CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON

ORDINANCE NO. 586

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON, ESTABLISHING A SIX-MONTH INTERIM ZONING ORDINANCE ON THE ESTABLISHMENT, LOCATION, OPERATION, LICENSING, MAINTENANCE OR CONTINUATION OF MARIJUANA PRODUCERS, PROCESSORS, AND RETAILERS AS REGULATED PURSUANT TO WASHINGTON STATE INITIATIVE 502; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City of Burien has the authority to adopt interim zoning regulations pursuant to RCW 35A.63.220; and

WHEREAS, on November 6, 2012, Initiative 502 was passed by the voters of the State of Washington, providing a framework under which marijuana producers, processors, and retailers can become licensed by the State of Washington; and

WHEREAS, Initiative 502 directs the Washington State Liquor Control Board (LCB) to develop rules and regulations to:
1. Determine the number of producers, processors and retailers of marijuana by county;
2. Develop licensing and other regulatory measures;
3. Issue licenses to producers, processors, and retailers at locations which comply with the Initiative’s distancing requirements prohibiting such uses within one thousand feet of schools and other designated public facilities; and
4. Establish a process for the City to comment prior to the issuance of such licenses.

WHEREAS, the LCB recently issued initial draft rules, and was expected to adopt final rules in mid-August 2013 to begin issuance of marijuana producer, processor and retail licenses to qualified applicants in December, 2013; and

WHEREAS, after receiving public input regarding the proposed rules, the LCB postponed adoption of final rules to allow more time to clarify certain aspects of the I-502 implementation including, but not limited to, limits or caps on the amount of marijuana that will be grown and the number of retail stores to be licensed; and

WHEREAS, now the final rules are not scheduled to take effect until November of 2013; and

WHEREAS, Initiative 502 prohibits marijuana-related uses within 1,000 feet of the perimeter of certain uses and buildings, such as child care centers, public parks and recreation

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centers or facilities, but does not address whether LCB-licensed marijuana businesses must comply with land use and zoning restrictions of local jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of land use and zoning regulations is a valid exercise of the City’s police power and is specifically authorized by RCW 35A.63.100; and

WHEREAS, Section 69.51A.140 RCW, enacted as part of Washington’s medical cannabis act, delegates authority to cities and towns to adopt and enforce zoning requirements, business licensing requirements, health and safety requirements, and business taxes related to marijuana production, processing and dispensing as exercises of the City’s police powers and not necessarily limited to medical marijuana-related uses; and

WHEREAS, the Burien Municipal Code does not currently have specific provisions addressing licensing, producing, processing or retailing of recreational marijuana; and

WHEREAS, marijuana production, processing, and retailing uses must be addressed in the City's zoning code, but the land use and secondary impacts of these uses are still largely unknown and the regulations that the City will need to address them are uncertain pending the LCB’s adoption of its licensing regulations and procedures; and

WHEREAS, unless the City acts immediately to address marijuana-related uses, such uses may be able to locate in the City without regulation and thereby have adverse impacts on the City and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, although the Washington state electorate as a whole voted to approve I-502, the City has not heard from the citizens of Burien regarding their opinions on the implementation of recreational marijuana-related land uses; and

WHEREAS, the City deems it in the public interest to impose interim zoning regulations for a period of six months in order to investigate this issue further and obtain regulatory clarity and guidance from the LCB’s rules and Burien’s citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Findings of Fact. The City Council adopts the above “WHEREAS” recitals as findings of fact in support of its action as required by RCW 36.70A.390 and RCW 35A.63.220. The Council may adopt additional findings in the event that additional evidence is presented to the City Council.

Section 2. Interim Regulations Established. The City hereby establishes the following interim zoning regulations for the location and establishment of marijuana producers, processors, and retailers that are licensed by the State of Washington under Initiative No. 502 and the regulations promulgated pursuant thereto:
A. The terms “marijuana”, “marijuana-infused products”, “marijuana producer”, “marijuana processor”, and “marijuana retailer” shall have the meaning set forth in RCW 69.50.101.

B. State licensed marijuana producers and marijuana processors may locate in the City of Burien pursuant to the following restrictions:

1. Marijuana producers and marijuana processors must comply with all requirements of state law and the Washington State Liquor Control Board’s regulations.

2. Marijuana producers and processors may locate only in the I-Industrial and AI-Airport Industrial zones following a Type 1 Administrative Review.

3. Marijuana producers and processors shall not locate on a site or in a building in which non-conforming production or processing uses have been established in any zone other than the I-Industrial and AI-Airport Industrial zones.

4. Marijuana producers and processors shall not operate as an accessory to a primary use or as a home occupation.

5. Marijuana producers and processors may locate in the same building, and all production and processing activities shall occur within an enclosed structure.

6. Marijuana producers and processors shall not locate within one thousand feet of the perimeter of the grounds of any elementary or secondary school, playground, recreation center or facility, child care center, public park, public transit center, or library, or any game arcade admission to which is not restricted to persons aged twenty-one years or older.

C. State licensed marijuana retailers may locate in the City of Burien pursuant to the following restrictions:

1. Marijuana retailers must comply with all requirements of state law and the Washington State Liquor Control Board’s regulations.

2. Marijuana retailers may locate only in the CN-Neighborhood Commercial, CI-Intersection Commercial, CR-Regional Commercial, CC-Community Commercial, DC-Downtown Commercial, SPA-1 Old Burien and SPA-3 Gateway zones following a Type 1 Administrative Review.

4. Marijuana retailers shall not locate in a building in which non-conforming retail uses have been established in any residential or office zone.

5. Marijuana retailers shall not operate as an accessory to a primary use or as a home occupation.

6. Marijuana retailers shall not locate within one thousand feet of the perimeter of the grounds of any elementary or secondary school, playground, recreation center or facility, child care center, public park, public transit center, or library, or any game arcade admission to which is not restricted to persons aged twenty-one years or older.

