

County of Monterey

Cannabis Program Strategic Plan

September 2026 - August 2030



Mission • Goals • Strategies • Priorities



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County of Monterey Board of Supervisors

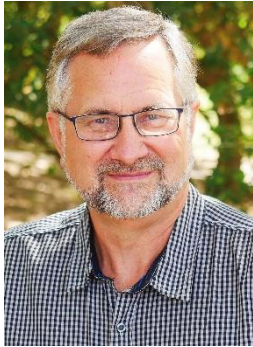
District 1
Luis Alejo

District 2
Glenn Church

District 3
Chris Lopez

District 4
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District 5
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Executive Summary

In 2018, the County of Monterey Cannabis Program (Program) adopted its first strategic plan, establishing the Program's mission, goals, and strategies to guide regulatory development and implementation. Since that time, regulatory and policy updates, program maturation, and shifts within the cannabis industry have continued to shape the operating environment. The strategic plan was subsequently revised in 2020 and again in 2024, retaining the foundational mission and goals while updating strategies and priorities in response to emerging needs.

In November of 2025, representatives of five key County departments, local fire districts, and representatives of the cannabis industry convened for a day long in person meeting to create the 2026-2030 strategic plan. The strategic planning meeting included four working groups that focused on the crafting of vision and mission language as well as insight into goal language and strategies. Meeting participants voted on priorities that align the Program's efforts toward achieving the mission statement. A collaborative process ensures that the strategic plan reflects shared perspectives, operational needs, and the evolving landscape of the County's cannabis program.

The 2026-2030 strategic plan introduces a newly developed vision statement and updated mission, goals, strategies, and priorities to guide Program implementation over the next four years. The updated plan is organized around four key goal areas: partnership, safeguarding community and resources, compliance, and sustainable economic growth. These goal areas provide structure for the Program's direction and support the

establishment of clear, achievable, and measurable priorities that will be tracked through performance indicators.

Accountability for the strategic plan will be maintained through regular reporting to the Board of Supervisors Cannabis Committee and systematic tracking of performance indicators that provide a quantifiable assessment of the Programs progress over the next four years. These indicators will be established to measure advancement toward the updated goal language and are driven by the strategies designed to achieve the Program's objectives during the next four years. In addition, progress will be monitored through internal meetings, where participating County departments and industry members will review strategy implementation, share relevant updates, and identify emerging issues that may require coordinated action.



County of Monterey Cannabis Program

Brief History

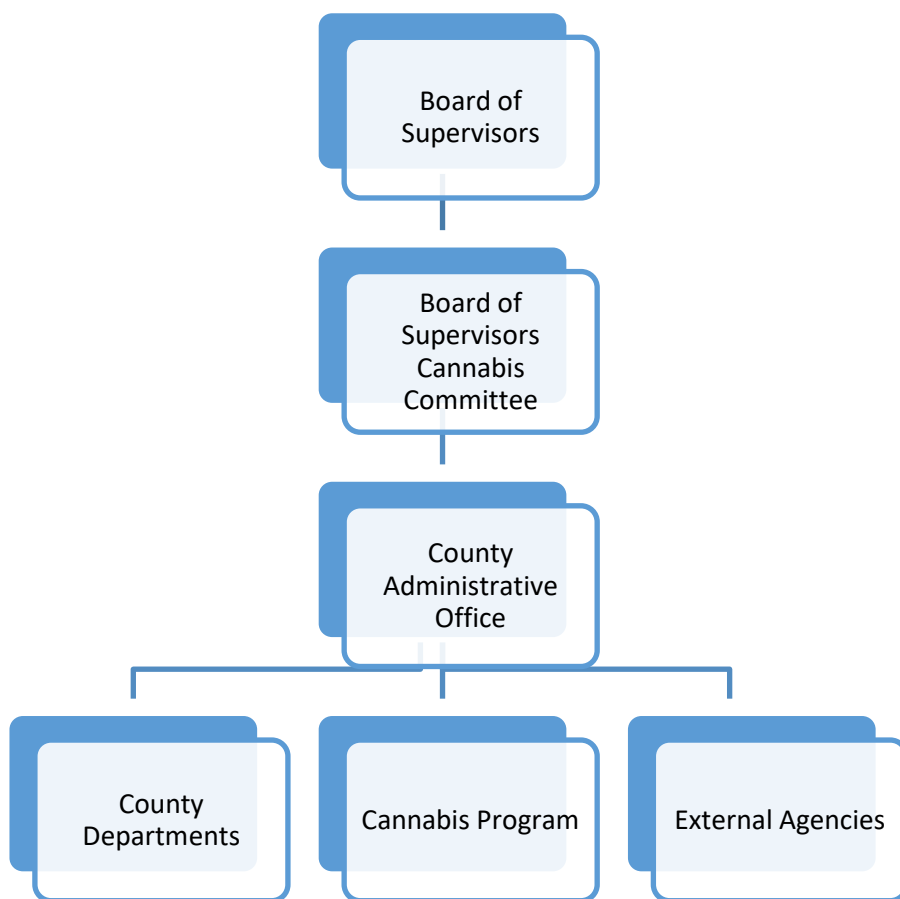
In 1996, California voters passed Proposition 215, the Compassionate Use Act, making California the first state to allow the medical use of cannabis. Two decades later in 2016, voters approved Proposition 64 the Adult Use of Marijuana Act, making California the most populous state to legalize adult cannabis use. Today, cannabis in California is governed by the state Department of Cannabis Control (DCC) serving as the centralized licensing body for all cannabis activities, including cultivation, manufacturing, retail and testing.

