



# *Town of Brookline*

## **MASSACHUSETTS**

### **MARIJUANA RETAILER EQUITY POLICY**

(Voted: August 31, 2021)

#### **1. Purpose**

The Select Board seeks to further the public interest by encouraging diversity in the local cannabis industry. Toward that end, it is seeking approval from the November 2021 Special Town Meeting to raise the Marijuana Retailer Select Board license cap set forth in General By-Law Art. 8.37 to make available two (2) additional Marijuana Retailer licenses for Equity Applicants (as defined below), and adopts this Marijuana Retailer Equity Policy ("Policy") in tandem with that effort.

This Policy is intended to provide opportunities for local and diverse applicants for Select Board Marijuana Retailer licenses who wish to establish a Marijuana Retail Establishment within the Town of Brookline. Further, this Policy establishes the procedures for Equity Applicants to apply for a Host Community Agreement with the Select Board.

#### **2. Definitions**

***Marijuana Retailer*** - As defined or amended by 935 CMR 500, an entity licensed by the Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission to purchase, repackage, white-label, and transport Marijuana or Marijuana Product from Marijuana Establishments and to transfer or otherwise transfer this product to Marijuana Establishments and to sell to consumers.

***Equity Applicant*** - Individuals or entities that have received one of the following:

- CCC Economic Empowerment Status
- CCC Social Equity Status

#### **3. Host Community Agreements and Brookline Resident Prioritization**

With respect to the two additional Marijuana Retailer licenses described above, the Town will exclusively accept and consider applications for Host Community Agreements from Equity Applicants. Further, Equity Applicants for Host Community Agreements that are also Brookline residents will receive priority processing (processed ahead of non-Brookline residents).

#### **4. Transfers and Changes in Ownership**

An Equity Applicant for a Host Community Agreement under this Policy who undergoes a transfer or change in ownership to a non-Equity Applicant loses eligibility to proceed as an Equity Applicant in the event the transferee/successor company does not qualify for a Host Community Agreement under this Policy.

## **5. Procedure**

Following the posting of an available Marijuana Retailer license on the Town's website, applicants are required to complete and submit the Request for Marijuana Retailer Host Community Agreement for Equity Applicants with the following required supporting documents:

1. Evidence of CCC Social Equity/Economic Empowerment status or Commonwealth of Massachusetts DBE status;
2. Evidence of a zoning-compliant location of the proposed Marijuana Establishment (see the Town's Zoning By-Law) and the applicant's legal control of the premises:
  - a. Lease, or
  - b. Letter of intent signed by a property owner to enter into a lease with the applicant for the location, or
  - c. Title;
3. Required operating policies and procedures
  - a. Traffic Management Plan
  - b. Security Plan
  - c. Diversion Plan
  - d. Diversity Plan
4. Evidence of current Brookline residency (to receive priority processing)
  - a. Lease, or
  - b. Utility bill, or
  - c. Bank Statement
5. Complete supporting documents include site plans and plan sets that are certified by a design professional such as an architect, engineer or land surveyor (and that show compliance regarding required zoning buffer zones) and floor plans that indicate square footage.