

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK NEW BEDFORD, MA

2022 APR 21 PH 1:52

CITY CLERK

April 20, 2022

City Council President Ian Abreu and Honorable Members of the City Council City of New Bedford 133 William Street, Room 215 New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Council President Abreu and Honorable Members of the Council:

I write to inform the City Council that my Administration has negotiated a Host Community Agreement with Elevation Retail, LLC of Bedford, Massachusetts. Elevation Retail, LLC is seeking approval for a state license for the sale of recreational adult use marijuana at its proposed facility on Phillips Road near the main entrance to the New Bedford Business Park.

In return for that attached letter of support, Elevation Retail, LLC has agreed to provide substantial benefits to the City of New Bedford and its residents. Those benefits include but are not limited to the following:

- Elevation Retail, LLC shall pay to the City Host Community payments consisting of 3% of the gross retail sales of all marijuana and marijuana infused products.
- Elevation Retail, LLC shall also make annual contributions of \$50,000.00 or 1 ½% of
 the facilities gross sales, whichever is greater, to New Bedford based non-profits or City
 run organizations that provide substance abuse prevention and educational programs in
 the City Public School District.
- To the extent allowed by Federal, State and Municipal Law and regulations, a "local labor hiring preference" shall exist for all residents of the City applying for employment at the facility. Within the confines of the law and other factors being equal Elevation Retail, LLC shall reasonably seek to employ City residents before considering other candidates and to the extent consistent with Federal, State and Municipal Law and regulations Elevation Retail, LLC shall utilize best faith efforts to ensure that at least 50% of the employees at the facility are City residents.

- To the fullest extent allowed by law, Elevation Retail, LLC shall use best faith efforts in a legal and non-discriminatory manner to give priority to local businesses and vendors in the provision of goods and services required for the construction, maintenance and operation of its facility and shall use best faith efforts to ensure that at least 30% of their total annual expenditures on vendors and/or contractors will be spent on vendors and/or contractors based in New Bedford.
- Elevation Retail, LLC shall pay an excise tax rate determined by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the sale of adult use marijuana and adult use marijuana infused products, currently at 3% of gross annual sales (said excise tax shall at least quarterly be distributed to the City by the State Treasurer).
- Elevation Retail, LLC agrees it shall cause any motor vehicles owned, leased, or
 operated by it in its operations at the facility to be registered and principally garaged in
 New Bedford to ensure that New Bedford receives any motor vehicle excise tax due and
 payable.
- Elevation Retail, LLC shall maintain security at the facility in accordance with a security plan approved by the Cannabis Control Commission and the City of New Bedford.

I ask for your approval of the Host Community Agreement so that we can secure these benefits for New Bedford residents and businesses.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely

Jon Michell

May

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Attachments:

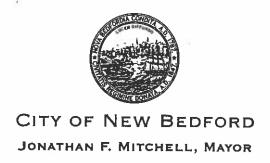
Letter of Support with Cover letter Host Community Agreement

IN CITY COUNCIL, April 28, 2022

Referred to the Special Committee on Cannabis Regulation and Host Community Agreements Review.

Dennis W. Farias, City Clerk

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April 20, 2022

Andre Razumanyan, Manager Elevation Retail, LLC 385 Great Neck Road Bedford, MA 01730

Dear Mr. Razumanyan:

I do hereby confirm the City of New Bedford's support for Elevation Retail, LLC to operate an adult only recreational marijuana retail facility in New Bedford on Phillips Road.

I have verified with appropriate local officials that the proposed facility on Phillips Road is located in a zoning district that allows such use either by right or pursuant to local permitting.

Sincerely,

UNSIGNED

Jon Mitchell Mayor

EJ/bar