

RESOLUTION NO.

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2 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIVERSIDE,  
3 CALIFORNIA, PURSUANT TO RIVERSIDE MUNICIPAL CODE  
4 SECTION 5.77.120, TO FURTHER POSTPONE THE CITY'S  
5 EVALUATION AND REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS FOR STOREFRONT  
6 RETAIL COMMERCIAL CANNABIS BUSINESS PERMITS UP TO 30  
7 ADDITIONAL DAYS FOR A TOTAL POSTPONEMENT OF 120 DAYS

8 WHEREAS, Article XI, Section 7 of the California Constitution authorizes cities to  
9 make and enforce, within their jurisdictional limits, ordinances and regulations not in conflict  
10 with general laws to protect and promote the public health, safety, and welfare of its citizens;  
11 and

12 WHEREAS, on November 8, 2016, California voters approved Proposition 64, titled  
13 the Adult Use of Marijuana Act and enacted a state statutory scheme legalizing, controlling,  
14 and regulating the cultivation, processing, manufacturing, distribution, testing, and sale of  
15 nonmedical ("adult-use" or "recreational") cannabis, including cannabis, products, for use by  
16 adults twenty-one years of age and older; and

17 WHEREAS, on June 27, 2017, the Medical and Adult Use Cannabis Regulation and  
18 Safety Act was signed into law, which provides a comprehensive regulatory framework for  
19 licensing, control, and taxation of medical and adult-use cannabis-related businesses in  
20 California; and

21 WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Riverside ("City Council") desired to  
22 establish a strong and effective regulatory system with regard to cannabis businesses that  
23 protects the public health, safety and environmental resources, provides a consistent  
24 regulatory pathway for the cannabis industry consistent with state regulations, fosters a  
25 healthy, diverse and economically viable cannabis industry that contributes to the local  
26 economy, and ensures that environmental, public health, safety and nuisance factors related  
27 to the cannabis industry are adequately addressed; and

28 WHEREAS, in furtherance of these goals, on February 28, 2023, the City Council  
introduced and on March 14, 2023, adopted, Ordinance 7628, amending Riverside Municipal Code

1 Chapter 5.77 (Cannabis Business Activities), in its entirety, Ordinance 7629 amending RMC Title 9  
2 (Peace, Safety and Morals), and Ordinance 7630 amending RMC Title 19 (Zoning) of the RMC; and

3 WHEREAS, Chapter 5.77 of the RMC regulates Cannabis Business Activities in the  
4 City of Riverside (“Cannabis Business Activities Ordinance”), including the types of  
5 businesses and maximum number permitted within the City, the permitting of up to 14  
6 storefront retail commercial cannabis businesses and an unlimited number of manufacturing,  
7 distribution, and testing laboratories; and

8 WHEREAS, on October 17, 2023, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 24048  
9 establishing the rules and regulations entitled Storefront Retail Commercial Cannabis  
10 Business Permit Procedure Guidelines and Application Review Criteria (“Permit  
11 Guidelines”), as required by RMC Section 5.77.130(A); and

12 WHEREAS, pursuant to the Permit Guidelines, the City reviewed and scored 40  
13 applications for the Storefront Retail Commercial Cannabis Business Permits resulting in the 14  
14 highest scoring applicants advancing to the final phase of the permit application process,  
15 including submittal of proposed retail site locations; and

16 WHEREAS, the proposed retail site locations for the 14 storefront retail commercial  
17 cannabis business permit applicants show a geographic density, including nearly half of the  
18 proposed locations in one City ward and no proposed locations in two other City wards, resulting  
19 in the need for further study of the effects of such concentration on furtherance of the stated  
20 purpose of the Cannabis Business Activities Ordinance, including but not limited to retail access  
21 by residents and/or protection of health and safety of residents from negative impacts; and

22 WHEREAS, pursuant to RMC 5.77.120, the City has reserved the right, prior to  
23 permit issuance, to modify, postpone, or cancel any request for applications, at any time  
24 without liability, obligation, or commitment to any party, firm, or organization, to the extent  
25 permitted under California law, and persons submitting applications assume the risk that all  
26 or any part of the cannabis business permit program, or any particular category of permit  
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1 potentially authorized under Cannabis Business Activities Ordinance, may be cancelled at any  
2 time prior to permit issuance; and

3 WHEREAS, on January 7, 2025, the City Council postponed by 90 days, to April 7,  
4 2025, the Storefront Retail Commercial Cannabis Business Permit application process to study  
5 the effects of geographic density, proximity to sensitive receptors and other health and safety  
6 concerns, in furtherance of the stated goals of the Cannabis Business Activities Ordinance and  
7 the other ordinances referenced herein, including but not limited to retail access by residents  
8 and/or protection of health and safety of residents from negative impacts; and

9 WHEREAS, the City Council desires to extend the postponement of the Storefront  
10 Retail Commercial Cannabis Business Permit application process, including all deadlines under  
11 the Storefront Retail Commercial Cannabis Business Permit Procedure Guidelines and  
12 Application Review Criteria, for an additional 30 days, to May 7, 2025, to allow for possible  
13 modification of Riverside Municipal Code 5.77 and the Storefront Retail Commercial Cannabis  
14 Business Permit Procedure Guidelines and Application Review Criteria.

15 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Riverside,  
16 on the basis of the presentation and staff report and the other evidence submitted to the City  
17 Council, as follows:

18 Section 1: That the above recitals are found to be true and correct and are hereby  
19 incorporated as if stated in full.

20 Section 2: That, pursuant to Riverside Municipal Code section 5.77.120, the City  
21 Council hereby extends the postponement of the City of Riverside's evaluation and review of  
22 applications for Storefront Retail Commercial Cannabis Business Permits being evaluated in  
23 accord with Resolution No. 24048 by an additional 30 days, to May 7, 2025, for further study  
24 and possible action by the City. This postponement shall continue the pause of all deadlines  
25 under the Storefront Retail Commercial Cannabis Business Permit Procedure Guidelines and  
26 Application Review Criteria for up to 30 days. No Storefront Retail Commercial Cannabis  
27 Business Permits shall issue during the pendency of this postponement.  
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Section 3: The City hereby finds that this resolution is not subject to review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines sections 15061, subdivision (b)(3) (there is no possibility the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment).

Section 4: The provisions of this resolution shall be operative upon adoption.

ADOPTED by the City Council this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PATRICIA LOCK DAWSON  
Mayor of the City of Riverside

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
DONESIA GAUSE  
City Clerk of the City of Riverside

I, Donesia Gause, City Clerk of the City of Riverside, California, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the City Council of said City at its meeting held on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025, by the following vote, to wit:

- Ayes:
- Noes:
- Absent:
- Abstain:

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the City of Riverside, California, this \_\_\_\_ day \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
DONESIA GAUSE  
City Clerk of the City of Riverside

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