# Medical Marijuana is good for your neighborhood:

Alleviating fears and misconceptions about the PA Medical Marijuana Program

David Kimmerly, AICP
Chief Planner
City of Allentown

David.Kimmerly@allentownpa.gov

(610) 437-7613

### Which statement about PA's Medical Marijuana Program is **true**?

- A. PA's Medical Marijuana program allows it to be smoked.
- B. PA's Medical Marijuana program allows children to use it.
- C. PA's Medical Marijuana program allows the retail sale of seeds and plants.
- D. PA Medical Marijuana dispensaries will provide home delivery.

#### Providing patients with access to medicine...

- Lobby for medical marijuana in PA:
  - Parents of children with debilitating conditions.

CBD and THC content of Medical Marijuana.

Cannabidiol (CBD) – Non-psychoactive – calming, relaxing, pain relief. Epilepsy, seizures, autism

Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) – Psychoative – high, hunger, treat nausea symptoms. Cancer (effects of chemotherapy), Chronic stomach or intestinal diseases

Synthetic drugs – Marinol, Dronabinol

#### The 17 diseases

- Cancer
- HIV/AIDS
- ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease)
- Parkinson's Disease
- Multiple Sclerosis (MS)
- Intractable spasticity
- Epilepsy
- Inflammatory Bowel Disease
- Neuropathies
- Huntington's Disease
- Crohn's Disease
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- Intractable Seizures
- Glaucoma
- Sickle Cell Anemia
- Intractable Pain
- Autism

#### But you still can't smoke it in Pennsylvania.....

#### Allowed Forms of Medical Marijuana in PA:

- Pill
- Oil
- Gel, Creams, Ointment
- Tincture
- Liquid
- A form that can be vaporized or nebulized, excluding dry leaf. (medical marijuana inhaler or nebulizer)
  - No dry leaf, seeds or plants can be dispensed.
  - No gummy bears....
    - Unlawful for grower/processor or dispensary to process into edible form.
      - Patient or caregiver can process into edible form.
      - Medical Marijuana cookbook

### Which statement about Medical Marijuana is true?

- A. It kills cancer cells.
- B. It will cure MS.
- C. It will stop seizures.
- D. None of the above.

#### Basic features of the program:

- Licensing of grower/processors and dispensaries.
- Security, Security
- Patient certification.
- Caregiver certification.
- Doctor training.
- Medical professionals required in dispensaries.
- Laboratories to monitor quality.
- Clinical Research centers to test effectiveness.

#### Types of Medical Marijuana facilities

Your municipality is likely to get zoning/planning applications for these:

- Grower/Processor
- Dispensary

Your municipality is not likely to get zoning/planning applications for these:

- Academic Clinical Research Facility.
  - Thomas Jefferson University Hospital Lambert Center for the Study of Medicinal Cannabis and Hemp.
    - <a href="http://www.jefferson.edu/university/emerging-health-professions/lambert-center.html">http://www.jefferson.edu/university/emerging-health-professions/lambert-center.html</a>
- Laboratories.
- Medical Marijuana truck storage facilities. (vans, armored vehicles)

### What does PA Medical Marijuana law say about zoning for Grower/Processor?

• "A Grower/Processor shall meet the <u>same</u> municipal zoning and land use requirements as other manufacturing, processing and production facilities that are located in the same district."."

## What does PA Medical Marijuana law say about zoning for dispenseries?

• "A Dispensary shall meet the <u>same</u> municipal zoning and land use requirements as other commercial facilities that are located in the same zoning district."

### What is recommended to regulate Medical Marijuana

- Don't regulate it.
- Allow Grower/Processors in industrial zones (pharmaceutical manufacturing).
- Allow dispensaries in same zones as retail store commercial use (retail pharmacy).
  - Don't create a special zoning amendment.
  - Your local medical marijuana regulation could prevent a patient with ALS, in a wheel chair, from obtaining their medicine.
  - Legal consequences, maybe.

### State enforces these, municipalities should not:

- The 1000 foot rule Dispensaries may not be located within 1000 feet of a school or day care center.
- Security Already more than you can possibly imagine. For example seed-to-sale tracking system.
- Inspections Except regular building and code inspections. State performs other inspections.
- Transportation Local officials should be aware of legality of possession and transportation of medical marijuana by employees, patients and caregivers.

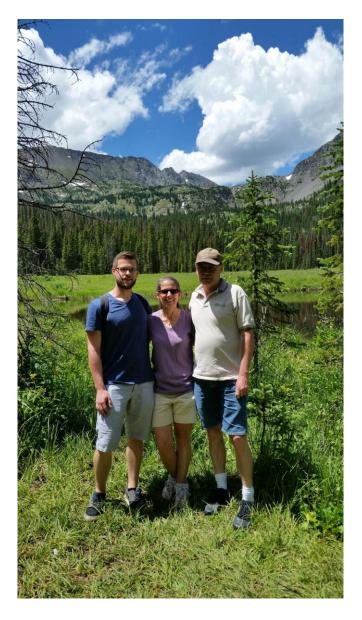
We're not in Pennsylvania anymore...



### Embrace the economic development potential and learn to work with the Medical Marijuana Industry

- They understand that their facilities will have an impact.
- Willing to work with the community and have a positive impact.
   (and they have cash.)
- Care about the impact of their industry on the environment.
- Willing to reuse vacant, older and under-used buildings.
- There is diversity in ownership and hiring practices.
- People in the industry are generally fun to be around.

It helps to have connections in the business...



# Potential Industrial Revitalization – Grower/Processor



# Potential Industrial Revitalization – Grower/Processor



### Potential Commercial Revitalization - Dispensary



#### A little bit about Industrial Hemp...

- Also now legal in Pennsylvania.
- For More than just making rope:
  - Cars
  - Electronics
  - Paving roads
  - Biofuel
  - Building materials
  - Food, nutrition
  - Etc.....

### We're not in Pennsylvania anymore...



David Kimmerly, AICP
Chief Planner
City of Allentown
David.Kimmerly@allentownpa.gov
(610) 437-7613