On July 7, 2015, the County of Monterey Board of Supervisors adopted an interim ordinance (No. 5424) to regulate cannabis activities in the unincorporated areas of the county and established an ad hoc cannabis committee. In September 2016, the Board adopted policies to encourage a local cannabis industry as part of its economic development strategy and to generate tax revenue for essential county services. Following the passage of Proposition 64 and the approval of a local cannabis tax (Measure Y) by County of Monterey voters in November 2016, the county established its Cannabis Program.

Policy Direction and Oversight

Policy direction is guided by members of the Board of Supervisors, which, in 2018, established a standing two-member Board Cannabis Committee. Both Supervisors are appointed to the Board Cannabis Committee at the beginning of each calendar year. Program oversight is provided by the County Administrative Office (CAO) and coordination is provided by the Program Manager. The Program is staffed by the Cannabis Program Manager, a Management Analyst III, and a Senior Secretary.

Seven County departments and multiple external agencies have key responsibilities in implementing various aspects of the Program. Together, they play an important role in the success of the cannabis industry within the County of Monterey.





7 County departments and the fire districts have key roles in the Cannabis Program's success

Program Coordination

The Program is housed within the CAO and serves as the local regulatory agency for growing, manufacturing, and dispensing cannabis. The Program coordinates activities with and between key county offices and departments, external agencies, DCC, the cannabis industry, and public and community groups. Seven county offices/departments and the fire districts work collaboratively to enforce local cannabis policies and regulations as well as regulations imposed by the DCC and various state and federal agencies. Each of these organizations plays a critical role and requires the program to be well coordinated, with effective internal and external communication to ensure the success of the cannabis industry within the unincorporated areas of the County.

Program Manager

The Program is administered by the Cannabis Program Manager who has several key responsibilities:

- Coordinates the collaboration of County departments and fire districts.
- Manages Program staff.
- DCC point of contact for state licensing local approval and questions.
- Manages the cannabis compliance inspection process.
- Monitors progression toward proposed strategic plan goals and strategies to adjust the Program's direction when appropriate.
- Coordinates effective tracking for data and Program indicators.

Overall Program management is provided from the County Administrative Office through the Cannabis Program Manager.

The strategic plan will **provide a framework** to guide the Program over the next 4 years.

- Prepares and coordinates reports to the Board of Supervisors Cannabis Committee, Budget Committee, and the Board of Supervisors.
- Monitors the Program budget, including cannabis allocations and assignment.
- Monitors legislative and regulatory activity.

