



# Cannabis Control Commission Public Meeting

In Person and Remote via Teams



## Meeting Book - Cannabis Control Commission Public Meeting

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January 23, 2026

In accordance with Sections 18-25 of Chapter 30A of the Massachusetts General Laws and Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025, notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Cannabis Control Commission. The meeting will take place as noted below.

## CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION

**January 27, 2026  
10:15 AM**

**Remote via [Microsoft Teams Live\\*](#) and In-Person at Cannabis Control Commission,  
Second Floor Public Meeting Room, Worcester Union Station, 2 Washington Square, Worcester**

### PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Commissioners' Comments & Updates
- III. Minutes
- IV. Executive Director and Commission Staff Report
  1. Calendar Year 2025 Goals – Final Report
- V. Staff Recommendations on Changes of Ownership
  1. FreeMarketMA, LLC
- VI. Staff Recommendations on Renewal Licenses
  1. Ashli's, Inc. (#MRR207445)
  2. Bask, Inc. (#MRR207446)
  3. Bask, Inc. (#MRR207458)
  4. Caregiver-Patient Connection LLC (#MPR244377)
  5. CommCan, Inc (#MRR207426)
  6. Curaleaf North Shore, Inc. (#MCR140938)
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  9. Elevated Roots II LLC (#MRR207452)
  10. EMB Natural Ventures, LLC (#MCR141004)
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  12. Green Meadows Farm, LLC (#MRR207455)
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14. JMK Gardening, LLC (#MRR207454)
15. Mass Alternative Care, Inc. (#MCR140988)
16. Noble Manna Inc. (#MRR206987)
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19. Pure Lowell, Inc. (#MRR207449)
20. Salisbury Cultivation and Production Manufacturing, LLC (#MPR244204)
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22. Sanctuary Medicinals, Inc. (#MRR207429)
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- VII. Staff Recommendations on Provisional Licenses
  1. Wachusett Cannabis, Inc. (#MPN282367), Marijuana Product Manufacturing
  2. Wachusett Cannabis, Inc. (#MRN285408), Marijuana Retail
- VIII. Staff Recommendations on Final Licenses
  1. Hennep Cultivation, LLC (#MC282282), Marijuana Cultivator, Tier 6, Indoor, (40,001 – 50,000 sq. ft.)
  2. Hennep Cultivation, LLC (#MP281766), Marijuana Product Manufacturer
- IX. Staff Recommendations on Responsible Vendor Training Renewals
  1. MACCTI, LLC (#RV453191)
- X. Commission Discussion and Votes
  1. Open Meeting Law and Release of Executive Session Minutes  
*Commissioner Carrie Benedon*
  2. Update on Preliminary Referrals
  3. Red Tape Removal Working Group Update *Chair Shannon O'Brien and Commissioner Kimberly Roy*
  4. Discussion on Inversion
  5. Discussion of Regulatory Process Timeline for Delivery  
Exclusivity/Secret Shopper



- XI. New Business Not Anticipated at the Time of Posting
- XII. Next Meeting Date
- XIII. Adjournment

\*Closed captioning available

*If you need reasonable accommodations in order to participate in the meeting, contact the ADA Coordinator Debra Hilton-Creek in advance of the meeting. While the Commission will do its best to accommodate you, certain accommodations may not be available if requested immediately before the meeting.*



## 2025 Progress Report – Agency Goals (December 31, 2025)

### Introduction

The Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission (Commission)’s original 2025 Progress Report was intended to specify the associated tasks and workflow of each agency goal and allow for prioritization. It also duly recognizes the limited bandwidth of individual departments and divisions given FY2026 budget limitations that have resulted in a hiring freeze and delays to critical IT infrastructure improvements. **This Final Report, however, is intended to transition from completed or partially completed 2025 Goals into a 2026 Goal discussion with Commissioners.**

The Executive Director and Senior Leadership Advisory Group have reviewed each goal below in the order of its original numbering convention as approved unanimously on April 10, 2025. **Appendix A** references proposed prioritization of remaining goals and associated tasks for the beginning of CY2026. Additionally, **Appendix B** summarizes the core functions of each area of operations to note that many bandwidth concerns are related to daily functions that exist outside of the 2025 goals.

Availability of alternate funding sources for IT infrastructure investment or supplemental funding to the FY2026 budget for the last two quarters (Jan. 1, 2026 to March 31, 2026, and April 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026) would impact these assumptions (summarized under Goal #2).

The Commission approved 2025 Goals in two (2) sections:

1. The agency intended Goals 1-5 to be substantially complete by June 30, 2025, or the end of FY2026, whereas
2. The agency intended goals 6-12 to be completed over the course of CY2025.

Please see Goals 1 through 5 below for notes about competition and next steps. Goals 6 through 12 also include milestones and next steps, as well as additional information, if applicable. All updates are as of December 31 and incorporate a previous full report that reviewed progress through September 30, with interim reports provided in October and November 2025. The Commission may use this Final Report to transition to the 2026 Goal-setting process.

Finally, there are many potential impacts of the ongoing legislative discussion with the Conference Committee which kicked off January 14, 2026. This document will require a more significant update if the Legislature acts.

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## SHORT-TERM GOALS (1-5): Substantially Complete

- **(#1) Governance Charter** – *Have Charter approved by ED and Commissioners*
  - Completion: Approved by Commissioners on May 22, 2025
  - Ongoing Work / Updates:
    - Communication tool developed with IT to ensure efficient scheduling and tracking of staff requests for Commissioner time, and vice versa – ready for launch in 2026
    - H.4206/S.2749, as written, would make Governance Charter null and void
    - The Commission engaged Anderson Krieger in Q2 of FY2026 to review specific governance questions within the existing statute with a limited scope due to budget constraints. The first task order was a review of 76 (i) which was not complete as of Dec. 31.
  
- **(#2) FY2026 Budget** – *Internal development, approval by Legislature*
  - Completion: Approved by Conference Committee and signed by Governor
    - Problem Statement: FY2026 budget was ~\$10M (or 33%) below request and an effective budget reduction from prior year, even before factoring in inflation and COLA
    - FY2026 Bond Bill Supplemental Request (Executive Office of Technology Services and Security or EOTSS) – submitted and presented September 2025 – \$770-970K request for allocations to Metrc (seed-to-sale) and Medical Use of Marijuana Program Online System (MMJOS software inherited from Department of Public Health (DPH) in 2018)
    - FY2026 Supplemental Budget Request – approximately \$2M requested to allow the Commission to lift its current hiring freeze, fill positions critical to its mission, and prepare for the implementation of the three (3) Social Consumption Establishment license types
  - Ongoing Work / Updates:
    - EOTSS awarded \$750K via the FY2026 Bond Bill for Phase 1 of the procurement to upgrade or replace the MMJOS platform (notification received: December 29), with Phase 2 requested for FY2027 Bond Bill funding
    - FY2027 Bond Bill Request (EOTSS) submittal for MassCIP request (estimated at more than \$2M prior to procurement)
      - Cost estimate in development – RFI on “E-Badging” platforms for both/either Agent E-Badging and/or Patient and Caregiver electronic IDs, which could save the Commission \$1M +/- annually in printing of physical badges
    - FY2027 Budget submitted in October 2025 to the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (A&F) - in development to include base operations and estimate cost to administer Social Consumption
      - Board approved budget request at the January 15 Public Meeting for submittal to Legislature

- FY2026 Supplemental Budget Request (timeline: TBD): To potentially include partial implementation cost of Social Consumption (see #11), but also focus on items identified in Appendix A
- **(#3) Cannabis Advisory Board (CAB) – Hold first meeting under new ED, set cadence**
  - Completion: Meeting held May 9, 2025 quarterly cadence set
  - Ongoing Work / Updates:
    - Second full meeting was scheduled but quorum was not achieved
    - Increased engagement of CAB members as consulting members of formal Working Groups and utilize expertise on special projects (e.g., review of three-day notice practice, consulting on Medical Program Working Group, addition on Social Consumption Working Groups)
    - Evaluate impacts of H.4206/S.2749 to CAB
- **(#4) Conclude Implementation of Ch. 180**
  - Completion: Above 94% of tasks complete as of June 30, 2025; remaining tasks are reliant on IT Infrastructure improvements (see #2 for timeline updates)
  - Ongoing Work/Updates:
    - Continue to work with JD Software to address remaining checklist items
    - Continue periodic updates on Host Community Municipal Equity (HCME) from the first data presentation at the August 14, 2025 public meeting
    - Repurpose existing messaging to meet public awareness mandates within Ch. 180, as public awareness funds were not approved in the FY2026 budget, despite the cannabis equity reform law’s inclusion of additional directives for the Commission, in consultation with DPH
- **(#5) Medical Use of Marijuana Program – Establish Working Group**
  - Completion: ED approved Working Group in May 2025
  - Ongoing Work/Updates:
    - Working Group Charter includes:
      - Review of H.4206/S.2749 with feedback to the Legislative Review Working Group, Senate version includes vertical integration implications and out-of-state patient reciprocity
      - Draft recommendations to current medical regulations (935 CMR 501.000) will be ready for Board discussion following Social Consumption regulation promulgation and subsequent Delivery Exclusivity regulation promulgation; including, but not limited to, vertical integration
      - Recommendations to further include regulatory changes/clean-up that will be needed with improvements to MMJOS, patient certification and registration, temporary registrations, and process

