



Minutes

Deschutes County Cannabis Advisory Panel

Meeting #6: Monday, January 9, 2023, 6:00 p.m.

Deschutes Services Building, DeArmond Room, 1300 NW Wall Street, Bend

This meeting was conducted in person and by video. It was video recorded and can be accessed at the Deschutes County Meeting Portal website www.deschutes.org/meetings.

I. Introductions / Call to Order

This meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Cannabis Advisory Panel Chair Liz Lotochinski. Present via Zoom: Kent Vander Kamp; and Dr. Andrew Aasen. Present in person: Phil Chang, Deschutes County Commissioner; Erik Kropp, Deputy County Administrator; Jessica Jacks, Deschutes County Prevention and Health Promotion Program Manager, Karen Ard, Deschutes County Tobacco Prevention Coordinator, Ben Evans, Senior at Summit High School, Caroline Hicks, Sophomore at Summit High School, Jen Patterson, Deschutes County Strategic Initiatives Manager; Mary Fleischmann; Gary Bracelin; Liz Lotochinski; Hunter Neubauer and Detective Dustin Miller, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office. Absent: Joseph Stapleton and Kyle Gorman

II. Approval of October 17, 2022 Minutes

Hunter Neubauer moved to approve the minutes. Mary Fleischman seconded the motion. Minutes approved unanimously.

III. Presentation on Juvenile use of Cannabis and Health Services Utilization of Cannabis Tax Revenue

Jessica Jacks, Deschutes County Prevention and Health Promotion Program Manager, Karen Ard, Prevention Strategist, Ben Evans, Student, and Caroline Hicks, Student, presented on Juvenile use of Cannabis. Prevention and Health Promotion is a team that sits in the Public Health Department. The presentation addressed all prevention programs as it is more about teaching prevention skills rather than a focus on an individual substance. There is a continuum of care that focuses on promotion, prevention, treatment, and recovery. Presented guiding principles on risk and protective factors for adolescent drug use. Caroline Hicks presented on the Oregon statistics of youth cannabis usage, Oregon youth has increased usage of cannabis while national trends have not increased usage. A survey conducted, in 2020, with Deschutes County 11th graders, showed that 21.7% of County 11th graders stated they used cannabis within the past 30 days versus 13.5% of 11th graders state-wide.

Behavioral Health has started a program in all three County school districts called “Up Shift” that designs a system that a student who shows up to school impaired will be screened to either go to prevention intervention or be referred to treatment. Prior to this program the student was just suspended and sent home. Overall most youth in the County do not use cannabis.

The CAP’s funding recommendation to the BOCC approved some resources for the Public Health Department to promote community awareness including 3-4 targeted ads to help parents have conversations with their kids and improve the current website. ODOT heard what the County was doing and is adding \$10,000 to provide ads on awareness of impaired driving.

Liz Lotochinski asked if it would be helpful to have a consistent amount of funding every year. Jessica responded that the additional amount of resources is amazing, Health’s work is very strategic and it is hard to pivot really quickly. Having some consistency benefits the department in helping to continue to plan on future programs.

IV. Update on Deschutes County spending of FY 22’-23’ Cannabis Tax Revenue.

Erik Kropp, Deschutes County Deputy Administrator, provided an update on how the Cannabis Tax Revenues were utilized for FY 22’-23’. Health was awarded \$70,000 for education and outreach media campaigns. \$20,000 went to fund code compliance operations. \$70,000 went to the Sheriff’s Office to help pay for continued service of two detectives assigned to marijuana as well as funding for Law Enforcement District #2 (the rural district).

V. Proposed allocation of FY 23’-24’ Cannabis Tax Revenue

Erik Kropp, Deschutes County Deputy Administrator, discussed the difference between one-time funding versus ongoing funding. Figuring out the intent of CAP recommendations for funding will help direct the funding dollars. Funding recommendations for staffing positions can be difficult to have as a one-time fund on a yearly basis as it can take a few months to advertise and hire for a position and difficult to find a well-qualified person without being able to provide more permanent job security.