Program Enforcement

Enforcement of the Program requires coordinated efforts among senior staff across multiple County departments, as well as state partners such as the DCC and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The Sheriff's Office is responsible for both criminal and civil enforcement. The District Attorney's Office (DA) has a broad enforcement and prosecutorial role, collaborating with other law enforcement partners, code inspectors, and government agencies.

The DA works closely with the Sheriff's Office to investigate violations involving illegal, unlicensed, and licensed cannabis operations. Enforcement efforts may include education, verbal notices, civil actions seeking penalties for unfair business practices, and criminal prosecution for serious violations. This collaborative approach ensures the Program can effectively address both permitted and unpermitted commercial cannabis activities while maintaining compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Program Compliance

Ensuring compliance within County of Monterey's legal cannabis industry requires coordination among the California Department of Cannabis Control (DCC) and multiple County departments, including the Office of the County Counsel, the Environmental Health Bureau (EHB), local fire agencies, and Housing and Community Development (HCD). Each agency plays a distinct role in implementing and enforcing applicable local, state, and federal laws to support a safe, compliant, and well-regulated cannabis industry.

The Environmental Health Bureau protects public health and the environment by administering environmental health programs applicable to cannabis operations. EHB reviews and inspects cannabis facilities, as appropriate, to ensure compliance with environmental health laws and regulations related to areas such as water quality, onsite wastewater treatment systems, hazardous materials, solid waste management, food safety, employee housing, and other applicable environmental health requirements. EHB works collaboratively with County departments and regulatory partners to provide consistent oversight while supporting lawful cannabis operations that protect public health and the County of Monterey's natural resources.

The strategic plan contains agreed upon *strategies for action*.



Inspectors from HCD enforce compliance with the County Code and work closely with regional fire districts and industry partners to ensure businesses meet all local and state building and fire code requirements. Cannabis facilities are inspected several times each year to monitor operations and verify adherence to State and local regulations. Regardless of a business's size or location, HCD applies the same standards consistently across the county.

Program Finance

The Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office and the Office of the Auditor-Controller collect and monitor cannabis tax revenue for the County.

Since the launch of the commercial cannabis industry, the County of Monterey has received more than \$90 million in cannabis business tax revenue between fiscal year 2016–17 and fiscal year 2025–26. A detailed breakdown of cannabis tax revenue is provided in Appendix A.

Public Health

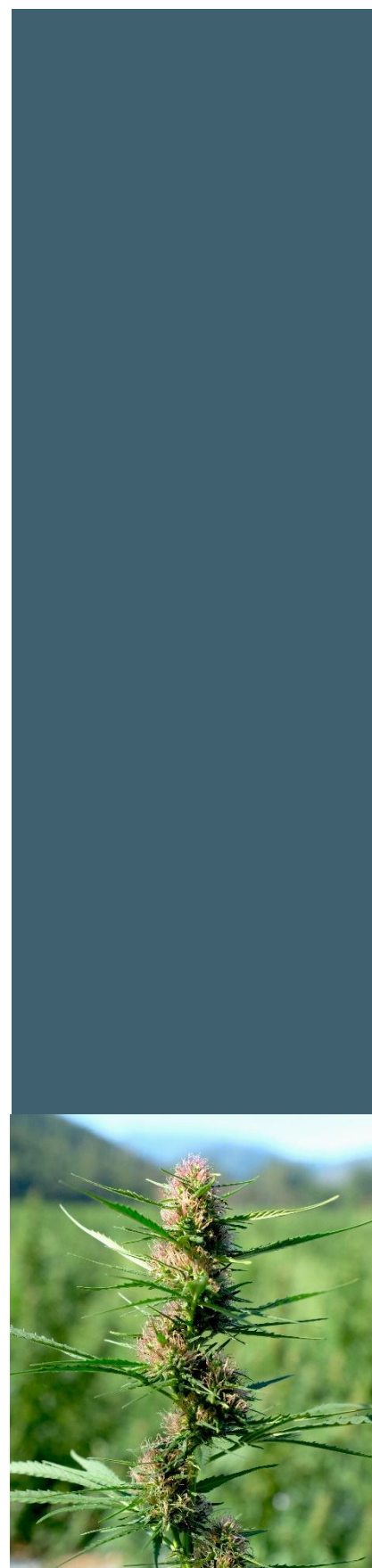
The County of Monterey Cannabis Education Program (CEP) serves the entire County, including its 12 incorporated cities. Its overarching goal is to provide current fact driven information that empowers the community to make informed choices about their health. CEP is housed in the Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention Division of the County Health Department, Public Health Bureau.