## FULL YEAR 2025 GOALS (6-12): Progress Updates

- **(#6) Lab Testing Protocols** – *Improve Testing Policy, Protocols, and Regulations; and evaluate internally managed reference lab*
  - Milestones:
    - Admin Order #4 (into effect April 1, 2025)
    - Admin Order #5 (into effect June 17, 2025)
    - Consultant(s) engaged with FY2025 end-of-year available funding
    - Solicited survey/summary from Independent Testing Laboratories (ITLs) on recommendations for changes to protocols
    - Portal for Public Health and Safety Advisories (PHSAs) created on website
  - Ongoing Work / Updates:
    - Testing team and I&E to present recommendations to the ED, then to Commissioners in February for scheduling a public meeting agenda item for early 2026
      - Protocol changes may be presented in phases based on prioritization through the lens of public health and safety
      - Commissioners, through the Chair, may require external review/input on recommendations prior to vote (formal or informal comment period)
  - Related Items:
    - Secret Shopper Working Group will produce recommendations and the design of an ideal Secret Shopper Program (SSP), though limited implementation will be possible under the current FY2026 budget appropriation. Regulatory changes may be recommended.
  - CY2026 Outlook:
    - Potential timeline for updates to testing protocols:
      - Dec. 9 – Recommendations provided from I&E to Legal for review
      - Jan. 15 – Commissioners approved SSP regulatory changes in draft package that will be subject to public comment and hearing planned Feb. 23, 2026
      - Jan. 30 – Legal review completion, feedback to I&E
      - Planned for Feb. 13, 2026 – CIE, GC, ED completion, provide to Commissioners
        - Commissioners may choose to provide recommendations to ITL listening session participants for feedback prior to public meeting
        - Commissioners to review recommendations and comparative analysis with third-party consultants
      - February/March public meeting agenda item, at discretion of Chair

- **(#7) Organizational Culture – Become model for modern, inclusive government**
  - Milestones:
    - DEIJB Leadership Committee – created with set cadence of meetings
    - DEIJB Staff Committee – created with set cadence of meetings
    - Culture and Community Employee Resource Group – created with set cadence of meetings and numerous workshops available to All-Staff (e.g., conflict resolution)
    - Implement new Fiscal Year Performance Evaluation system for FY2026 (staff Q&A sessions) with first review by December 31, 2025
  - Ongoing Work / Updates:
    - HR Policies (Phase 1) external employment counsel completed review
    - HR Policies (Phases 2-4) will be developed but implementation will be delayed due to lack of funding for third-party employment counsel review in FY2026
    - Northeastern University Capstone Project to develop an Access and Equity Committee with the intent of furthering the Commission’s mission of regulating a safe, effective, and equitable cannabis industry, inclusive of all individuals, regardless of socio-economic background and other disadvantages, or those who had been previously disproportionately harmed by previous marijuana prohibition and enforcement
  
- **(#8a) Create Center for Cannabis Research & Policy (CCRP)**
  - Milestones:
    - CCRP Steering Working Group Charter completed December 31
  - Ongoing Work / Updates:
    - CCRP Steering Working Group established design, execution, and implementation of:
      - Branding of CCRP for external dissemination
      - CCC research priorities and functions (incl. statutory and regulatory mandated reporting)
      - Funding mechanisms and/or appropriation(s) for current and future grants, and other earmarked research/CCRP funding as granted by external parties, including the Legislature; create policies and financial controls compliant with Comptroller for grant management
    - CCC transitions Research Department into the CCRP (“implementation”), complete with media branding, as applicable

- **(#8b) Expand Open Data Platform**

- Milestones:
  - Creation of the Public Health & Safety Advisories Portal (August 2025)
  - Approval of Certificate of Analysis (COA) to be uploaded to Product Catalog via Metrc platform (December 2025)
  - Completed automation for processing OpenData updates. Reduced multiple hours per week effort of the data team to under 20 minutes. Resumed weekly cadence.
  - Completed transition of legacy MMJOS licenses to MassCIP providing a single system with all licensing and application data.
- Ongoing Work / Updates:
  - Issue RFP/Q/Rs for enhancements or replacement of:
    - MMJOS (see #2 for funding info): estimated for January 2026, 80% completion by June 30, 2026, 20% completion within FY2027
    - MassCIP: will require funding via FY2027 budget or additional bond bill request through EOTSS, but is the main priority across the organization for finding efficiencies and increasing Open Data capabilities
    - Context: current data access is via 43 individual separate reports with duplicated data which must be ingested and processed by the Data Team within IT; goal is to transition to data exports of all data to improve access to this data and significantly increase operational efficiency. Additional data requirements to collect more information in useable formats require improvements/replacement of the MMJOS and MassCIP systems.
  - Draft and approve Data Use Agreement (DUA) to be used where applicable
  - Fully implement Data Lake and data automation; budget constraints limiting implementation of all features and support available under the Microsoft expanded support agreement

- **(#8c) Policymaking Support – Enhance efforts to track ongoing developments**

- Milestones:
  - GAP Special Policy Report production, archived on Commission Sharepoint (intranet) page (e.g. “Reforming Agent Registration Badging Requirements for Cannabis Industry Employees in Massachusetts”)
  - GAP reports on federal hemp changes, Executive Orders, etc.
  - “Review and Assessment of the MA Adult- and Medical-use Cannabis Industries” (Research Dept., February 2025)
  - Engagement with UMass Donahue Institute for Delivery Exclusivity Report, delivered to Commissioners for review in December 2025
  - “International Cannabis Policy Study” (ICPS) Report provided to Commissioners for review in December 2025, tentatively scheduled for March 2026 public meeting

- Ongoing Work / Updates:
  - Legislative Review Working Group continuing to evaluate H.4206/S.2749 and Research and GAP to provide national context (i.e. CANNRA and other) for various policy issues, including but not limited to:
    - Removal of Vertical Integration requirement inherited from DPH and introduction of medical reciprocity (work also completed by Medical Program Working Group, see #5)
    - Accounts Receivable (previous discussions with ABCC on B-to-B model, draft legislation will require CCC to own a platform for A/R review)
    - Intoxicating Hemp – Regulatory framework in House draft would provide roles for ABCC/CCC/DPH/MDAR, whereas recent changes at federal level contributed to removal of Hemp from Senate draft. CCC has reviewed regulatory frameworks with ABCC, DPH, MDAR, as well as CANNRA to prepare for any legislative changes, and will continue to do so.
  
- **(#9) Create 5-Year Strategic Plan: Equity Programming**
  - Milestones:
    - EquityWorks Career Hub – launched June 16, 2025
    - Social Equity Application Period announced – July 10, 2025 Public Meeting – Period opened August 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025, applications to be reviewed through October 2025
    - Technical Assistance & Training Program – Phase II – underway with contract split over two fiscal years for full 77-course Technical Assistance & Training Program – four (4) contractors underway in FY2026, procured in FY2025
  - Ongoing Work / Updates:
    - ED chose to hold a draft 5-Year Strategic Plan while other considerations were under review by Board, including the Disproportionally Impact Areas (DIA) Map. Additionally, the Social Equity Application review required the majority of bandwidth from EPCO staff, which has two (2) vacancies currently held by hiring freeze.
  - CY2026 Goal Prep:
    - Prioritization of social equity programming emphasized during quarterly tracking of FY2026 budget-to-actuals, and a completion of the 5-Year Strategic Plan for EPCO can include final decision making from the Commissioners on the use Exclusivity periods, the future of the DIA map, and other external factors such as ongoing litigation at the Circuit Court level

- **(#10) Regulatory Modernization – Leverage JCCP legislative action with Agency regulatory action to address the challenges of Agency and industry**
  - Milestones:
    - Legislative Review Working Group (LRWG) Charter approved in May 2025; reviewed regulations as compared with proposed legislation (H.4206) and other bills being considered by the Joint Committee on Cannabis Policy (JCCP)
    - Access to Medical Cannabis Working Group approved May 2025;
      - Reviewing Vertical Integration regulations and proposing recommendations to Executive Director in 2025
      - Reviewed H.4206 impact to medical program, providing feedback to LRWG
    - Promulgation of Social Consumption regulatory package included select regulatory modernization efforts, including simplification of agent registration (“badging”) and wasting requirements
    - The **Red Tape Removal Working Group** was created to compile a comprehensive list of regulations and associated policies in need of updating or removal, then prioritize this list for the Executive Director to make recommendations to the Commission, no later than June 30, 2026
  - Ongoing Work / Updates:
    - Red Tape Removal Working Group to compile list in January 2026, survey external stakeholders for prioritization
  - CY2026 Goal Prep:
    - Red Tape Removal Working Group to provide prioritized list of recommendations to update regulations to Executive Director by end of Q3 of FY2026 (March 31, 2026) and Executive Director to provide recommendations to Commissioners no later than June 30, 2026
      - If a regulatory package is completed in the meantime (e.g. Delivery Exclusivity), track “Red Tape” / regulatory updates prior to final recommendations
  
- **(#11) Promulgate Social Consumption Regulations**
  - Milestones:
    - Approval of promulgation process – July 29, 2025
    - Promulgation Process started with submission to the Secretary of State on August 1, 2025, including formal comment period
    - Commissioners issued a memo / press release regarding the formal comment period at the August 14, 2025 Public Meeting
    - Final voted regulations submitted to the Secretary of State on December 19, 2025
    - Secretary of State approval of regulations completed on January 2, 2026
    - Regulations are available on the Commission’s website as of January 12, 2026

- Ongoing Work / Updates:
  - Implementation of three (3) new license types underway, following final vote of regulations. Working Groups established in November and December 2025, including:
    - (1) Implementation
      - IT working with Metrc and MassCIP to set up new license types in IT platforms – timeline estimate is 6 months minimum based on Ch. 180 experience
      - I&E process development for all three (3) license types – including SOPs and licensing processes
      - Note: Given the timing of approval of regulations (mid-way thru FY2026) the current budget constraints (see #2) may impact the timeline of deliverables
    - (2) Local Advisory
      - All Social Consumption is a municipal “opt in”
      - The Event Organizer license type, similar to a One Day Liquor License under the ABCC, has various requirements by the Commission, but will be a community driven process to approve and the Local Advisory Working Group will assist in development of guidance documents
    - (3) Public Awareness
      - The \$1.5 million request for public awareness funding was not approved in the Commission’s FY2026 budget (nor in the previous 3 fiscal years) and all efforts to keep the industry, municipalities, and the general public up to date on the roll out of Social Consumption, including public safety messaging, will need to be done “in house”
    - (4) Responsible Vendor Training, or RVT
      - Similar to how municipalities rely on various training to ensure that bars, restaurants, and events are serving alcohol within regulations and policies (i.e. TIPS certification for servers), those that will be serving in Social Consumption instances will be required to undergo specific RVT curriculum to Social Consumption and this working group will engage the public safety community (Massachusetts Chiefs of Police, MPTC, etc.) in the development of the curriculum
    - Total estimated timeline of implementation, given lack of FY2026 resources and known reliance on 3<sup>rd</sup> party IT vendors, 18-24 months
      - Note: timelines may be shortened by access to funding through a supplemental budget appropriation