CAP believes it would be worthwhile to reach out to departments to see what type of specific projects and/or proposals departments would use cannabis revenue on if it was available. Departments to reach out to could include: Behavioral Health; District Attorney’s Office; Code Compliance; Sheriff’s Office; and Community Justice (specifically the Juvenile Department). CAP would like to receive department proposals ranging from \$20,000 - \$60,000, departments could submit more than one proposal. Proposals should be no more than one page in length. The total yearly budget is expected to be up to \$177,000. CAP agrees the awarded funds should be additive to department projects/services versus used for covering budget shortfall or as a replacement to existing budget money (i.e., budget committee should not “claw back” existing funds if a department is receiving cannabis tax revenue dollars).

VI. Next Steps

CAP is interested in composing a letter to the legislator to propose recommendations on legislature designated funding specifically for cannabis. Additionally the letter could address how cannabis tax dollars have not been used on cannabis prevention and education. Liz Lotochinski and Mary Fleischman will work on drafting a letter and sharing it around with other CAP members in order to have a more concrete draft available for the next CAP meeting.

CAP would like to receive the department proposals for potential funding one month prior (March 17, 2023) to the next meeting. CAP will choose one to two departments to briefly speak about their proposals, 5-10 minutes.

VII. Wrap up and Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m. The Advisory Panel agreed that the next meeting would be held on

Monday, April 17, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Jen Patterson, Strategic Initiatives Manager,
Deschutes County Administrative Services



Date: April 12, 2023
To: Cannabis Advisory Panel
From: Erik Kropp, Deputy County Administrator
Re: Marijuana Revenue Projection for FY 23-24

For FY 22-23, marijuana revenue was budgeted at \$160,000. At the last Cannabis Advisory Panel meeting, staff discussed using the same figure, \$160,000, for marijuana revenue for FY 23-24. Since that time, we received our quarterly marijuana tax distribution in the amount of \$45,599.

Based on this most recent distribution, County staff are budgeting FY 23-24 marijuana tax revenue at \$182,396, an increase of more than \$20,000 than the current fiscal year.

When developing its recommendation for expending the FY 23-24 marijuana revenue, the Cannabis Advisory Panel should use the updated revenue projection of \$182,396.



Date: April 12, 2023
To: Cannabis Advisory Panel
From: Erik Kropp, Deputy County Administrator
Re: Department Proposals for MJ Tax Revenue for FY 23-24

Attached please find more information on department proposals:

1. Instructions provided to departments
2. Community Development Department - \$20,000 for code compliance
3. Health Services – \$60,000 for PSAs.
4. Sheriff's Office – \$75,000 to help fund a detective assigned to marijuana.
5. Community Justice Department - \$25,000 for staff training.

The attached information also includes any questions from the Cannabis Advisory Panel members and the response from department staff. The total requests equal \$180,000.

Instructions Provided to Departments

Department Directors –

The [Cannabis Advisory Panel](#) (appointed by the BOCC) provides recommendations to the Budget Committee on how Deschutes County should spend its annual marijuana tax revenue. For next fiscal year, the Cannabis Advisory Panel asked for proposals from County departments/offices for consideration.

Request:

Proposals for the use of marijuana tax revenue for FY 23-24.

Due Date:

March 3, 2023

How to apply:

Send me an email or memo discussing how the department/office would use the funds. Please include the following: how much is being requested, how the funds would be spent (budget estimates are fine), desired outcomes, and expected impacts. Please limit the email or memo to no more than a page in length.

More information:

For the current fiscal year, the marijuana tax revenue totaled \$160,000 and funded the following: CDD Code Compliance, \$20,000; Sheriff's Office marijuana detective, \$70,000 (part of the salary/benefits); and Health Services' prevention campaign targeting youth use of marijuana, \$70,000.

Total projected marijuana tax revenue for FY 23-24 (total amount that is available): \$176,292. The funding should be considered one-time funding.

The Cannabis Advisory Panel is seeking proposals that add, expand, or enhance services (not supplant existing funding) and have a tie to cannabis. Individual requests should be in the range of \$20,000 - \$60,000.