CEP provides school-based cannabis education and prevention classes to middle and high school youth. To further facilitate youth cannabis prevention, CEP staff provide parent focused cannabis education classes and skill building on how to be approachable and maintain open communication.

CEP utilizes social marketing to address a variety of issues including illicit market, over consumption, and safe storage. CEP creates media concepts in collaboration with the cannabis industry through the Cannabis Safety committee.

Cannabis Industry

Market conditions in the cannabis industry have been challenging since 2021, making it essential for the County of Monterey to adapt accordingly. Taxes and fees continue to represent a substantial share of operating costs for commercial cannabis businesses. At the same time, the statewide market has become increasingly oversaturated, driving wholesale prices sharply downward.



Based on data from the DCC *California Cannabis Market 2024* report, average wholesale prices began falling in 2021, dropping from \$1,377 per pound in 2020 to \$721 per pound in 2024, a decrease that has reshaped the economic landscape for cultivators and related businesses. This decline has reduced the viability of many operators and placed significant pressure on the industry's long-term sustainability.

The County of Monterey is currently the sixth largest holder of active DCC licenses in California, with 312 total licenses, 253 of which are located within the unincorporated area of the county. As of June 2026, the County's license profile is dominated by small cultivation licenses, with a smaller number of medium and large licenses.

Because cultivation licenses authorize different canopy sizes, license counts alone do not accurately represent total production capacity. To address this, the Program began tracking cultivation by square footage in addition to license numbers. County data showed a substantial decline in total cultivation area from 4,608,372 square feet in 2021 to 3,031,227 square feet in 2023. This trend has recently begun to slowly shift upwards. By 2025, total cultivation area increased to 3,229,382 square feet, driven in part by operators transitioning to outdoor (greenhouse without lights) licenses, which offer lower operating costs and greater flexibility in a challenging market.

The Program continues to monitor intoxicating hemp products as the industry evolves to meet consumer demand. Under AB 8, the California Department of Food and Agriculture will continue regulating hemp cultivation as an agricultural activity, but it will no longer oversee or authorize the manufacture or sale of intoxicating hemp products. Beginning January 2028, regulatory authority over intoxicating hemp products will shift to the DCC, integrating these products into the state's cannabis compliance framework. This statutory change closes the loophole that previously allowed intoxicating cannabinoids such as delta-8 THC, delta-10 THC, and other synthetically converted compounds to be produced and sold outside the track-and-trace system.

Program Communication and Information

Providing timely information to stakeholders is critical to the success of the Program. Stakeholders include the Board of Supervisors, County departments, cannabis industry representatives, external agencies, and the public. Regular communication supports the Program's goals and ensures alignment across participating entities. Internal stakeholders remain informed through scheduled meetings, email correspondence, and phone discussions, promoting consistent coordination among County departments, partner agencies, and industry members.



The Program conducts bimonthly meetings with cannabis industry representatives to encourage dialogue and address emerging issues. These meetings have significantly strengthened collaboration between the County and industry operators. The Board of Supervisors receives updates during bimonthly Cannabis Committee meetings, which serve as a forum for the Program, community members, and industry participants to share information, discuss priorities, and provide guidance and oversight.

The Program webpage is maintained, reviewed, and updated on a quarterly basis. Quarterly updates will continue to include revisions to the calendar of events, enhancements to the drop-down cannabis business permit menus, and refreshed forms and instructions. The webpage will also feature external links to the Board of Supervisors, County departments, fire districts, and the DCC to ensure stakeholders have direct access to relevant resources.