- **(#12) Organizational Structure** – *Ensure limited budget resources are deployed appropriately*
  - Milestones:
    - Creation of cross-departmental position to address “Tip Line” need and centralized external communications: Complaint Resolution Administrator (CRA) (approved at March 13, 2025 Public Meeting, prior to Hiring Freeze)
    - Update to Director of Testing position to Director of Testing Compliance to address certain changes since the inception of the position and the demands and focus on updating the Testing regulations, protocols and policies
  - Ongoing Work / Updates:
    - Evaluation of past and present structure of Chiefs, Directors, Managers, Coordinators, and all reporting structures
      - Specific evaluation of Chief Communication Officer as only vacant Chief position
      - Evaluation of former Chief positions, including Chief Operations Officer
      - Evaluation of the creation of mid-management and progressive responsibility titles, such as “Senior” coordinator, manager, director, etc.
    - Project impacts of H.4206 on existing Agency mission:
      - Oversight of A/R platform, development of medical reciprocity processes, license cap changes, etc.
    - Managing through continued “Hiring Freeze” and evaluating the prioritization of these positions
  - Other Considerations:
    - In addition to a Hiring Freeze necessitated by the budget constraints of FY2026, a significant impact was felt in all departments in Q2 (September 1 to December 31) for continuous leaves of key personnel. While mission critical work continued, managing through leaves required many director-level positions, and others, to cover multiple divisions for extended periods of time at the end of CY2026
    - Lack of funding for planned professional development opportunities throughout the organization (all disciplines) will continue to impact recruitment and retention

### **Conclusion / Summary:**

Impactful developments since the approval of the 2025 Goals at the April 10, 2025 Public Meeting include the FY2026 budget, which did not meet the needs of the current workflow demands of the organization, as well as the promulgation of Social Consumption regulations which adds additional workflow onto the organization without additional resources (in the short-term).

In the second half of FY2026 (January 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026) the Executive Director will continue to look to identify specific workflow that the Agency, with the consensus of Commissioners, can consciously choose to delay or reduce/alter to account for only 66% of the Agency’s budget request being filled by the Legislature.

Appendix A is a summary of Itemized Workflow that was either Delayed or Reduced/Altered.

Additionally, when considering a transition from CY2025 to CY2026, it should be noted that some Goals are functional and some are aspirational and the Goals should be balanced with an understanding of Appendix B, which summarizes the daily core roles of each functional area of operation.

## Appendix A – Prioritization: Transitioning from CY2025 to CY2026

The impacts of the FY2026 final budget and lack of supplemental budget to date have impacted several goals and should be considered when transitioning and prioritizing goals for CY2026 and beyond.

### **Prioritization: Hiring Freeze, Staff Time Allocations, Operating Budget**

The Executive Director, when reviewing the 2025 Goals, considers the below prioritization when reviewing (1) requests to waive the hiring freeze, (2) allocation of staff time and resources, and (3) requests for additional funding within the final FY2026 budget spending plan, as presented to the Executive Office of Administration & Finance (A&F).

#### **Hiring Freeze Prioritization:**

The direction for requesting a waiver of the hiring freeze for vacancies was provided to all departments, and internally is [available here](#). The waiver request process calls for concurrence from the CPO and CFAO, and explains the lens through which each concurrence is viewed.

For prioritization from the Executive Director, a variety of factors are considered as well. Namely, cross-functional significance of the position, management responsibilities, and decision-making requirements of the position.

The Executive Director is prepared to present a priority order for hiring when/if the Freeze is lifted in FY2026 should the supplemental budget request be considered.

#### **Allocation of Staff Time: Prioritization (Working Groups):**

Organizational priorities are summarized above, including known work that is delayed due to limited bandwidth or external factors.

It should be noted that not all core functions and mission critical activities are captured within the 2025 Agency-wide Goals, and these activities are described in Appendix B.

Where staff time is currently assigned to organization-wide initiatives through the use of Working Groups, the below prioritization will be used where staff time is limited and conflicts may arise:

1. **Audit Response (Non-Charter) Working Group** – the Agency has made great strides in addressing issues raised by the OIG and SAO for previous audit periods, which are highlighted in an [FAQ for the public](#); while the majority of work has been done since the audit period, some work that is still needing to be completed within the next six (6) months is also summarized in the FAQ and more specifically, engagements with a 3<sup>rd</sup> party auditing firm (Clifton, Larsen, Allen – or CLA) have resulted in the formalization of a Comprehensive Action Plan (CAP) which will include the implementation of OIG, SAO and CLA recommendations.
2. **Testing Protocols (Non-Charter) Team**– reviewing written feedback from ITL/Industry listening sessions and recent production of consulting recommendations for testing protocols. Full timeline estimate presented above.
3. **Social Consumption Working Group(s)** – the regulatory working group was wound down after the promulgation process but various Working Groups were created in its place. An internal

implementation working group will have I&E and IT at the forefront, and with 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendors (Metrc, MassCIP, Dynamics) set to determine much of the timeline of implementation. Additionally, Working Groups for Local Advisory, Public Awareness, and Responsible Vendor Training were created, and these include external consulting teams to vet work product.

4. **Ch. 180 Implementation Working Group** – majority of items on hold due to technology restrictions but completing implementation of previous statutory changes prior to potential new statutory changes is a carry-forward priority. Separately, the internal working group regarding the implementation of 2024 regulatory changes (e.g. 2-Driver rule, Telehealth) will also be prioritized to complete work started before implementation of Social Consumption and the following regulatory round.
5. **Access to Medical Use Cannabis Working Group** – recommendations from this working group will impact the Agency’s collaboration with the Legislature, with H.4206 touching on numerous aspects of the medical program. Working Group will also be providing timely recommendations for the next regulatory round to address Vertical Integration which addresses most impactful outcomes for medical patients, providers, and for the Agency’s departments that administer the program.
6. **Legislative Review Working Group** – this group may move up in priority at any point given the needs of the Legislature to tap Agency staff as a resource as changes to the organization’s mission are considered (e.g. intoxicating hemp and/or A/R). With not much time to provide input on H.4206, the LRWG will be available as a resource to the Senate and be available to all Legislators that seek collaboration.
7. **Red Tape Removal Working Group** – this group will compile a comprehensive list of regulations and associated policies that are in need of modernization and prioritize the list for Commissioner considerations as the policy-makers transition from the Social Consumption regulations, to (potentially) Delivery Exclusivity regulations, and then be prepared to tackle other priorities. This group is above Secret Shopper, as there are elements of the Secret Shopper program that may be enhanced by reduction of red tape in regulations, whereas it is prioritized below LRWG because Legislative changes will take precedence over the priorities of the Commission.
8. **Secret Shopper Working Group** – this program is critical to the future of the Agency and the industry and this Working Group will finalize a shovel-ready program. However, the Secret Shopper program will not be able to be funded prior to July 1, 2026, given the Agency’s appropriation from the Legislature. A cost estimate will be included in the FY2027 budget request.
9. **CCRP Steering Working Group** – the CCRP model is a maturation of the Research function after the first 8 years of the Agency. Maintaining the statutory and regulatory deadlines for deliverables (objective research reports) of the Research team is paramount.
10. **Delivery Exclusivity Working Group** – this was a main priority as of December 31, 2025, but has achieved its goal with a vote on Delivery Exclusivity regulations on January 14, 2026.

Please note that DEIJB Working Groups, including Culture & Community, are not ranked above but are an important commitment made by the organization and may also utilize the time of individuals throughout all departments, including senior leadership.

## **Transitioning from CY2025 to CY2026 Goals:**

One holistic change to consider is shifting from calendar year to fiscal year goals, as much of the organizational bandwidth is determined by budget. Alternately, approaching an 18 month goal setting process may make sense for Q3 and Q4 of FY2026 (January 1, 2026, to June 30, 2026) and all of FY2027 (July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027).

The items carrying forward from CY2025 include:

### **1. Improvements or Replacement of IT Infrastructure (MassCIP):**

- a. No simple re-appropriation of funding within the FY2026 or FY2027 budgets will allow the Agency to implement significant changes to MassCIP. This priority requires alternative or supplemental funding. This remains the priority of the Executive Director as improvements are necessary, regardless of whether the funding comes from a bond bill approval via EOTSS, similar to the MMJOS award, or through the operating budget.
- b. So much of the Agency's ability to balance personnel needs against available funding is based on the ability to improve the IT platforms needed for daily functions, like licensing.

### **2. Lab Testing Protocols:**

- a. After the FY2026 appropriation, only \$50,000 was initially available for I&E's testing operating costs, including the continued engagement with 3<sup>rd</sup> party expertise to start the year. Any additional funding in FY2026 will be considered for addressing this need, as the Commissioners will require access to direct consulting from these engagements in early 2026 as protocol changes are considered.
- b. **Secret Shopper** changes were added to regulatory package for Delivery Exclusivity, filed with the Secretary of State on January 16, 2026. This package has an estimated completion date of March 30, 2026, and will provide added optionality to the build out of a full Secret Shopper program, in addition to the work that has been piloted to-date by the I&E Taskforce.
- c. Personnel Note: The Director of Testing position was considered outside the hiring freeze due to the prolonged recruitment phase of a very difficult position to fill. The position was filled and vacated, and since updated by vote of the Board to "Director of Testing Compliance."

