continue the item to your February 21st meeting.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff requests that commissioners review the attached maps, take public testimony, provide comments to staff, and continue this item to your March 20th meeting at which time you will be asked to consider a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors regarding approval of the CEQA document and adoption of the proposed ordinances.

STAFF ANALYSIS

At its February 14th meeting, the Board Transportation and Planning Committee provided additional direction to staff regarding the contents of the ordinances. Supervisor Haggerty directed staff to research the standards other counties apply to structures for indoor and mixed-light cannabis cultivation. Staff is in the process of conducting this research.

In addition, the existing dispensary ordinance allows one dispensary in each of the three areas shown on the map in Exhibit A of the existing ordinance (Chapter 6.108 of the County General Code). Supervisor Miley directed staff to replace the three areas delineated on existing map with the boundaries of the Eden Area General Plan and Castro Valley General Plan areas. With these changes, Areas 1 and 2 on the existing map will be combined into a new Area 1, and Area 3 will be renamed Area 2. The Fairmont Campus will also be added to the new Area 2 (See attached map).

California Environmental Quality Act

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that an environmental review be conducted for the proposed ordinance amendments and establishes a process for completing the review. The draft mitigated negative declaration has been revised to reflect recent changes to the draft ordinances and internal review of the document is near completion. The document is expected to be released prior to your February 21st meeting for a 20-day public review period.

CONCLUSION

If your Commission concurs, staff will bring this item back to your March 20th meeting and request that you make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors regarding approval of the CEQA document and adoption of the proposed ordinances.

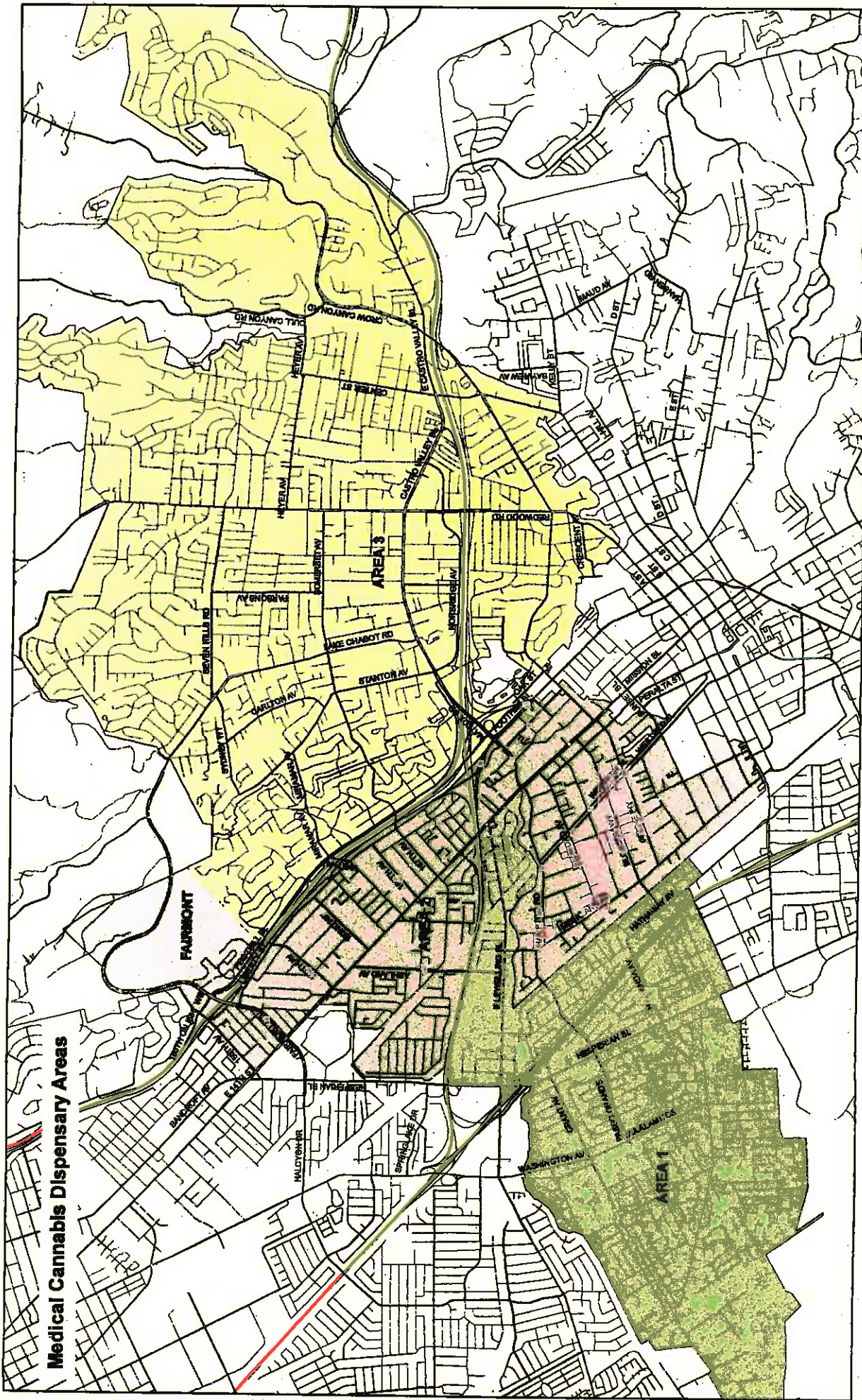
A tentative meeting schedule for the completion of the public process for the approval of the draft dispensary and cultivation ordinances is provided below. The public meeting schedule, including times and locations, is available on the County website at: <http://www.acgov.org/cda/planning/landuseprojects/medical-cannabis.htm>. This webpage also provides a list of past meetings and links to presentations and written materials from those meetings.

February 27, 2017	Castro Valley Municipal Advisory Council
March 6, 2017	Transportation/Planning Committee
March 20, 2017	Planning Commission – Action
March 22, 2017	Unincorporated Services
April 11, 2017	Board of Supervisors - First Reading
April 25, 2017	Board of Supervisors - Second Reading

The ordinances will go into effect 30 days after the Board takes action at the second reading of the ordinances. After that time, staff will begin preparing for the solicitation of proposals for the additional dispensaries and the cultivation sites allowed under the ordinances.

Attachments:

- Map showing three areas depicted in Exhibit A of Chapter 6.108 of the County General Code



Medical Cannabis Dispensary Areas