Creating a Meta account (Facebook/Instagram) is a priority from the 2026–2030 Strategic Plan. The account will serve as a tool to increase public visibility and promote Program services. Through this platform, the Program will share industry news, product recalls, and links to relevant County departments and State agencies. Program staff will collaborate with partner agencies to gather current and accurate information, ensuring the community receives timely updates and opportunities for more direct engagement.

Performance Indicators

The Cannabis Program reports its progress during bimonthly cannabis industry meetings and at meetings of the Board of Supervisors Cannabis Committee. Over the next four years, the Program will present performance indicators aligned with established targets and priorities to provide measurable evidence of progress. These indicators will track advancement toward the goal language outlined on page nine and will be informed by the strategies developed to achieve the Program’s objectives over the next four years.

Cannabis Program

Vision, Mission and Goals



The *vision* statement describes the future of the Cannabis Program

The *mission* statement describes the purpose of the Cannabis Program

Program *goals* have been established to guide progress toward desired and measurable outcomes

Our Vision

Foster a safe, and trusted industry that evolves responsibly, protects the public, and supports sustainable growth.

Our Mission

Safeguard the community, environment, and legal industry by delivering fair enforcement, promoting compliance, and deterring unlawful activity in collaboration with our partners.

Goal A. Support a resilient and innovative legal industry that drives long-term, sustainable economic growth.

Goal B. Safeguard public health, community well-being, and environmental resources.

Goal C. Equip the industry with the tools, guidance, and oversight needed to achieve and sustain compliance.

Goal D. Maintain a cost-efficient, self-sustaining Program that generates revenue while advancing the interests of the industry and public.



Cannabis Program Strategies



The strategies for the Cannabis Program are intended to be implemented during the next four years to fulfill the mission of the Program and the four Program goals described below. Each Program goal has its own set of attainable strategies.

Goal A. Support a resilient and innovative legal industry that drives long-term, sustainable economic growth.

Strategies

1. Review and update the cannabis ordinance (Monterey County Code Chapter 7.90) to ensure it is consistent with current DCC regulations.
2. Monitor cannabis legislation, provide legislative updates during industry meetings, and advocate for state-level legislation when appropriate.
3. Improve media relationships.
4. Hold an annual in-person meeting for industry members and relevant departments.



Goal B. Safeguard public health, community well-being, and environmental resources.

Strategies

1. Provide a proactive and coordinated approach to enforce laws against the illegal cannabis market.
2. Promote community outreach and education that focuses on responsible and safe use for adults.
3. Attend Cannabis Safety Committee meetings.
4. Create a Meta account (Facebook/Instagram).



Goal C. Equip the industry with the tools, guidance, and oversight needed to achieve and sustain compliance.

Strategies

1. Create a tier system for compliance inspections based on findings during inspections.
2. Conduct 2-3 compliance inspections a year to ensure County and State requirements are followed.
3. Improve the clarity of correction notices by including specific details of non-compliance.
4. Create a standardized agency guide for industry inspection best practices.
5. Foster strong interdepartmental collaboration by convening an annual meeting with relevant departments to ensure a unified and cohesive approach to cannabis oversight and compliance.



Goal D. Maintain a cost-efficient, self-sustaining Program that generates revenue while advancing the interests of the industry and public.

Strategies

1. Collaborate with the Auditor-Controller's Office and the Treasurer-Tax Collector to provide accurate and complete revenue information to the Cannabis Committee so it can continue to make informed financial decisions.
2. Explore new revenue opportunities that diversify tax revenue.

Program Priorities

Goal A: Support a resilient and innovative legal industry that drives long-term, sustainable economic growth.

- ✓ Review and update the cannabis ordinance (Monterey County Code Chapter 7.90) to ensure it is consistent with current DCC regulations.

Goal B: Safeguard public health, community well-being, and environmental resources.

- ✓ Create a Meta account (Facebook/Instagram).