Next steps: I will forward proposals to the Cannabis Advisory Panel in early March. The Panel will meet on Monday, April 17, 2023 at 6 p.m. to discuss proposals. The Panel may request that staff attend the meeting to discuss a certain proposal. Staff will need to be available on this date. The Panel will make funding recommendations to the Budget Committee during budget week.

CDD Proposal, \$20,000 – Code Compliance

Proposal

If supported by the CAP and the Board, CDD could use \$20,000 for Code Compliance. There have been cases in the past where illegal grows and their untethered plastic tarps required significant coordination between Code Compliance, the Sheriff's Office, and Solid Waste. Funds would support coordination issues involving illegal marijuana production and general code compliance cases.

Follow-Up Question from Cannabis Advisory Panel member

Can Deschutes County charge a property owner for cleanup of tarps and other remnants of illegal grows?

Response from CDD

It is not a simple "yes" or "no" answer.

Code Compliance coordinates with the Sheriff's Office on illegal marijuana grow sites. To the extent there are plastic tarps (solid waste), Code Compliance works with property owners with a voluntary compliance agreement to remove that material and dispose of it properly. If the problem is not rectified, then Code Compliance can issue a citation and prosecution of violation in state court, or "Notice of Violation" and Proposed Civil Penalty and initiate administrative enforcement hearing proceedings in accordance with County Code (we typically utilize the latter). If/when an administrative hearings officer issues a decision, confirming a violation of county code(s), it then sets in motion, CDD's ability to issue daily fines (and recoup County costs for investigating code violations). Maximum fines for County Code violations are set forth in DCC 1.16.010.

If the daily fines are still not compelling the property owner to clean-up their property, Code Compliance can seek an injunction relief and/or abatement. Both require actions by circuit court. If abatement is executed, the cost of cleanup is recouped by placing a lien on the subject property.

Health Services, PSAs - \$60,000

Proposal

Health Services is committed to supporting parent-child conversations in order to prevent adolescent drug use. Studies show that parents are a large influence on whether or not their child uses marijuana or other drugs before the age of 21. We know that youth who use marijuana before the age of 18, are four to seven times more likely to develop cannabis use disorder later in life because of the changes to the structure and function of the developing brain.

We are requesting \$60,000 of Marijuana Tax Revenue to continue paid media advertising focused on supporting parents and guardians in Deschutes County to talk with their kids about marijuana and other drugs. As a result of a Marijuana Tax Revenue allocation in FY22-23 (\$70,000), Health Services will have developed three Public Service Announcements (PSAs), in English and Spanish, all focused on encouraging parent and child conversations, and connecting parents to related resources. A fourth will also be produced with additional funding provided by an Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) grant. These PSAs will be advertised on several different platforms in order to reach parents: web advertising, social media, streaming television, and cable television. The [first two ads](#) launched in February, and the third will be released in April. The PSA from the ODOT grant will be released in July. Our goal is to increase the number of adults talking to their kids about marijuana and other drugs. We can assess this in part by the amount of parents signing up for our workshop and additional hits to our [website](#) after the PSAs run.

We have learned that PSAs receive the best response within a population when they are rotated over the course of time and on varying media platforms. With the \$60,000 in FY23-24 we anticipate running the four previously developed videos on a rotating basis between October and March. Should Health Services secure additional funding, beyond the \$60K, it would be used to increase advertising exposure, develop new PSAs to keep content fresh, and/or to expand to new mediums such as radio or streaming audio.

We sincerely appreciate the receipt of funding in FY22-23 and the opportunity to request additional resources for FY23-24. These dollars are directly supporting adolescent drug prevention in Deschutes County. Please let me know if I can answer any questions.

Sheriff's Office, MJ Detective - \$75,000

The Sheriff's Office requests the County continue to contribute \$75,000 of Marijuana Tax Revenue toward Illegal Marijuana Enforcement for the FY 2024 Budget. As you know, the County was funding 2.0 FTE Illegal Marijuana Detectives, but in recent years reduced that to 1.0 and then 0.5 FTE. The Illegal Marijuana Enforcement team continues to grow. We appreciate the County's support, through either the General Fund or the Special Tax dollars.