### **3. Organizational Structure & Organizational Culture:**

- a. The Agency's ability to move this industry forward is reliant on growing with the industry. As Social Consumption is implemented and proposed changes from the Legislature are adopted, the Commission must segregate responsibilities of its Senior Leadership (a recommendation of the SAO report in FY2026) by creating checks and balances between departments. The ability of the Executive Director to adjust the Senior Leadership structure is dependent on Commissioner approval but also the resources needed to create the appropriate levels of Senior and Mid-Management that allow for proper succession planning and career development opportunities. Simply funding the modest personnel requests for FY2026 or FY2027 would allow this to happen, positively impacting all other goals of the organization.

- b. DEIJB initiatives must continue to be prioritized to build on the work of CY2025, while conclusion of Conference Committee work should provide stability and direction to the organization by the Legislature. The Executive Director and Commissioners, following Conference Committee, should undertake a review of the Organizational mission (with any potential changes from the Legislature), followed by a creation of an Organizational vision, developed through a visioning process that includes all-staff participation and buy-in.

**4. Social Consumption Implementation:**

- a. With the regulatory goal for CY2025 met, the goal of implementing Social Consumption (e.g. SOP development, license application build-out, RVT development, public awareness) becomes a priority for the organization in CY2026. The prioritization of this goal by the Commissioners will determine when the organization may be ready to accept license applications on one or all of the three license types under Social Consumption.

This is a review of the 2025 Goals as of December 31, 2025, which is the end of Q2 of the FY2026 budget cycle, and this Final Report may be a reasonable consideration during the Commission's development of CY2026 goals.

**Appendix A Summary: CY2025 Goals - Final Report - Transition Recommendations for CY2026 Goals**

	<b>CY2025</b>	<b>Final Report</b>	<b>CY2026 Considerations</b>	<b>New CY2026 Goal Proposal</b>	<b>Goal for CY2026 (Low 1 - High 5)</b>
1	Governance Charter	Completed May 2025	Implementation of any legislative changes would presumably negate Governance Charter	N/A	1
2	FY2026 Budget	Completed, but only 66% of request funded; EOTSS funding received for part of IT Infrastructure needs outside of operating budget	FY2027 Budget adjusted to factor in EOTSS funding for MMJOS, but still needing funding for MassCIP and other IT needs	FY2027 Budget to incorporate new mission items (e.g. Social Consumption)	5
3	CAB Meeting Cadence	Completed initial meeting; consistent cadence not reached in CY2025	Implementation of any legislative changes could impact CAB	N/A	1
4	Conclude Ch. 180 Implementation	Substantially complete (94%); remaining tasks subject to IT infrastructure needs	Maintain goal, reliant on IT infrastructure updates for licensing software (MassCIP)	Subject to IT Infrastructure Goal	1
5	Establish Medical Use Program WG	Recommendations of Working Group transition to CY2026 Goals for promulgation	Recommendations for regulatory changes (e.g. Vertical Integration, Medical Reciprocity) to be reviewed by Board for potential promulgation	Combine with Regulatory Goal	5
6	Lab Testing Protocols	Recommendations from Testing/I&E transition to CY2026 Goals for review, vote, implementation	Testing team / I&E recommendations (Package 1) under review by legal, to be delivered to Commissioners for review in February 2026; proposed implementation schedule for completion by June 2026	Testing Protocol updates (Package 1) fully implemented by June 2026; Testing Regulatory updates combine with Regulatory Goal	5
7	Organizational Culture	Continued work of DEIJB Leadership, Staff, Culture & Community; HR policy recommendations transition to CY2026 Goals	Finalize Phase 1 of HR Policy updates (reviewed by Employment Counsel) and complete Phases 2-4	Update HR Policies with Employment Counsel Review	5
8a	Create CCRP	New CCRP Steering Working Group transition to CY2026 Goals	CCRP Steering Working Group to present recommendations for consideration and implementation in CY2026	Develop Mechanism to Firewall Research and Maximize Grant Access	3
8b	Expand Open Data Platform	Partial task completion, new/additional targets for CY2026	Addition of COAs on Metrc Product Catalog for March 2026, Aggregate Testing Data for March 2026	Expand Open Data Platform (new task list), partially reliant on IT infrastructure improvements	4
8c	Policymaking Support	Deliverable of Exclusivity Report, new deliverables for CY2026	ICPS Report in March 2026; additional policy analysis related to federal changes on hemp and Scheduling of cannabis	Review and Consider Regulatory Changes Related to Federal Changes to Cannabinoid Policies	3
9	Equity Programming 5-Year Strategic Plan	Not complete, carry to CY2026	Complete discussion on DIA map, policy analysis of equity programming changes in other jurisdictions based on Circuit Court decisions, and completion of a 5-Year Strategic Plan document presented to Board for approval	Develop, Review, Vote 5-Year Strategic Plan for Equity Programming, including consideration of federal environment	4
10	Regulatory Modernization	Items contained with Social Consumption and Delivery Exclusivity Regs (e.g. badging, secret shopper); next significant changes to regulations to be recommended by new Red Tape Removal WG in CY2026	Red Tape Removal Working Group to create comprehensive set of recommendations and prioritization for regulatory promulgation following Delivery Exclusivity (set to be completed by April 1, 2026)	Finalize list of "Red Tape" regulations and prioritize for consideration and promulgation in CY2026	5
11	Promulgate Social Consumption Regulations	Complete; implementation transitions to CY2026	Approval of regs on January 2, 2026 by Secretary of State; implementation of new license types assigned to four (4) Working Groups	Implement recent regulations for Social Consumption by developing SOPs, applications, and IT build out for three (3) new license types	5
12	Organizational Structure	Incomplete; substantive changes reliant on FY26-27 budget	Implementing SAO finding 5, segregating duties of senior leadership, will require evaluation and filling of Chief roles, which can't be completed with current FY26 budget	Review and implement changes, with approval of Board, for an organizational structure that achieves SAO recommendation for segregation of duties of senior leadership	5

### Core Functions & Mission Critical Activities – Outside of Goals

It should be noted that not all core functions and mission critical activities are captured within the 2025 Agency-wide Goals, and these activities are described below for additional context.

Please note that the **Annual Activities Report** is another place to review this summary in greater detail.

#### Summary of Each Functional Area of Operation:

##### 1. Executive Functions:

- **Commissioners:** Five (5) appointed officials whose duties are outlined in MGL Ch. 10, Sec. 76, and act as the primary policy-makers of the organization through the promulgation of regulations.
- **Executive Office:** Includes the Executive Director, appointed by the Commissioners under MGL Ch. 10, Sec. 76, as the Administrative Head of the organization. Differences in roles between the Commissioners and Executive Director are further described within the Governance Charter.

##### 2. Communications: Under the direction of the Chief of Communications (*Vacant*) (CCO)

- **Traditional Communications (Comms):** Handling press inquiries, press releases, and press engagements for Commissioners and other staff.
- **Digital and Creative Services (DCS):** Includes multimedia productions for disseminating public materials on behalf of the Agency, including areas of website management, and internal development of public awareness campaigns for specific initiatives (e.g. how to read cannabis labels).
- **Equity Programming & Community Outreach (EPCO):** Administers programming under the statutory mandate of the Agency, Social Equity Program, outreach to Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE), Social Equity Participants (SEP) and Certified Economic Empowerment (EE), as well as manages the EquityWorks Career Hub.
- **Government Affairs & Policy (GAP):** Manages the legislative affairs of the Agency coordinated by and through the Commissioners and Executive Director; manages outreach and coordination with federal and state agencies, as well as Cannabis Regulators across the country; conducts research into proposed policy changes and creates Special Policy Reports for Commissioners and Working Groups; coordinates Commission public meeting agendas between the Chair, Commissioners and Executive Director; Manages the calendar and agendas of the Cannabis Advisory Board (CAB) for which the Executive Director is the Chair, as well as its associated subcommittees.

##### 3. Finance & Accounting: Under the direction of the Chief Finance & Accounting Officer (CFAO)

- **Accounting:** Following guidelines from Commonwealth, specifically the Office of the Comptroller, for accounting of fee revenue to the MRF and of expenditures against the Agency's appropriation.
- **Budgeting:** Developing a proposed budget for the Legislature's consideration and balancing a final approved budget with Administration & Finance, monitoring and tracking budget-to-actual spending throughout the fiscal year.

- **Procurement:** Following Public Procurement laws in the Commonwealth on behalf of the Agency.
4. **Human Resources:** Under the direction of the Chief People Officer (CPO)
    - Personnel & Benefits for approximately 140 staff, including Commissioners.
    - Handling of all Recruitment and Retention efforts.
    - Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice & Belonging Initiatives.
  5. **Information Technology:** Under the direction of the Chief Technology & Innovation Officer
    - **Information Technology:** Includes all system administration and helpdesk support for Microsoft 365, including Teams, as well as existing technology platforms and requests for upgrades to the licensing system (MassCIP), the medical platform (MMJOS), the seed-to-sale platform (Metrc)
    - **Data Analytics:** Administration and management of Open Data platform including current manual processes of moving licensing data from MassCIP to the platform. Data projects that address information needs of various departments, including I&E, Research, and public information requests for Legal, or legislative/media/industry requests through Communications, generally GAP.
  6. **Investigations & Enforcement:** Under the direction of Chief of I&E (CIE)
    - **Enforcement Counsel (EC):** The Enforcement Counsel team is responsible for prosecuting enforcement actions and representing the Commission at an administrative hearing or negotiating an appropriate settlement. Separate from General Counsel for purposes of MGL Ch. 30A, EC provides legal advice solely to I&E and the ED when issues are protected by 30A. In addition to prosecuting enforcement actions on behalf of the Commission, the EC team is responsible for advising division staff regarding the implementation and enforcement of Commission regulations, analyzing waiver requests, reviewing and providing recommendations relative to suitability determinations and representing the Commission's position at informal hearings, and supporting the Commission and department during regulatory rulemaking and review.
    - **Enforcement Training:** Establish and administer trainings based on statutory, regulatory and policy changes for enforcement staff. Provides technical assistance and training guidance for the Responsible Vendor Training program. Assists with the division's onboarding programs, and monitors Licensee's compliance with training obligations resulting from hearing decisions, IDRs and Stipulated Agreements.
    - **Investigations:** In FY2025 (July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025) Investigations staff completed over 1,400 total inspections of various types, including: unannounced, license closure, change of location, structural completion, post-provisional license, post-final license, and vehicle and vessel. Joint inspections with sister agencies include Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources ([MDAR](#)), Department of Public Health ([DPH](#)), and Occupational Safety and Health Administration ([OSHA](#)). During this time over 900 notices of deficiencies (NODs) were issued by Investigations staff to licensees. In addition, the team completed approximately 88 architectural reviews/structural change applications and 12 alternative security provision requests.