Goal C: Equip the industry with the tools, guidance, and oversight needed to achieve and sustain compliance.

- ✓ Create a standardized agency guide for industry inspection best practices.
- ✓ Foster strong interdepartmental collaboration by convening an annual meeting with relevant departments to ensure a unified and cohesive approach to cannabis regulation and oversight.

Goal D: Maintain a cost-efficient, self-sustaining Program that generates revenue while advancing the interests of the industry and public.

- ✓ Explore new revenue opportunities that diversify tax revenue.

Appendix A. Timeline of Notable Events



Date	Event
6/19/2015	Board Referral - Urgency Ordinance
7/7/2015	Board Adopts Interim Urgency Ordinance (ORD #5254); Creates Ad Hoc Committee
7/28/2015	Extension to the Interim Urgency Ordinance (ORD #5256)
10/9/2015	State enacts Med Cannabis regulations (AB243, AB266, and SB643)
2/3/2016	State repeals March 1, 2016, deadline (AB21)
2/26/2016	Extension and amendment to Interim Urgency Ordinance (ORD #5265) - Exceptions
3/2/2016	Board Referral - Options for cannabis taxation
7/12/2016	County of Monterey Adopts Chapter 7.100 – Commercial Cannabis Business Tax
7/19/2016	County adopts 5 ordinances (Inland Zoning, Intent to adopt Coastal Zoning, Business License, Business Permits, Personal cultivation), subject to passage of tax measure
8/10/2016	Coastal Ordinance amendments submitted to California Coastal Commission
9/27/2016	Board adopts fee resolutions for cannabis permitting, Coastal Commission requires changes to coastal regulations (9/29.16)
11/8/2016	County Tax Measure and Adult-use Marijuana Act (AUMA) both adopted by voters (AUMA to become effective 1/1/2018)
12/7/2016	Ordinance becomes effective 1-year amortization period from August 1, 2016
1/9/2017	State releases draft medical licensing regulations (later rescinded)
4/18/2017	Board adopts resolution authorizing background investigations for cannabis applicants
6/13/2017	Board referral to amend setback requirements
7/27/2017	Revised State law (SB 94) - State rescinds all medical cannabis licensing regulations
12/5/2017	Revised Ordinances adopted (Inland, Coastal) - adult/medicinal use per SB94
1/1/2018	State begins licensing - Local Authorization required
2/7/2018	California Coastal Commission certifies Coastal Ordinances
3/13/2018	Board adopts coastal ordinance and portion of setback ordinance amendments; dispensary setbacks sent back to Cannabis Committee for discussion.
3/21/2018	Board Referral - Staffing, tax rates, outdoor grows, distribution; Memo from HCD to Industry (Business Permits/tax reporting).
7/24/2018	County of Monterey Amends Chapter 7.100 of Monterey County Code
10/10/2018	Titles 20.67 and 21.67 amended to change commercial cannabis activities from a Use Permit/Coastal Development to an Administrative Permit/Coastal Administrative Permit and to create an exception process for a proposed retail facility that does not comply with the 1,500-foot setback from another approved retail facility.

