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MEMORANDUM

To: Public Works, Planning and Transportation Committee

From: Thomas Chefalo, Principal Planner
Krista Braun, Planning and Zoning Manager

Date: November 18, 2019

Re: Proposed Text Amendment relating to Recreational Cannabis Facilities

Attached for Committee action is a resolution directing the Zoning Board of Appeals to conduct a public hearing on proposed text amendments to the Lake County Code of Ordinances governing the siting and operation of recreational cannabis facilities in unincorporated Lake County.

By way of background, the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act, allowing the establishment of recreational cannabis business establishments, was adopted in June 2019, and will become effective on January 1, 2020. The Act allows local governments (including counties) to adopt “reasonable zoning regulations” providing such regulations do not “unreasonably prohibit” the siting of such facilities. Upon the Act’s adoption in June, the Planning, Building and Development Department convened a multi-jurisdictional recreational cannabis zoning task force comprised of over thirty of Lake County’s municipalities to develop model ordinances regulating the siting and operation of medical cannabis facilities.

The task force completed its model regulations in October 2019; the model regulations formed the basis for the draft text amendments contained in attached Exhibit A, which address siting, signage, and security measures for recreational cannabis dispensaries, processing and cultivation centers, and transporters in the unincorporated area.

Following an initial review of the proposed amendments, the Public Works, Planning and Transportation Committee will take action on the attached County Board resolution directing the Zoning Board of Appeals to conduct a public hearing on the proposed amendments.