- **Licensing:** Reviews and processes applications for new and renewal licenses, including those related to changes of ownership, name, location, and operational extensions. Applications require the review of HCAs (since implementation of Ch. 180), ownership documents, lease or purchase agreements, standard operating procedures and anything else required under state law and Agency regulations. Licensing also manages the registration and renewal of Agent identification cards and Responsible Vendor Training (RVT) program certifications and renewals. High volumes of inquiries from applicants and licensees are routed to the Licensing team for direct customer service, as appropriate. Licensing oversees Certifying Health Care providers applications, MMJOS duties such as migration project to MassCIP and patient allotment adjustments, and medical agent applications. Licensing reviews the license extension applications, conducts finance related duties, reviews pre-approved court appointee applications, CIF certifications (once we receive them), prepares public meeting data, miscellaneous data related inquiries, public meeting materials for I&E and manual license record updates.
- **Testing:** In addition to Goal #6, Testing staff are responsible for conducting both announced and unannounced inspections, and monitoring compliance of ITLs. Day to day responsibilities also include resolving issues with pre-market test sample reporting and action limits in the seed-to-sale system, Metrc.
- **I&E Support Structures:**
  - **I&E Task Force:** Comprised of members of various I&E staff, including Testing, Investigations, Enforcement Counsel, and Project Management, the Task Force is charged with reviewing and addressing complaints related to testing and safety.
  - **Project Management:** Responsible for planning, executing, and managing key initiatives. In addition to managing projects, the team also oversees field equipment and resource needs, regulatory impact and implementation, procurements and budget planning, and the division's SOP library.

7. **Legal:** Under the director of General Counsel (GC)

- Responsible for overseeing all legal matters for the organization, with the exception of enforcement, and providing strategic legal advice to the executive team.
- In examples of enforcement which are under the purview of the Enforcement Counsel with I&E, General Counsel and legal staff represent the Commissioners who act as adjudicators in such matters under MGL Ch. 10, Sec. 76.
- Public Records and management of organization-wide compliance such as Open Meeting Law are functions under the direction of General Counsel.

8. **Constituent Services (Medical Program):** Under the direction of the Chief of Staff (COS)

- Administers the Medical Use of Marijuana Program, MGL 94I, transferred from DPH in 2018, which currently includes over 82,407 Certified Patients, 6,240 Active Caregivers, and 473 Certifying Healthcare Providers (as of June 30).
- Oversight of MMJOS records and technical support for medical practitioners and patients.

- **Constituent Support:** respond to phone calls and emails from constituents, providing resources and information regarding the Commission’s programs, rules, and regulations.

9. **Research:** Under the direction of the Chief of Research (COR)

- Under MGL 94G, Section 17(a), the Commission has a mandate to develop a research agenda in order to understand the social and economic trends of marijuana in the Commonwealth, and the agenda shall include (i) patterns of use, methods of consumption, sources of purchase, and general perceptions of marijuana among various age groups, (ii) incidents of impaired driving, hospitalizations, or other health care services related to marijuana, (iii) economic and fiscal impacts for state and local governments, including impacts to the illicit market, (iv) ownership and employment trends, including industry participation by racial, ethnic and socioeconomic subgroups, as well as identifying barriers to entry into the market, (v) a market analysis examining the illicit marketplace, (vi) a compilation of data related to marijuana in schools, and (vii) a compilation of data on the number of civil or criminal penalties;
- Under 94G, Section 17(b), the Commission shall report annually on the results of its research agenda and, when appropriate, make recommendations for further research or policy changes.

**FreeMarketMA, LLC**  
**0338-COO-01-1225**

**CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OVERVIEW**

1. Licensee Information:

<b>Licensee Business Name:</b>	FreeMarketMA, LLC
<b>Licensee d/b/a Name:</b>	N/A

2. License(s) Affected by this Change Request:

License Number	License Type
MC283866	Marijuana Cultivator
MP282279	Marijuana Product Manufacturer

3. The licensee has paid the applicable fees for this change request.

4. The licensee is proposing to add the following as Persons Having Direct or Indirect Control:

Individual	Role
Tyler Macedo-Fields	Person with Direct or Indirect Control

5. Background checks were conducted on all proposed parties and no suitability issues were discovered.

6. The proposed parties do not appear to have exceeded any ownership or control limits over any license type.

**CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP CONDITIONS**

Commission staff has reviewed the application for compliance with applicable laws and regulations and are presenting it for the Commission's review and vote.

1. The licensee and proposed parties may now effectuate the approved change.
2. The licensee shall notify the Commission when the change has occurred.
3. The licensee shall submit a change of name request following this approval if any business or doing-business-as names associated with the license(s) will require modification.
4. The licensee is subject to inspection to ascertain compliance with Commission regulations.

COO Executive Summary I



5. The licensee shall remain suitable for licensure.
6. The licensee shall cooperate with and provide information to Commission staff.
7. The licensure is subject to notification to the Commission of any update to written operations plans required by 935 CMR 500.105(1) and/or 935 CMR 501.105(1) after effectuating the change, if applicable, and shall give Commission staff adequate opportunity to review said plans at the business location or the location where any such plans are maintained in the normal course of business.



**MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENT RENEWALS**  
**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
COMMISSION MEETING: JANUARY 27, 2026

**RENEWAL OVERVIEW**

1. Name, license number, renewal application number and host community for each Marijuana Establishment presented for renewal:

	Licensee Name	License Number	Renewal Application Number	Host Community	Current Expiration Date	License Status
1	Ashli's, Inc.	MR281332	MRR207445	Attleboro	3/18/2026	CO
2	Bask, Inc.	MR282819	MRR207446	Taunton	3/13/2026	CO
3	Bask, Inc.	MR282284	MRR207458	Fairhaven	3/13/2026	CO
4	Caregiver-Patient Connection LLC	MP281301	MPR244377	Framingham	3/12/2026	CO
5	CommCan, Inc	MR283001	MRR207426	Rehoboth	3/14/2026	CO
6	Curaleaf North Shore, Inc.	MC281255	MCR140938	Amesbury	3/8/2026	CO
7	Curaleaf North Shore, Inc.	MP281300	MPR244336	Amesbury	3/8/2026	CO
8	East Boston Local Roots LLC	MR284117	MRR207430	Boston	3/13/2026	CO
9	Elevated Roots II LLC	MR284547	MRR207452	Halifax	3/25/2026	CO
10	EMB Natural Ventures, LLC	MC281466	MCR141004	Holyoke	3/11/2026	PL
11	FFD Enterprises MA	MR281571	MRR207439	Rowley	3/20/2026	CO
12	Green Meadows Farm, LLC	MR285191	MRR207455	Marlborough	3/26/2026	CO
13	GreenStar Herbals, Inc.	MR282048	MRR207440	Dracut	3/4/2026	CO
14	JMK Gardening, LLC	MR284654	MRR207454	Millbury	3/31/2026	CO
15	Mass Alternative Care, Inc.	MC281685	MCR140988	Chicopee	2/28/2026	CO



16	Noble Manna Inc.	MR282984	MRR206987	Mendon	3/7/2026	CO
17	Pudding Hill Farm LLC	MC283501	MCR141001	Blandford	3/21/2026	CO
18	Pure Industries, Inc.	MC281411	MCR140990	Lowell	3/5/2026	CO
19	Pure Lowell, Inc.	MR282815	MRR207449	Lowell	3/11/2026	CO
20	Salisbury Cultivation and Production Manufacturing, LLC	MP281819	MPR244204	Salisbury	2/3/2026	CO
21	Salisbury Cultivation and Production Manufacturing, LLC	MC282530	MCR140763	Salisbury	2/1/2026	CO
22	Sanctuary Medicinals, Inc.	MR284210	MRR207429	Woburn	3/16/2026	CO
23	Sanctuary Medicinals, Inc.	MC281308	MCR141000	Littleton	3/18/2026	CO
24	Sira Naturals, Inc.	MR282672	MRR207380	Somerville	5/16/2026	CO
25	Smokey Leaf	MR284276	MRR207450	Greenfield	3/29/2026	CO
26	Tigertown LLC	MR282818	MRR207309	Holyoke	2/12/2026	CO
27	TOPAZ ENTERPRISE, LLC	MR284878	MRR207466	North Adams	3/27/2026	PL
28	Zyp Run, Inc.	MD1260	MDR272594	Boston	2/4/2026	CO

2. All active license expiration dates will be extended by one (1) year following approval. Expiration dates for licenses that have expired prior to the Public Meeting will be set for one (1) year from the date of approval.
3. All licensees have submitted renewal applications pursuant to 935 CMR 500.103(4) which include the licensee's disclosure of their progress or success towards their Positive Impact and Diversity Plans.
4. All licensees have submitted documentation of good standing from the Secretary of the Commonwealth, Department of Revenue, and Department of Unemployment Assistance, if applicable.
5. All licensees provided a compliant HCA or HCA Waiver, that was accepted by Commission staff pursuant to 935 CMR 500.180(3).



