

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
CANNABIS REGULATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2025  
LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
200 N. SPRING ST., ROOM 340  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012**

MINUTES OF THE CANNABIS REGULATION COMMISSION HEREIN ARE REPORTED IN ACTION FORMAT. THE ENTIRE DISCUSSION RELATED TO EACH ITEM IS ACCESSIBLE IN AUDIO FORMAT ONLINE AT <https://cannabis.lacity.gov> TO LISTEN TO THE AUDIO FILE: UNDER **ABOUT, CANNABIS REGULATION COMMISSION** SELECT **COMMISSION MEETINGS**, SCROLL DOWN TO LOCATE COMMISSION MEETING DATE AND SELECT MEETING AUDIO.

The meeting was called to order at 2:20 p.m. with President Mason and Commissioners Farmby, and McGovern in attendance. Also present were Michelle Garakian, Executive Director; Ryan Solis, Senior Management Analyst II, Allison Towle, Deputy City Attorney; Josie Trevizo, Commission Executive Assistant; and Irene Diaz, Sr. Administrative Clerk. Commissioner Nash was absent.

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**ITEM NO. 1**

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT AND SINGLE OR MULTIPLE AGENDA ITEM**

General Public Comment and Single or Multiple Agenda Items were taken together. Members of the public addressed the commission in-person.

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**ITEM NO. 2**

**ELECTED OFFICE AND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS**

There were no presentations by Neighborhood Council representatives on any Neighborhood Council resolution or community impact statement filed with the City Clerk, which related to any agenda item listed or considered on the agenda.

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**ITEM NO. 3**

**COMMISSION BUSINESS**

- **Advanced Calendar:** Commissioner Farmby announced that he will not be present on February 5, 2026. Commissioner McGovern announced that she will not be present on February 19, 2025.
- **Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Farmby moved to approve the minutes of October 2, 2025. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McGovern.

The vote proceeded as follows:

**Moved:** Farmby  
**Second:** McGovern  
**Ayes:** Mason  
**Absent:** Nash

**Vote:** 3 – 0

**MOTION PASSED**

- **Commission Announcements and Updates:** There were no announcements from the Commission.
- **Commission Future Agenda Requests:** There were no requests from the Commission.

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**ITEM NO. 4**

**REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Michelle Garakian, Executive Director provided updates on the amendments to the Rules and Regulations for Cannabis Procedures, the annual licensing renewal process, including a report on the status of Phase 3 licenses, and updates on the compliance and enforcement program.

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President Mason took Item No. 6 out of order to consider a request for a continuance to a future Commission meeting.

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**ITEM NO. 6**

**DCR Core Record No. 320100**  
**LA-R-25-320100-ANN & ENV-320100-ANN**

CD: 14

**APPLICANT:** Mount High Group

**BUSINESS PREMISES:** 945 S. Boyle Ave.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Ryan Solis, Senior Management Analyst II representing the Department.

**EXHIBITS:** Department's PowerPoint slides.

Commissioner Mason moved to continue the matter to the Cannabis Regulation Commission meeting of January 15, 2025. Commissioner Farmby seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

**Moved:** Mason  
**Second:** Farmby  
**Ayes:** McGovern  
**Absent:** Nash

**Vote:** 3 - 0

**MOTION PASSED**

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President Mason announced that the CRC would resume the agenda order.

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**ITEM NO. 5**

**DCR Core Record No. 310150**  
**LA-R-25-310150-ANN & ENV-310150-ANN**

CD: 9

**APPLICANT:** Pine & Proper, LLC

**PUBLIC HEARING HELD**

**BUSINESS PREMISES:** 615 E 61st St., Suite 501

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Ryan Solis, Senior Management Analyst II representing the Department. Madison Shockley representing Pine & Proper, LLC.

**EXHIBITS:** Department's PowerPoint slides.

**MOTION:**

Commissioner McGovern put forth the actions below in conjunction with the approval of the Annual License to conduct Storefront Retail Commercial Cannabis Activity in the Southeast Los Angeles Community Plan Area with hours of operations seven days per week from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

1. Determined, based on the whole of the administrative record, that the project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article 19, Section 15301, Class 1, and Article 19, Section 15332, Class 32 of the State CEQA Guidelines (tit. 14, Cal. Code Regs., §§ 15301, 15332), and there is no substantial evidence demonstrating that an exception to a categorical exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 applies;
2. Approved, pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 104.06(b)(2), the Annual License for Type 10 Storefront Retail Commercial Cannabis Activity at the Business Premises location; and,
3. Adopted the Project Analysis and Findings in the Department's report dated October 31, 2025 as the Commission's report on the subject.