Date	Event
12/6/2019	County amends Chapter 7.90 of Monterey County Code to allow for an amendment of Cannabis Business Permit within the annual term, designates the Cannabis Program Manager as the Appropriate Authority, requires owners to obtain a new permit when there is a full transfer of ownership or a change in business entity type, requires all owners and employees to be 21 years of age or older and wear an identifying badge while on commercial cannabis premises, and requires operators to submit data to California Cannabis Authority.
3/17/2020	County amends Chapter 7.90 of Monterey County Code to add definition of “manager” and “owner”, allow for Live Scan fingerprinting to be done at any entity authorized by the California Department of Justice, remove the Live Scan requirement for property owners, supervisors, and employees, and require permittees to keep a roster of all employees and their date of birth in addition to verification that employees do not have felony convictions or drug related misdemeanor convictions within the past ten years.
4/21/2020	Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) announces awards for FY 19-20 round of grant funding, which includes a \$150,000 in funding for the County of Monterey to conduct equity assessment and begin program development.
5/19/2020	Board adopts an ordinance amending Chapter 7.100 of the Monterey County Code to suspend the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 automatic increases on the County’s commercial cannabis business tax rates and resume the automatic increases in Fiscal Year 2021-2022 on July 1, 2022. This was in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
7/7/2020	Board adopts an ordinance to add Chapter 21.17 to Title 21 (non-coastal zoning ordinance) of the Monterey County Code and amends other sections of Title 21 to establish a Mixed-Use zoning district and to provide definitions, regulations, and standards for the Mixed-Use zoning district in the non-coastal unincorporated areas of the County of Monterey.
5/18/2021	Board adopts ordinance amending Chapters 20.67, 21.67, 20.69, and 21.69 to revise renewable energy generation requirements for indoor cannabis cultivation, expand the outdoor cannabis cultivation regulations to include the permanent grazing zoning district within the Cachagua Area Plan as locations where outdoor cultivation may be permitted, reduce the setback required from the nearest off-site structure from 500 feet to 250 feet, modify the criteria for granting an exception to the setback from the nearest off-site structure, increase the maximum allowable canopy from 10,000 square feet to 20,000 square feet, and extend the pilot program from 5 years to 8 years.
5/25/2021	Board adopts ordinance amending Chapter 7.100 of the Monterey County Code to suspend the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 automatic increases on the County’s commercial cannabis business tax rates and resume the automatic increases in Fiscal Year 2022-2023 on July 1, 2022. This was in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, in addition to a local outbreak of the Hop Latent Viroid in April 2021.
6/22/2021	Board adopts an ordinance amending Chapter 21.67 of the Monterey County Code to allow for permitting of commercial cannabis cultivation within new or expanded greenhouses on properties zoned Farmland that contain at least one greenhouse that was legally established prior to January 1, 2016.
7/13/2021	Board adopts an ordinance amending Chapter 7.100 of the Monterey County Code to set a tax rate for outdoor commercial cannabis cultivation. The rate was set at \$2.50 per square foot of canopy. Governor Newsom signs Cannabis Trailer Bill to create the Department of Cannabis Control (DCC).
8/31/2021	Board receives the Cannabis Equity Assessment, a report culminating 11 months of effort with partner agency California State University at Monterey Bay.

Date	Event
10/12/2021	Board approves proposed framework of the Growing Equity Together Program (GET).
10/26/2021	Board adopts an ordinance amending Chapter 7.90 of the Monterey County Code to allow permitted cultivators to modify the total canopy area of any cultivation or nursery operation in their commercial cannabis permit on two occasions during the permit's annual term if certain criteria are met.
12/7/2021	Board adopts resolution to authorize creation and implementation of the Growing Equity Together Program.
12/24/2021	Department of Cannabis Control awards the County of Monterey \$1.7m through the Local Jurisdiction Assistance Grant Program to assist provisional licensees with meeting annual license requirements.
2/7/2022	Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development awards the County of Monterey \$550k through the Cannabis Equity Grants Program for Local Jurisdictions to develop the Growing Equity Together Program and assist qualified equity applicants with participation in the licensed cannabis industry.
3/1/2022	Board adopts ordinance amending Chapter 7.100 of the Monterey County Code to reduce commercial cannabis business tax rates, remove automatic increases, and waive penalties and interest for cultivation activities in the second and third quarters of Fiscal Year 2021-22.
3/15/2022	Board adopts an ordinance amending Chapter 7.90 of the Monterey County Code to make administrative changes including, but not limited to, clarifying commercial cannabis operation requirements, updating fee and refund provisions, revising on-site tobacco provisions, and establishing cessation of business requirements.
3/22/2022	Board appoints Cannabis Program Manager to serve as a member of the California Cannabis Authority Board of Directors.
6/1/2022	Board adopts a standalone ordinance to establish the Provisional Cannabis Business Permit.
8/30/2022	Board considers and approves proposed amendments to Monterey County Code Titles 20.69 and 21.69 and extends the sunset date of the Outdoor Commercial Cannabis Cultivation Pilot Program to 2030.
9/13/2022	Board adopts ordinance amending Chapter 7.100 of the Monterey County Code to reduce the commercial cannabis business tax rates for mixed-light and indoor cultivation retroactive to October 1, 2022, authorize the Board to, by resolution, waive and/or stay interest and penalties for cannabis operators with delinquent cannabis business taxes, extend the Board's conditional waiver of penalties and interest for FY 21-22 Quarters 2, and 3, from July 31, 2022 to January 31, 2023, and add FY 21-22 Quarter 4 to that conditional waiver.
9/27/2022	Supervisor Lopez submits Referral 2022.20 to consider a review of the department specific local requirements for commercial cannabis operators to achieve local authorization for the transition from a Department of Cannabis Control Provisional License to Annual Licensure.
10/18/2022	Board adopts a resolution to authorize the Treasurer-Tax Collector to conditionally waive all penalties and interest on unpaid installments of the annual commercial cannabis business tax imposed on cultivation activities for the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2022-2023, so long as the full amount due for that quarter is received by the Treasurer-Tax Collector on or before January 31, 2023.
10/25/2022	Board approves amendments to Local Jurisdiction Assistance Grant Program, which reallocates funding from an environmental impact report of District 5 to passthrough funding.