6. All licensees have paid the appropriate annual license fee.
7. The licensees, when applicable, have been inspected during the current renewal period.
8. Commission staff certify that, to the best of our knowledge, no information has been found that would prevent renewal of the licenses mentioned above pursuant to 935 CMR 500.450.

### **RENEWAL CONDITIONS**

Commission staff has reviewed the application for compliance with applicable laws and regulations and are presenting it for the Commission's review and vote.



## MEDICAL MARIJUANA TREATMENT CENTER RENEWALS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

COMMISSION MEETING: JANUARY 27, 2026

### RENEWAL OVERVIEW

1. Name, license number, host community, for each Medical Marijuana Treatment Center presented for renewal:

	Licensee Name	License Number	Current Expiration Date	Host Community (Cultivation)	Host Community (Dispensing)	License Status
29	Sanctuary Medicinals, Inc.	RMD1128	3/3/2026	Littleton	Woburn	CO

2. All active license expiration dates will be extended by one (1) year following approval. Expiration dates for licenses that have expired prior to the Public Meeting will be set for one (1) year from the date of approval.
3. All licensees have submitted renewal applications pursuant to 935 CMR 501.100(5).
4. All licensees have paid the appropriate annual license fee.
5. All licensees provided a compliant HCA or HCA Waiver, that was accepted by Commission staff pursuant to 935 CMR 500.180(3).
6. The licensees, when applicable, have been inspected during the current renewal period.
7. Commission staff certify that, to the best of our knowledge, no information has been found that would prevent renewal of the licenses mentioned above pursuant to 935 CMR 501.405.

### RENEWAL CONDITIONS



Commission staff has reviewed the application for compliance with applicable laws and regulations and are presenting it for the Commission's review and vote.



## Hennep Cultivation, LLC

MC282282

MP281766

### ESTABLISHMENT OVERVIEW

1. Name and address of the Marijuana Establishment:

<b>Licensee Business Name:</b>	Hennep Cultivation, LLC
<b>Licensed Location:</b>	160 Grove Street, Franklin, MA 02038

2. Type of final license sought (if cultivation, its tier level and outside/inside operation):

<b>License Type(s) Sought:</b>
Marijuana Cultivator, Tier 6, Indoor, (40,001 – 50,000 sq. ft.)
Marijuana Product Manufacturer

3. The licensee is associated with the following license type(s):

Type	Status	Location
Marijuana Research Facility	Application Submitted	Franklin

### LICENSING OVERVIEW

4. The licensee was approved for provisional licensure for the above-mentioned license(s) on June 4, 2020.
5. The licensee has paid all applicable license fees.
6. No new information has been reported to Commission staff regarding the organizational structure of the entity since the issuance of the provisional license(s).
7. No new information has been discovered by Commission staff regarding the suitability of the licensees previously disclosed since the issuance of the provisional license(s).

### INSPECTION OVERVIEW

Final License Executive Summary 1



8. Commission staff inspected the licensee’s facility on the following date(s): December 22, 2025.
9. The licensee’s facility was inspected by Commission staff and found to be in full compliance with the requirements listed in 935 CMR 500.105 through 935 CMR 500.160 as applicable.
10. No evidence was discovered during the inspection(s) that indicated the licensee was not in compliance with all applicable state laws and local bylaws or ordinances.
11. Specific information from Commission staff’s inspection is highlighted below:

a. Security

Enforcement staff verified that all security-related requirements were in full compliance with Commission regulations. Some of the requirements verified include the following:

- i. The security of all entrances and exits;
- ii. Visitor procedures;
- iii. Limited access areas;
- iv. Verification of a primary and back-up security company;
- v. Presence of perimeter and duress alarms; and
- vi. All cameras complied with Commission requirements.

b. Inventory and Storage

Enforcement staff verified that all inventory-related requirements were in full compliance with Commission regulations. Some of the requirements verified include the following:

- i. Secure storage of marijuana and marijuana products;
- ii. Sanitation and pest control measures; and
- iii. Inventory controls and procedures.

c. Cultivation Operation

Enforcement staff verified that all cultivation operations were in compliance with the Commission’s regulations. Some of the requirements verified include the following:

- i. Seed-to-sale tracking;
- ii. Compliance with applicable pesticide laws and regulations; and
- iii. Best practices to limit contamination.

d. Product Manufacturing Operation

Enforcement staff verified that all manufacturing-related requirements were in full compliance with Commission regulations. Some of the requirements verified include the following:

- i. Proposed product compliance; and



ii. Safety, sanitation, and security of the area and products.

e. Transportation

The licensee will not be performing transportation activities at this time.

**FINAL LICENSE CONDITIONS**

Commission staff has reviewed the license for compliance with applicable laws and regulations and are presenting it for the Commission's review and vote.

1. The licensee may cultivate, harvest, possess, prepare, produce, and otherwise acquire marijuana, but shall not sell, or otherwise transport marijuana to other Marijuana Establishments, until upon inspection, receiving permission from the Commission to commence full operations.
2. The licensee is subject to inspection to ascertain compliance with Commission regulations.
3. The licensee remains suitable for licensure.
4. The licensee shall cooperate with and provide information to Commission staff.
5. Licensure is subject to notification to the Commission of any update to written operations plans required by 935 CMR 500.105(1) prior to the issuance of a commencement of operations and that Commission staff be given adequate opportunity to review said plans at the business location or the location where any such plans are maintained in the normal course of business.

The licensee has demonstrated compliance with the laws and regulations of the Commonwealth and suitability for licensure. Therefore, the licensee is recommended for final licensure.

As part of the approval of final licensure, the Commission authorizes staff to take all necessary actions to review compliance with the above-referenced conditions and to approve the commencement of operations.



## Wachusett Cannabis, Inc.

MPN282367  
MRN285408

### APPLICATION OF INTENT REVIEW

1. Name, address, and license type(s) sought of the proposed License Applicant:

<b>License Applicant Business Name:</b>	Wachusett Cannabis, Inc.
<b>License Applicant d/b/a Name:</b>	Kosa
<b>Proposed Location:</b>	470 Main Street, Clinton, MA 01510

2. Type of final license sought (if cultivation, its tier level and outside/inside operation):

<b>License Type(s) Sought:</b>
Marijuana Product Manufacturing
Marijuana Retail

3. The license applicant is associated with the following license type(s):

The license applicant is not associated with any other license applications or licenses.

4. List of all required individuals and their roles:

Individual	Role
Jigar Patel	Person Having Direct/Indirect Control / Capital Contributor

5. List of all required entities and their roles:

No other entity appears to have ownership or control over this license applicant business.

6. License Applicant's Status:

Expedited Applicant (Minority-Owned Business/Veteran-Owned Business)

7. The license applicant and host community executed a Host Community Agreement ("HCA") on July 2, 2025 for its Marijuana Retail Operations and September 23, 2025 to include its Marijuana Product Manufacturing Operations. The license applicant submitted a summary



their application on or after March 1, 2024 and provided a compliant HCA that was certified by Commission staff pursuant to 935 CMR 500.180(3) and/or comparable medical regulations.

8. The Commission received a municipal response from the host community on January 6, 2026 stating the applicant was in compliance with all local ordinances or by-laws.
9. The license applicant proposed the following goals for its Positive Impact Plan:

#	Goal
1	The license applicant proposed to hire 10% of individuals from the following Commission identified Areas of Disproportionate Impact: Census Tracts of Worcester

### BACKGROUND CHECK REVIEW

10. There were no disclosures of any past civil or criminal actions, occupational license issues, or marijuana-related business interests in other jurisdictions.
11. There were no concerns arising from background checks on the individuals or entities associated with the application.

### MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS PROFILE REVIEW

12. The license applicant submitted all required summaries of plans, policies, and procedures for the operation of the proposed establishment. The summaries were determined to be substantially compliant with the Commission’s regulations.
13. The license applicant proposed the following goals for its Diversity Plan:

#	Goal
1	The license applicant proposed to hire the following: 30% Women, 20% People of color, particularly Black, African American, Hispanic, Latinx, and Indigenous peoples, 5% Veterans, 5% Persons with Disabilities, and 5% LGBTQ+ People.
2	The license applicant proposed to implement an annual training program for all employees.
3	The license applicant proposed to create an inclusive work environment that has no less than an 85% employee satisfaction rate with its DEI initiatives and outcomes.

### PROVISIONAL LICENSE CONDITIONS

Commission staff have reviewed the application for compliance with applicable laws and regulations and are presenting it for the Commission's review and vote.



1. Provisional licensure is subject to the payment of the appropriate license fee within 90 days of an affirmative vote of the Commission pursuant to 935 CMR 500.103(1)(e) and 935 CMR 501.103(1)(d)
2. Provisional licensure does not allow the license holder to cultivate, manufacture, or possess marijuana and/or marijuana infused products (MIPs) prior to being approved for a final license.



**MACCTI, LLC**  
RVR453166

**RESPONSIBLE VENDOR TRAINING (“RVT”) TRAINER RENEWAL SUMMARY**

1. Name, address, and contact information of the RVT trainer:

Item	Information
RVT Trainer Name	MACCTI, LLC
RVT Certification Number	RV453191
RVT Trainer d/b/a Name	N/A
RVT Address	517 Boston Post Road Unit 642 Sudbury MA 01776
RVT Business Phone Number	617-383-7717
RVT Business Email Address	james@mcmahonstrategic.com
RVT Business Website	www.maccti.com

2. The RVT trainer has submitted a renewal application to continue to provide a training program for the Basic Core Curriculum.
3. No owner, manager, or employee of the RVT trainer is a Person or Entity Having Direct or Indirect Control of a Marijuana Establishment or Medical Marijuana Treatment Center. The following is a list of all required individuals disclosed:

Individual	Role
McMahon Strategic Development, LLC	Owner
Stateside Education, LLC	Owner
Kilmoganny Investments, LLC	Owner

**OVERVIEW OF TRAINING PROGRAM**

4. The RVT trainer was originally certified on March 10, 2020. Since that time, or the time of its last renewal, the RVT trainer has provided instruction to 1,030 Marijuana Establishment and Medical Marijuana Treatment Center agents.
5. The RVT trainer’s program is presented in a virtual format model.
6. The RVT trainer has continued to demonstrate the following:
- Verify the identification and certify completion of the RVT program for each agent;
  - Track trainees' time needed to complete the course training.



