City of Tacoma
Planning and Development Services

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING
October 24, 2017

SUBJECT
Proposed zoning code amendment concerning marijuana use buffers.

SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSAL
The proposal would amend the Tacoma Municipal Code, Section 13.06.565 Marijuana Uses, Subsection B.3, as follows (where deletions are shown in ~~**bold strikethroughs**~~ and additions in ***bold Italic underlines***):

> 3. For purposes of this Section and the standards applicable to state-licensed marijuana uses, the terms and definitions provided in WAC 314-55 shall ~~**generally**~~ apply ~~**unless the context clearly indicates otherwise**~~ ***except for the following definitions~~.~~:***
> ***(a) "Playground" means a public outdoor recreation area for children, usually equipped with swings, slides, and other playground equipment, owned and/or managed by a city, county, state, or federal government, or a metropolitan parks district.***
> ***(b) "Recreation center or facility" means a supervised center that provides a broad range of activities and events intended primarily for use by persons under twenty-one years of age, owned and/or managed by a charitable nonprofit organization, city, county, state, or federal government, or a metropolitan parks district.***

LEGISLATIVE INTENT
By adding local definitions of "playground" and "recreation center or facility" to the City's zoning of marijuana uses and including "metropolitan parks district" in the ownership paradigm, the proposal would protect these facilities owned by Metro Parks Tacoma to the level of buffering intended by the State, but currently not covered by State definitions found in the Washington Administrative Code (WAC), Section 314-55-010(24)-(27). The proposed amendment would effectively alleviate the problems in permitting marijuana uses resulted from the gap between the state's intent and definitions and prevent further conflicts from occurring.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Please visit the Planning Services Division's website at www.cityoftacoma.org/Planning, and click on "Recent and Completed Projects" and then "Marijuana Regulations."