Community Justice – Juvenile Division, \$25,000 for Staff Training

Proposal

For the past couple years the Deschutes County Juvenile Community Justice division has been working on addressing barriers to substance use disorder (SUD) treatment for youth on supervision, including quality of services, quantity of options and timely access. As a part of this effort we have created an internal work group that has specifically taken on this task. Over the past year the group has been looking at our external community based treatment providers and the different SUD treatment options that are available for our youth that we work with. Currently, the external options are fairly limited and it is clear that many of our community based providers are not currently offering evidence based manualized curriculum that targets youth working with our department. At this time we are continuing to explore different external options, but are also assessing whether we need to use in house facilitators and behavioral health staff to offer these services internally. Deschutes County Community Justice is requesting a grant to provide funding to support these efforts which will include costs for training in an evidence based curriculum, costs associated with licenses/certification, and material costs related to offering treatment. The majority of the funds would be used to bring in trainers to provide the training to offer the evidence based manualized SUD treatment. We will only consider options that are evidence based and research has shown their effectiveness with youth involved in a community justice setting. Once we determine the best course of action we will either host the training for our community partner agencies, or for our internal staff, or potentially both. We appreciate your consideration.

Requested Amount:

\$25,000.00 (Training estimate is \$22,000 for a 4 day university of Cincinnati training, \$1000 for any certifications or registration requirements for Oregon, and \$2000 for workbooks.)

Desired Outcome:

Evidence based substance abuse disorder treatment options for all youth, regardless of geographic location or indigent status, who are involved with our department.

Expected Impacts:

Youth receive evidence based treatment that research shows help youth refrain from using alcohol, marijuana, or other illegal drugs.

Questions from the Cannabis Advisory Panel

1. I would want more information and specifics from the Juvenile Dept.'s request. What exactly is the program they are proposing? Not sure it fits with our conversations about hooking youth up with positive activities.

Department Response:

We are proposing bring in University of Cincinnati (UCCI) or a similar organization to provide internal staff and or community providers with a training in a Substance Use Disorder curriculum that is evidence based and there is research to show that it reduces recidivism for youth who come into the criminal justice system. Much of the effort in our community center around prevention, but once a youth has criminal justice involvement related to substance use disorder this effort is too late. Attached is some information about one of the curriculums we are looking at. We would go with this curriculum or similar curriculum that meets the same evidence based requirements. "UCCI's Cognitive-Behavioral Interventions – Substance Use (CBI-SU) curriculum for youth provides intervention for individuals that are moderate to high need in the area of substance use. As the name of the curriculum suggests, this intervention relies on a cognitive behavioral approach to teach participants strategies for avoiding substance abuse. The program places heavy emphasis on skill building activities to assist with cognitive, social, emotional, and coping skill development." Our goal as it currently stands is to be able to offer training slots for our internal staff as well as community treatment providers. Our population served differs from youth with SUD and no link to delinquency. The program we look to bring is specific to the youth population that intersects with SUD and delinquency risk.

2. I think I also would like someone from Juvenile Justice to tell us more about the program they are wanting funds for and why what currently is available in the area they don't consider evidence based.

Department Response:

The main community providers who we work with that serve youth involved with the criminal justice population include Deschutes County Behavioral Health, Rimrock Trails, and New Priorities. Most of these providers may offer an individual one-on-one counseling services for youth such as Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT) or individual Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT). At times they have offered group CBT therapy such as Moral Recognition Therapy (MRT), yet getting these specific interventions are hit or miss based on staffing, resources and certification. Additionally at this time we do not have a group therapy option in our community that offers a skills based substance abuse specific option like what this training would provide, specific to youth with SUD and delinquency. The nice part about this curriculum is that it is manual based with a fidelity component that allows facilitators without counseling credentials to carry it out so it could be offered by staff we currently utilize for our internal MRT program and community treatment providers would not need masters level clinicians to offer this service in our community. Training, fidelity, and quality assurance is still required, but this alleviates the necessity for masters level clinicians which is what is generally required for evidence based individual therapy like DBT. Internally we conduct an assessment upon intake that looks at potential criminogenic risk factors around substance abuse use and the goal behind having these services internally and/or within our community would be to directly provide targeted interventions through group therapy.