Commissioner Farmby seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

**Moved:** McGovern  
**Second:** Farmby  
**Ayes:** Mason  
**Absent:** Nash

**Vote:** 3 - 0

**MOTION PASSED**

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**ITEM NO. 7**

**DCR Core Record No. 320051**  
**LA-R-25-320051-ANN & ENV-320051-ANN**

CD: 10

**APPLICANT:** Sweet Grass Enterprises, LLC

**PUBLIC HEARING HELD**

**BUSINESS PREMISES:** 2181 Venice Blvd.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Corey Blake, Sr. Management Analyst and Ryan Solis, Sr. Management Analyst II representing the Department. There was no representative for the Applicant.

**EXHIBITS:** Department's PowerPoint slides.

**MOTION:**

Commissioner Farmby put forth the actions below in conjunction with the approval of the Annual License to conduct Storefront Retail Commercial Cannabis Activity in the South Los Angeles Community Plan Area with hours of operations seven days per week from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

1. Determined, based on the whole of the administrative record, that the project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article 19, Section 15301, Class 1, and Article 19, Section 15332, Class 32 of the State CEQA Guidelines (tit. 14, Cal. Code Regs., §§ 15301, 15332), and there is no substantial evidence demonstrating that an exception to a categorical exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 applies;
2. Approved, pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 104.06(b)(2), the Annual License for Type 10 Storefront Retail Commercial Cannabis Activity at the Business Premises location; and,
3. Adopted the Project Analysis and Findings in the Department's report dated November 12, 2025 as the Commission's report on the subject.

Commissioner McGovern seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

**Moved:** Farmby  
**Second:** McGovern  
**Ayes:** Mason  
**Absent:** Nash

**Vote:** 3 - 0

**MOTION PASSED**

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**ITEM NO. 8**

**DCR Core Record No. 320044**  
**LA-R-25-320044-ANN & ENV-320044-ANN**

CD: 14

**APPLICANT:** Nirv Inc

**PUBLIC HEARING HELD**

**BUSINESS PREMISES:** 4884 E. Huntington Dr. South

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Corey Blake, Sr. Management Analyst and Ryan Solis, Sr. Management Analyst II representing the Department. Joshua Fhima, Owner of Nirv, Inc.

**EXHIBITS:** Department's PowerPoint slides.

**MOTION:**

Commissioner Farmby put forth the actions below in conjunction with the approval of the Annual License to conduct Storefront Retail Commercial Cannabis Activity in the Northeast Los Angeles Community Plan Area with hours of operations seven days per week from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

1. Determined, based on the whole of the administrative record, that the project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article 19, Section 15301, Class 1, and Article 19, Section 15332, Class 32 of the State CEQA Guidelines (tit. 14, Cal. Code Regs., §§ 15301, 15332), and there is no substantial evidence demonstrating that an exception to a categorical exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 applies;
2. Approved, pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 104.06(b)(2), the Annual License for Type 10 Storefront Retail Commercial Cannabis Activity at the Business Premises location; and,
3. Adopted the Project Analysis and Findings in the Department's report dated October 30, 2025 as the Commission's report on the subject.

Commissioner Mason seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

**Moved:** Farmby  
**Second:** Mason  
**Ayes:** McGovern  
**Absent:** Nash

**Vote:** 3 - 0

**MOTION PASSED**

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**ITEM NO. 9**

**DCR Core Record No. 320054**  
**LA-R-25-320054-ANN & ENV-320054-ANN**

CD: 13

**APPLICANT:** Nirv SLR, Inc

**PUBLIC HEARING HELD**

**BUSINESS PREMISES: 3732 W. Sunset Blvd.**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Corey Blake, Sr. Management Analyst II and Ryan Solis, Sr. Management Analyst representing the Department. Joshua Fhima, Owner of Nirv SLR, Inc.

**EXHIBITS:** Department's PowerPoint slides.

**MOTION:**

Commissioner McGovern put forth the actions below in conjunction with the approval of the Annual License to conduct Storefront Retail Commercial Cannabis Activity in the Silver Lake - Echo Park - Elysian Valley Community Plan Area with hours of operations seven days per week from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

1. Determined, based on the whole of the administrative record, that the project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article 19, Section 15301, Class 1, and Article 19, Section 15332, Class 32 of the State CEQA Guidelines (tit. 14, Cal. Code Regs., §§ 15301, 15332), and there is no substantial evidence demonstrating that an exception to a categorical exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 applies;
2. Approved, pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 104.06(b)(2), the Annual License for Type 10 Storefront Retail Commercial Cannabis Activity at the Business Premises location; and,
3. Adopted the Project Analysis and Findings in the Department's report dated October 30, 2025 as the Commission's report on the subject.