D. The Type 1 Review process for marijuana producers, marijuana processors and marijuana retailers shall include a determination and finding as to whether or not the proposed use is compatible with adjoining uses. The facility shall be designed, located, constructed and buffered to blend in with its surroundings and mitigate significant adverse impacts on adjoining properties and the community. Special attention shall be given to minimizing odor, noise, light, glare and traffic impacts.

E. Marijuana producers, marijuana processors and marijuana retailers are required to acquire all necessary business licenses and are required to comply with municipal tax regulations and all other applicable City ordinances.

Section 3. Public Hearing Required. Pursuant to RCW 36.70A.390 and RCW 35A.63.220, within sixty days of the passage of this Ordinance the City Council will hold a public hearing on these interim zoning regulations.

Section 4. Duration. The interim zoning regulations established herein shall be in effect until six-months from the effective date noted below, unless extended by the City Council, pursuant to State law.

Section 5. Definitions. As used in this ordinance, the following terms have the meanings set forth below:

1. "Marijuana” or “Cannabis” means all parts of the plant Cannabis, whether growing or not, with a THC concentration greater than 0.3 percent on a dry weight basis; the seeds thereof; the resin extracted from any part of the plant; and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plant, its seeds or resin. The term does not include the mature stalks of the plant, fiber produced from the stalks, oil or cake made from the seeds of the plant, any other compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture,
or preparation of the mature stalks (except the resin extracted there from), fiber, oil, or cake, or the sterilized seed of the plant which is incapable of germination.

2. "Marijuana processor" means a person licensed by the state liquor control board to process marijuana into usable marijuana and marijuana-infused products, package and label usable marijuana and marijuana-infused products for sale in retail outlets, and sell usable marijuana and marijuana-infused products at wholesale to marijuana retailers.

3. "Marijuana producer" means a person licensed by the state liquor control board to produce and sell marijuana at wholesale to marijuana processors and other marijuana producers.

4. "Marijuana retailer" means a person licensed by the state liquor control board to sell usable marijuana and marijuana-infused products in a retail outlet.

5. "Marijuana-infused products" means products that contain marijuana or marijuana extracts and are intended for human use. The term "marijuana-infused products" does not include usable marijuana.

6. "Useable marijuana" means dried marijuana flowers. The term "useable marijuana" does not include marijuana-infused products.

7. “Retail outlet” means a location licensed by the State Liquor Control Board for the retail sale of usable marijuana and marijuana-infused products.

Section 6. No Non-conforming Uses. No use that constitutes or purports to be a marijuana producer, marijuana processor, or marijuana retailer as those terms are defined in this ordinance, that was engaged in that activity prior to the enactment of this ordinance shall be deemed to have been a legally established use under the provisions of the Burien Municipal Code and that use shall not be entitled to claim legal non-conforming status.

Section 7. Work Program. The Director of Community Development and/or his/her designee is hereby authorized and directed to address issues related to determining the legality of marijuana production facilities, processing facilities, and retailing facilities, including but not limited to review of the pending dispute between state and federal law enforcement authorities regarding the legality of recreational marijuana under any circumstances and notwithstanding the enactment by the legislature of Initiative 502. The work program should also develop appropriate permanent land use regulations pursuant to the new state law and state licensing requirements for review and recommendation for inclusion in the zoning regulations or other provisions of the Burien Municipal Code. Such regulations shall permit the location of marijuana producers, marijuana processors, and marijuana retailers in the city to the extent, but only to the extent, authorized by state law and then only when in compliance with state licensing requirements and City regulations. Further, appropriate nuisance declaration and abatement provisions should be developed to address any violations of any new State or City regulations or licensing requirements. Such regulations shall be presenting to the Burien Planning Commission and Burien City Council for consideration and action in due course. The Finance Director and/or
his/her designee is hereby authorized to develop business licensing or other regulations that may be necessary and appropriate pursuant to the newly amended law for review and recommendation for inclusion in the Burien Municipal Code.

Section 8. Declaration of Emergency. The City Council hereby declares that an emergency exists necessitating that this Ordinance take effect immediately upon passage by a majority vote plus one of the whole membership of the Council as required by RCW 35A.13.190. Without immediate interim zoning regulations on the establishment on such uses, development or use of a property may occur or attempt to become vested that is incompatible with I-502, the rules to be adopted by the Liquor Control Board and the laws adopted by the City of Burien. Therefore, the interim zoning regulations must be imposed as an emergency measure to protect the public health, safety and welfare, and to prevent the submission of applications to the City in an attempt to vest rights for an indefinite period of time. This Ordinance does not affect any existing vested rights to use or develop a property in a lawful way.

Section 9. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force and effect immediately upon passage, as set forth herein.

Section 10. Conflict with other BMC Provisions. If the provisions of this Ordinance are found to be inconsistent with other provisions of the Burien Municipal Code, this Ordinance shall control.

Section 11. Severability. Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance, or its application to any person or circumstance, be declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid for any reason, or should any portion of this ordinance be pre-empted by state or federal law or regulation, such decision or pre-emption shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance or its application to other persons or circumstances.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AT A REGULAR MEETING THEREOF ON THE 19TH DAY OF AUGUST 2013, AND SIGNED IN AUTHENTICATION OF ITS PASSAGE THIS 19TH DAY OF AUGUST 2013.

CITY OF BURIEN
/s/ Brian Bennett, Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:
/s/ Monica Lusk, City Clerk

Approved as to form:
/s/ Ann Marie Soto, Acting City Attorney

Filed with the City Clerk: August 19, 2013
Passed by the City Council: August 19, 2013
Ordinance No. 586
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