



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD
JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
NEW BEDFORD, MA

2022 JUN 16 PM 3:17

CITY CLERK

June 23, 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 an Amended Host Community Agreement with Metro Harvest, Inc. of East Freetown, Massachusetts. Metro Harvest, Inc. is seeking approval for a state license for the sale of recreational adult use marijuana at its proposed facility at 507-513 Church Street in New Bedford.

Metro Harvest, Inc. 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:

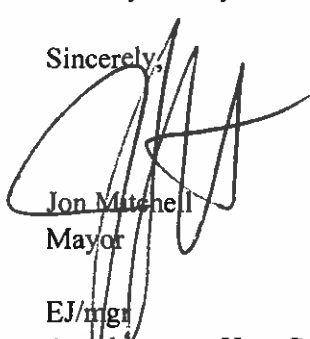
- Metro Harvest, Inc. shall pay to the City Host Community payments consisting of 3% of the gross retail sales of all marijuana and marijuana infused products.
- Metro Harvest, Inc. shall also make annual contributions of \$50,000.00 or 1 ½% of the facilities gross sales, whichever is greater, to New 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, Metro Harvest, Inc. shall reasonably seek to employ City residents before considering other candidates and to the extent consistent with Federal, State and Municipal Law and regulations Metro Harvest, Inc. shall utilize best faith efforts to ensure that at least 20% of the employees at the facility are City residents.

- To the fullest extent allowed by law, Metro Harvest, Inc. 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 20% of their total annual expenditures on vendors and/or contractors will be spent on vendors and/or contractors based in New Bedford.
- Metro Harvest, Inc. 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).
- Metro Harvest, Inc. 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.
- Metro Harvest, Inc. shall maintain security at the facility in accordance with a security plan approved by the Cannabis Control Commission and the City of New Bedford.
- Metro Harvest, Inc. agrees that, even if permitted by statute or regulation, it will prohibit on-site consumption of marijuana and marijuana infused products at the facility.
- Metro Harvest, Inc. will offer to provide to the City School Department, at Metro Harvest, Inc.'s sole cost, the "Courage to Speak" Foundation Drug Prevention Education Program endorsed by Yale University.

I ask for your approval of the Amended 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 Mitchell
Mayor

EJ/mgt

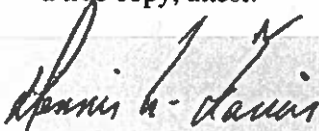
Attachment: Host Community Agreement

IN CITY COUNCIL, June 23, 2022

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

Dennis W. Farias, City Clerk

a true copy, attest:


Dennis W. Farias
City Clerk