Commissioner Mason seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

**Moved:** McGovern  
**Second:** Mason  
**Ayes:** Farmby  
**Absent:** Nash

**Vote:** 3 - 0

**MOTION PASSED**

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**ITEM NO. 10**

**DCR Core Record No. 320031**  
**LA-R-25-320031-ANN & ENV-320031-ANN**

CD: 14

**APPLICANT:** Colorado Blvd Partners, LLC

**PUBLIC HEARING HELD**

**BUSINESS PREMISES:** 1731 Colorado Blvd.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Ryan Solis, Sr. Management Analyst II and Kabir Chopra, Deputy City Attorney representing the Department. GianDominic Vitiello, Attorney representing Colorado Blvd Partners, LLC.

**EXHIBITS:** Department's PowerPoint slides.

**MOTION:**

Commissioner Farmby moved to approve DCR's determination to deny an Annual License Application to conduct storefront retail commercial cannabis activity at the Business Premises under LAMC section 104.04(a)(7) and adopted the findings below based on the whole of record:

On November 20, 2025, the Los Angeles Cannabis Regulation Commission ("CRC") held an appeal hearing pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code ("LAMC") section 104.10(c)(1)(i) to consider the appeal from Colorado Business Partners LLC ("Appellant") from the denial of its Annual License Application by the Department of Cannabis Regulation ("DCR") to conduct Storefront Retail Commercial Cannabis Activity at 1731 Colorado Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90041 ("Business Premises"). After lengthy deliberations, the CRC upheld DCR's decision to deny Appellant's Annual License Application under LAMC section 104.04(a)(7) because Appellant conducted unlicensed commercial cannabis activity.

The hearing began with a presentation from DCR. DCR explained that Appellant received Temporary Approval in August 2023, but that Temporary Approval expired after December 31, 2023, because Appellant did not renew it as required under LAMC section 104.12. Although Appellant submitted a timely 2024 renewal application, it failed to pay the renewal fee by the November 1, 2023, deadline. In fact, it did not pay it until more than a year later on December 30, 2024. In March 2024, DCR informed Appellant's Social Equity Owner, Mary Witherspoon, orally and in writing, that the 2023 Temporary Approval had expired. Between May and September 2024, Appellant began the process to refile a new Annual License Application, but that application never achieved Temporary Approval. Despite the expiration of its Temporary Approval, during a routine inspection on February 5, 2025, DCR staff observed cannabis sales on the Business Premises. DCR thereafter referred the case to LAPD, which also confirmed unlicensed activity through a controlled buy. DCR therefore denied Appellant's Annual License application for engaging in unlicensed commercial cannabis activity.

In its brief and presentation, Appellant admitted that its 2024 renewal fee was not timely paid, but argued that the late payment should be excused, in equity, for a variety of reasons. Appellant argued the late payment should be excused because it was nonetheless accepted by the City of Los Angeles Office of Finance. Appellant also argued that the failure to timely renew stemmed from communication issues following an internal business reorganization after which not all owners and managers received information from DCR. Appellant maintained that had they known about the expired Temporary Approval they would have immediately corrected it, as evidenced by the eventual late payment. Appellant further argued that its sales were made in good faith because it continued using the State's track-and-trace system. In sum, Appellant contended that a technical error should not have caused its Temporary Approval to expire.

After the close of presentations, the CRC asked questions of DCR and Appellant focusing on two issues: (1) the City's acceptance of Appellant's late renewal payment, and (2) if DCR's communications were sent to all individuals on Appellant's application record. On the first issue, DCR explained other City departments are responsible for

processing DCR's payments, and to the extent the payment was accidentally accepted, an applicant may request a refund. On the second issue, DCR confirmed that its communications were emailed to all contacts associated with Appellant's record at the time they were sent. The 2024 renewal invoice was also uploaded to DCR's Licensing Portal on October 30, 2023, where it was accessible to all record contacts. In response, Appellant reiterated that DCR's grounds for denial were based on technicalities that were not fair under the circumstances.

During deliberations, the CRC found that the record established that DCR issued a 2024 renewal invoice to Appellant on October 30, 2023, which Appellant did not pay until December 30, 2024. The invoice had a stated "void if not paid by" date of November 1, 2023; therefore Appellant's 2023 Temporary Approval was not renewed for the calendar year of 2024. The CRC also found that the record established that Appellant continued to engage in commercial cannabis activity in 2024 and 2025 when Appellant did not have Temporary Approval. As a result, the CRC voted to adopt DCR's staff recommendation to deny Appellant's Annual License Application under LAMC section 104.04(a)(7) for conducting unlicensed commercial cannabis activity.

Commissioner McGovern seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

**Moved:** Farmby  
**Second:** McGovern  
**Ayes:** Mason  
**Absent:** Nash

**Vote:** 3 - 0

**MOTION PASSED**

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There being no further business before the Cannabis Regulation Commission,  
President Mason adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m



Thryeris Mason, Commission President  
Cannabis Regulation Commission



Josie Trevizo, Commission Executive Assistant  
Cannabis Regulation Commission

**ADOPTED**  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

**JAN 15 2026**

**CANNABIS REGULATION  
COMMISSION**