- c. Allow the trainees to ask questions of the RVT trainer; and
- d. To evaluate each trainee's proficiency with course material.

### RESPONSIBLE VENDOR TRAINING CONDITIONS

Commission staff has reviewed the RVT application for compliance with applicable laws and regulations and are presenting it for the Commission's review and vote.

1. The RVT trainer shall ensure all training materials reflect current Commission regulations.
2. The RVT trainer shall remain fully compliant with all applicable Commission regulations.





To: Commissioners  
From: Travis Ahern, Executive Director  
Date: January 27, 2026 Public Meeting  
Re: Information Requests for Data Analysis of Criminal Referrals (Requested by Chair at Dec. 4, 2025 Public Meeting)

## Summary

Two recent requests for data analysis of investigative materials were brought forward in public meetings on Dec. 4 and Dec. 11, 2025 – these requests were for (1) Criminal Referrals made by the Commission to other local, state, and/or federal agencies, since inception of the agency, and (2) Notices of Deficiency (NODs) issued by violation type and license type for CY2025.

Because these investigative materials are generally protected under MGL Ch. 4, Sec. 7 and 935 CMR 501.820, summarizing the information has been labor intensive. The information requested is decentralized due, in part, to its sensitive nature, so the appropriately trained staff has been compiling the information accordingly. But the first request, Criminal Referrals, is attached to this memo.

These requests are in addition to the day-to-day function of the I&E team and the Data Analytics team, which is currently in the midst of various other projects related to the Agency goal of expanding the Open Data platform, and below also provides a timeline estimate for completion of each request. The timeline estimate for the NODs issued by violation type and license type is projected for February Public Meeting.

## General Information Regarding NODs and External Referrals

- It is critical to note that an NOD is simply part of the investigatory process and is often addressed by a Plan of Correction in relatively short order, without needing additional attention of the matter beyond the licensee and their investigator. Information on this process is available here:
  - The link (<https://masscannabiscontrol.com/document/eighth-annual-activities-report/>) lays out most of this flow within the Enforcement Section starting on p. 19 for greater reference.
- An external referral on the other hand, may be done for varying reasons, but is due to a potential violation that is outside the jurisdiction of the Cannabis Control Commission. The Commission is a civil enforcement agency.

## Criminal Referrals

The request for **Criminal Referrals** made by the Commission to local, state, or federal organizations came from the Chair at the Public Meeting on December 4, 2025. The timeline was understood to be for referrals from the Agency's inception-to-present.

**Explanation:** The Agency tracks investigative data across multiple platforms due to shortcomings of the various systems in need of replacement (see IT Infrastructure budget requests) and so

pulling this data from existing Investigator files was a manual process. To ensure a complete file with no omissions, IT was also engaged to ensure any referrals from previous Investigations team members have been included. This quality control process has involved manually reviewing thousands of investigatory materials which are otherwise protected under MGL Ch. 4, Sec. 7.

**Data Summary Format:** Information may relate to an open investigation or pending enforcement action that includes an external referral, so the information has been summarized in Table A without naming the licensee which may adversely impact the investigative process, the other agency's investigation, or prejudice the Commissioners in the adjudicatory role under 30A.

Separately, closed investigations and/or resolved enforcement actions are also summarized as the Commission is generally not provided information on whether the external referral is still open with the local, state, or federal organization. Investigative materials from external organizations may be protected under MGL Ch. 4, Sec. 7.

**Definitions:** Referrals have been grouped into the following categories to demonstrate the general need for referrals outside of the Commission. All categories should be considered "alleged":

- **Abandoned License / Product:** When a licensee goes out of business, or becomes unlicensed, the Commission must take specific steps to ensure product is secured and not able to be diverted outside of the Metrc system. When product is not handled properly at the time of a license being inactivated, the Commission may engage the local police to ensure the location is secured, or other similar considerations.
- **Cash / Cash Scam:** Licensee Agents have been contacted and instructed to deposit cash, bitcoin, or other funds into an account or wallet at the direction of an individual falsely representing themselves as Licensee ownership or management.
- **Diversions:** Definition of Diversion has been added to the regulations: Diversion means the unauthorized or intentional removal of Marijuana or Marijuana Products from the Cannabis Control Commission's regulated market.
- **Interstate / Transport:** With a federally illegal substance, transporting over state lines or federal waterways is a criminal offense. In instances where the Commission learns of alleged interstate transportation of Marijuana or Marijuana Products those matters are referred to the relevant authorities or the Commission consults with those authorities, as appropriate.
- **Licensee – Illicit:** The Commission has broad enforcement options for licensees that may violate statute or regulations, but for potential criminal activity outside of the Commission jurisdiction, the alleged criminal activity is referred to other agencies. The Commission will often request updates on referrals should alleged criminal activity be relevant to an ongoing investigation or pending enforcement action, but the agency receiving the referral may or may not provide the Commission with updates. This type of activity also may

overlap with the Suitability process under 935 CMR 500.800 – 803 and 501.800 – 802. See, e.g., 935 CMR 500.801: *Table A, Row 1* (Identifying an open or unresolved criminal matter that may result in a felony as a potential suitability issue for an applicant for licensure).

- **Marijuana Activity by Non-Licensee:** Complaints received by the Commission regarding marijuana-related activities that are not directly tied to Commission licensees are often referred. These are generally “tips” and the Commission does it best to route non-licensee issues to the proper authority.
- **Reports of Threatening Behavior:** Threatening behavior that rises to the level of criminal complaints are relevant to the Commission, if prosecuted, when relating to any Agent from a Suitability perspective. Otherwise, allegations of threatening behavior would simply be referred for review by the appropriate agency.

### Disclaimers on Table A:

Because a referral to another agency may be done through other direct means (phone call), it should be noted that this list is only as complete as can be verified through reasonable electronic means.

The decision of the Commission to make a referral to a local, state, and/or federal agency does not imply guilt on the part of the licensee. A referral may be made any time the Commission observes, or is presented with, potential violations outside of the Commission’s jurisdiction.

**TABLE A**

Categories of Referrals	Local	State	Federal	Total
Abandoned License/Product	1	3	0	4
Cash / Cash Scam	1	1	0	2
Diversion	4	1	0	5
Interstate/Transport	1	2	2	5
Licensee - Illicit	3	1	0	4
Marijuana Activitiy by Non-Licensee	4	3	0	7
Reports of Threatening Behavior	1	0	0	1
<b>Subtotals</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>28</b>



# Cannabis Control Commission

Public Meeting

January 27, 2026 at 10:15 am

In-Person with Remote Access via Microsoft Teams



# Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Commissioner Comments and Updates
3. Minutes
4. Executive Director and Commission Staff Report
5. Staff Recommendations on Change of Ownership
6. Staff Recommendations on Renewal Licenses
7. Staff Recommendation on Final Licenses
8. Staff Recommendation on Provisional Licenses
9. Staff Recommendation on Responsible Vendor Training Renewals
10. Commission Discussion and Votes
11. New Business Not Anticipated at Time of Posting
12. Next Meeting Date
13. Adjournment



# Executive Director and Commission Staff Report

# Executive Director Report – Jan. 27, 2026

**Appendix A Summary: CY2025 Goals - Final Report - Transition Recommendations for CY2026 Goals**

	<b>CY2025</b>	<b>Final Report</b>	<b>CY2026 Considerations</b>	<b>New CY2026 Goal Proposal</b>	<b>Goal for CY2026 (Low 1 - High 5)</b>
1	Governance Charter	Completed May 2025	Implementation of any legislative changes would presumably negate Governance Charter	N/A	1
2	FY2026 Budget	Completed, but only 66% of request funded; EOTSS funding received for part of IT Infrastructure needs outside of operating budget	FY2027 Budget adjusted to factor in EOTSS funding for MMJOS, but still needing funding for MassCIP and other IT needs	FY2027 Budget to incorporate new mission items (e.g. Social Consumption)	5
3	CAB Meeting Cadence	Completed initial meeting; consistent cadence not reached in CY2025	Implementation of any legislative changes could impact CAB	N/A	1
4	Conclude Ch. 180 Implementation	Substantially complete (94%); remaining tasks subject to IT infrastructure needs	Maintain goal, reliant on IT infrastructure updates for licensing software (MassCIP)	Subject to IT Infrastructure Goal	1
5	Establish Medical Use Program WG	Recommendations of Working Group transition to CY2026 Goals for promulgation	Recommendations for regulatory changes (e.g. Vertical Integration, Medical Reciprocity) to be reviewed by Board for potential promulgation	Combine with Regulatory Goal	5



# Executive Director Report – Jan. 27, 2026

**Appendix A Summary: CY2025 Goals - Final Report - Transition Recommendations for CY2026 Goals**

	<b>CY2025</b>	<b>Final Report</b>	<b>CY2026 Considerations</b>	<b>New CY2026 Goal Proposal</b>	<b>Goal for CY2026 (Low 1 - High 5)</b>
6	Lab Testing Protocols	Recommendations from Testing/I&E transition to CY2026 Goals for review, vote, implementation	Testing team / I&E recommendations (Package 1) under review by legal, to be delivered to Commissioners for review in February 2026; proposed implementation schedule for completion by June 2026	Testing Protocol updates (Package 1) fully implemented by June 2026; Testing Regulatory updates combine with Regulatory Goal	5
7	Organizational Culture	Continued work of DEIJB Leadership, Staff, Culture & Community; HR policy recommendations transition to CY2026 Goals	Finalize Phase 1 of HR Policy updates (reviewed by Employment Counsel) and complete Phases 2-4	Update HR Policies with Employment Counsel Review	5
8a	Create CCRP	New CCRP Steering Working Group transition to CY2026 Goals	CCRP Steering Working Group to present recommendations for consideration and implementation in CY2026	Develop Mechanism to Firewall Research and Maximize Grant Access	3
8b	Expand Open Data Platform	Partial task completion, new/additional targets for CY2026	Addition of COAs on Metrc Product Catalog for March 2026, Aggregate Testing Data for March 2026	Expand Open Data Platform (new task list), partially reliant on IT infrastructure improvements	4
8c	Policymaking Support	Deliverable of Exclusivity Report, new deliverables for CY2026	ICPS Report in March 2026; additional policy analysis related to federal changes on hemp and Scheduling of cannabis	Review and Consider Regulatory Changes Related to Federal Changes to Cannabinoid Policies	3