Date	Event
11/8/2022	Board directs staff to implement cannabis business tax payment plans for Quarters 2-4 of Fiscal Year 2021-2022 and authorizes immediate shut down for operators who are not participants in the payment plan.
12/6/2022	Board adopts an ordinance to lower the commercial cannabis business tax rate imposed on manufacturers from 3.5% of gross receipts to 1.5% of gross receipts.
12/6/2022	Board adopts resolution to extend the previously authorized conditional waiver of penalties and interest on unpaid installments of the annual commercial cannabis business tax imposed on cultivation activities for the second through fourth quarters of Fiscal Year 2021-22 to include all quarters of Fiscal Year 2022-2023, so long as the full amount due is received by the Treasurer-Tax Collector on or before September 30, 2023.
12/7/2022	Board approves reductions to Cannabis Program allocations effective February 1, 2023.
1/10/2023	Board approves revisions to the County of Monterey Growing Equity Together Program and adopts an administrative manual.
2/14/2023	Board adopts ordinance amending Chapter 7.100 of the Monterey County Code to reduce the commercial cannabis business tax rates for cultivation activities retroactive to January 1, 2023.
2/28/2023	Board considers the cannabis consumption lounge concept and directs staff to revisit the concept in Fiscal Year 2023-2024.
3/9/2023	Cannabis Program Manager appointed to serve as a member of the Cannabis Advisory Committee, which advises the Department of Cannabis Control on the development of relevant standards and regulations for commercial cannabis businesses.
3/21/2023	Board adopts an ordinance amending Chapter 7.90 of the Monterey County Code to make organizational changes which clarify and simplify permit procedures and requirements for processing and manufacturing activities, be consistent with the regulations of the Department of Cannabis Control, and update requirements for odor control, business owners, and employees.
4/4/2023	Board directs staff to implement cannabis business tax payment plans for Quarters 1-4 of Fiscal Year 2022-2023 and return with options to extend the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 payment plan for an additional three years while charging interest on unpaid balances.
5/31/2023	Considering the number of business closures, outcomes of the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 payment plan, and the Fiscal Year 2023-24 projections for cannabis business tax revenue, the Board approves a 30% reduction to the proposed Fiscal Year 2023-24 Cannabis Program budget.
5/3/2024	The Monterey County Civil Grand Jury Report titled <i>"Cannabis Tax Revenues: Highs and Lows"</i> is released.
5/28/24	The California State Audit titled <i>"Local Cannabis Permitting"</i> is released.
8/28/24	The California State Audit titled <i>"Cannabis Business Licensing"</i> is released.
12/31/25	All provisional permits were transitioned to annual permits.
4/28/26	Board of Supervisors approves first outdoor cannabis grow.

Appendix B. Cannabis Business Tax Revenue

