

CANNABIS STORE GUIDELINES

Objectives

1. To ensure opportunities for Cannabis Stores on main streets and in communities are balanced with opportunities for other types of commercial uses. A variety of commercial uses provide communities with options, supports economic diversification and helps build a complete retail street.
2. To promote a full range and a mix of commercial uses and opportunities along main streets and in communities.
3. To avoid the potential for negative perceptions that may be created about a community when there is an over concentration or clustering of Cannabis Stores along a main street or in a community.
4. To ensure Cannabis Stores are not located too close to Liquor Stores, Pawn Shops and Payday Loans to prevent a negative aesthetic impact on the streetscape and the potential for negative perceptions to be created about a community.
5. To ensure Cannabis Stores are not located too close to public and private schools and post-secondary learning institutions in order to limit convenient access and lower the profile and visibility of cannabis to young persons.
6. To manage the potential socio-economic impacts of the clustering and concentration of Cannabis Stores, Liquor Stores, Payday Loans and Pawn Shops, either singly or in conjunction with each other.

Guidelines

Separation Distance Between Cannabis Stores

The Development Authority must consider the overall number and density of Cannabis Stores on a main street, community or other area in comparison to other main streets, communities or areas in Calgary when considering a request for a reduction to the minimum separation distance between Cannabis Stores.

There should not be a significant long-term difference in the concentration of Cannabis Stores between different main streets, communities or other areas. Recognizing that every location has unique characteristics (e.g. schools and other factors that affect a Cannabis Store location), generally a significant long-term difference would be characterized by more than a 25 per cent difference in the concentration of Cannabis Stores per unit population.

Additionally, the development authority may consider a reduction in the separation distance between Cannabis Stores when:

1. There is only one other Cannabis Store within the minimum separation distance;
2. A proposed Cannabis Store is located on a different street or on the opposite side of the same street as the existing Cannabis Store;

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3. A major road, expressway or river separates the proposed Cannabis Store from the existing Cannabis Store;
4. The proposed Cannabis Store is located in an enclosed shopping centre; or
5. An existing approved Cannabis Store proposes to relocate to a new location within 300 metres of its original location, provided that it does not move within the separation distance of a different Cannabis Store.

Separation distance to an Emergency Shelter, school or post-secondary learning institution

The Development Authority may consider a minor reduction in the separation distance between a proposed Cannabis Store and a parcel that contains an Emergency Shelter, public or private school or post-secondary learning institution. If the depth of the average setback area from the property line of a parcel containing the Emergency Shelter, school or post-secondary learning institution building is more than or equal to the proposed relaxation it may be reduced that amount up to a maximum of 15 metres.

Separation distance to a Liquor Store

The Development Authority may consider a relaxation in the separation distance between a proposed Cannabis Store and an existing or approved Liquor Store. Relaxations should not be considered in neighbourhood commercial districts. Cannabis Stores and Liquor Stores should not be located side by side on a main street or in community commercial district.

Location near a Payday Loan, Pawn Shop or Child Care Service

The development authority should not approve a Cannabis Store within 10 metres of a Payday Loan, Pawn Shop or Child Care Service.