# Executive Director Report – Jan. 27, 2026

Appendix A Summary: CY2025 Goals - Final Report - Transition Recommendations for CY2026 Goals

	CY2025	Final Report	CY2026 Considerations	New CY2026 Goal Proposal	Goal for CY2026 (Low 1 - High 5)
9	Equity Programming 5-Year Strategic Plan	Not complete, carry to CY2026	Complete discussion on DIA map, policy analysis of equity programming changes in other jurisdictions based on Circuit Court decisions, and completion of a 5-Year Strategic Plan document presented to Board for approval	Develop, Review, Vote 5-Year Strategic Plan for Equity Programming, including consideration of federal environment	4
10	Regulatory Modernization	Items contained with Social Consumption and Delivery Exclusivity Regs (e.g. badging, secret shopper); next significant changes to regulations to be recommended by new Red Tape Removal WG in CY2026	Red Tape Removal Working Group to create comprehensive set of recommendations and prioritization for regulatory promulgation following Delivery Exclusivity (set to be completed by April 1, 2026)	Finalize list of "Red Tape" regulations and prioritize for consideration and promulgation in CY2026	5
11	Promulgate Social Consumption Regulations	Complete; implementation transitions to CY2026	Approval of regs on January 2, 2026 by Secretary of State; implementation of new license types assigned to four (4) Working Groups	Implement recent regulations for Social Consumption by developing SOPs, applications, and IT build out for three (3) new license types	5
12	Organizational Structure	Incomplete; substantive changes reliant on FY26-27 budget	Implementing SAO finding 5, segregating duties of senior leadership, will require evaluation and filling of Chief roles, which can't be completed with current FY26 budget	Review and implement changes, with approval of Board, for an organizational structure that achieves SAO recommendation for segregation of duties of senior leadership	5





# Staff Recommendations on Changes of Ownership

# Staff Recommendations on Changes of Ownership

## 1. FreeMarketMA, LLC





# Staff Recommendations on Renewal Licenses

# Staff Recommendations on Renewal Licenses

1. Ashli's, Inc. (#MRR207445)
2. Bask, Inc. (#MRR207446)
3. Bask, Inc. (#MRR207458)
4. Caregiver-Patient Connection LLC (#MPR244377)
5. CommCan, Inc (#MRR207426)
6. Curaleaf North Shore, Inc. (#MCR140938)
7. Curaleaf North Shore, Inc. (#MPR244336)
8. East Boston Local Roots LLC (#MRR207430)
9. Elevated Roots II LLC (#MRR207452)
10. EMB Natural Ventures, LLC (#MCR141004)
11. FFD Enterprises MA (#MRR207439)
12. Green Meadows Farm, LLC (#MRR207455)
13. GreenStar Herbals, Inc. (#MRR207440)
14. JMK Gardening, LLC (#MRR207454)
15. Mass Alternative Care, Inc. (#MCR140988)
16. Noble Manna Inc. (#MRR206987)
17. Pudding Hill Farm LLC (#MCR141001)
18. Pure Industries, Inc. (#MCR140990)
19. Pure Lowell, Inc. (#MRR207449)
20. Salisbury Cultivation and Production Manufacturing, LLC (#MPR244204)



# Staff Recommendations on Renewal Licenses

21. Salisbury Cultivation and Production  
Manufacturing, LLC (#MCR140763)
22. Sanctuary Medicinals, Inc. (#MRR207429)
23. Sanctuary Medicinals, Inc. (#MCR141000)
24. Sira Naturals, Inc. (#MRR207380)
25. Smokey Leaf (#MRR207450)
26. Tigertown LLC (#MRR207309)
27. TOPAZ ENTERPRISE, LLC (#MRR207466)
28. Zyp Run, Inc. (#MDR272594)
29. Sanctuary Medicinals, Inc. (#RMD1128)





# Staff Recommendations on Provisional Licenses

# Staff Recommendations on Provisional Licenses

1. Wachusett Cannabis, Inc. (#MPN282367), Marijuana Product Manufacturing
2. Wachusett Cannabis, Inc. (#MRN285408), Marijuana Retail





# Staff Recommendations on Final Licenses

# Staff Recommendations on Final Licenses

1. Hennep Cultivation, LLC (#MC282282), Marijuana Cultivator, Tier 6, Indoor, (40,001 – 50,000 sq. ft.)
2. Hennep Cultivation, LLC (#MP281766), Marijuana Product Manufacturer





# Staff Recommendations on Responsible Vendor Training Renewals

# Staff Recommendations on RVT Renewals

1. MACCTI, LLC (#RV453191)





# Commission Discussion and Votes

# Commission Discussion and Votes

1. Open Meeting Law and Release of Executive Session Minutes  
*Commissioner Carrie Benedon*
2. Update on Preliminary Referrals
3. Red Tape Removal Working Group Update  
*Chair Shannon O'Brien and Commissioner Kimberly Roy*
4. Discussion on Inversion
5. Discussion of Regulatory Process Timeline for Delivery  
Exclusivity/Secret Shopper



# Commission Discussion and Votes

## 2. Update on Preliminary Referrals



# Update on Preliminary Referrals

Definitions: Referrals have been grouped into the following categories to demonstrate the general need for referrals outside of the Commission. All categories should be considered “alleged”

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# Update on Preliminary Referrals (cont'd.)

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# Commission Discussion and Votes

3. Red Tape Removal Working Group Update  
*Chair Shannon O'Brien and Commissioner Kimberly Roy*



# Red Tape Removal Update

- 35 Members of the Red Tape Removal Working Group met at Commission Headquarters on January 21, 2026

- **Sponsors:** Chair O'Brien and Commissioner Roy
- **Project Team:** 6 Commission Staff
- **Consulting Team:** 27 Individuals

*The Consulting Team is comprised of Independent Testing Laboratories, Retailers, Product Manufacturers, Marijuana Treatment Centers, Indoor and Outdoor Cultivators, Delivery Operators, Advocacy Organizations.*

- The Working Group Members discussed the rationale behind previously submitted recommendations
- Top five recommendations from the meeting per consensus:
  1. Agent Badging cadence (proposal every three years)
  2. RVT cadence (proposal every three years)
  3. Renewals (from annual to biennial)
  4. Retail ID Checks (from two to one)
  5. Discounts and loyalty programs



# Commission Discussion and Votes

4. Discussion on Inversion
5. Discussion of Regulatory Process Timeline for Delivery Exclusivity/Secret Shopper



# Delivery Exclusivity & Secret Shopper Program Regulatory Timeline

- 1/14:** **Public Meeting – Commissioners voted on draft amendments for public comment & hearing.**
- 1/16:** **DEADLINE TO FILE** Notice for Public Comment and Hearing with draft amendments filed with the Secretary to be published on 1/30.
- 1/30: Publication of Notice for Public Comment & Hearing by the Secretary. Comment period runs until 2/23.
- 2/20: 21 days statutory notice date for compliance with M.G.L. c. 30A.
- 2/23:** **Public Hearing date and end of comment period.**
- 2/23-3/2: Commissioners, legal and staff to review public comments. Legal to revise redlined draft amendments.
- 3/2-3/12:** **Proposed Public Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> week of March for Commissioners to VOTE on final regulatory amendments.**
- 3/13:** **DEADLINE TO FILE** final regulations with the Secretary for promulgation on 3/27/26.
- 3/27:** **Final Delivery Exclusivity regulations promulgated.**



# Red Tape Removal Working Group Timeline

## **Solicitation of Red Tape Recommendations**

- GAP initial solicitation for staff and stakeholder identified “red tape.”
- Working Group meeting with stakeholders to identify recurring recommendations.
- GAP solicitation of written comments and feedback from stakeholders based on Working Group meeting, with staff review.
- Top areas of concern compiled for Commissioner consideration.

## **Commissioner Policy Deliberations**

- Public Meeting Commissioner deliberations and policy decisions.

## **Regulatory Amendments**

- Legal to draft redlined amendments based upon Commissioner policy decisions.



# Testing Protocol Amendment Timeline (Package #1)

## **Phase 1: Recommendations Review**

- Expert consultants provide reports for testing protocol recommendations.
- Recommendations from Testing and I&E prepared.
- Legal review of recommendations.
- Public Meeting presentation of testing protocol recommendations. Commissioner discussion and deliberation.

## **Phase 2: Draft Redline Amendments of Testing Protocol**

- Draft redlined protocol based upon Commissioner policy decisions.
- 2 week informal public comment period with staff review of public feedback.
- Public Meeting presentation of draft redline amendments to testing protocol for Commissioner discussion and deliberation.





New Business Not Anticipated  
at the Time of Posting



# Upcoming Meetings & Adjournment

# Upcoming Meetings and Important Dates

*\*Public Meeting dates are tentative and subject to change*

## Next Meeting Date

**February 12, 2026**

Public Meeting  
Hybrid via Teams  
10:00 am

**February 23, 2026**

Public Listening Session  
Hybrid via Teams  
10:00 am

## 2026 Public Meetings

February 26	July 9
March 12	July 23
March 26	August 13
April 16	September 10
April 30	September 24
May 7	October 8
May 21	October 29
June 11	November 12
June 25	December 10





**The Commission is in recess  
until 12:15**