

@SweetFlower SweetFlower.com

We're based in LA

We're Local

HQ in downtown Culver City

We are hyper-focused on the Greater LA market

We're locally and independently owned

### We're Best in Class

We have the broadest retail netw Greater LA

We were awarded a retail licer Culver City

Our LA dispensaries are used as in-class models by City of LA to staff in compliance

### Meet Sweet Flower—







5	We Celebrate	Diversity	

work in	88% of our corporate team is female and/or minority
nse in	100% of our store management is female and/or minority
as best- o train	85% of our sales associates are female and/or minority





# Pasadena Process

L

## Pasadena's Conditional Use Permit (CUP) Process

- Sweet Flower was one of six applicants permitted to proceed further in the application process, out of a field of 122
- City planning division staff (Staff) declared that they would process CUP applications based on the first COMPLETE application
- During the only meeting with applicants June 12 City Staff provided varying definitions of what "COMPLETE" meant
- Staff's treatment of Sweet Flower's CUP application has not been consistent with treatment of other applicants, raising issues of due process and basic fairness

## What does "Complete" mean?

- CUP Applications were made available by Staff in June 12 Meeting only first COMPLETE application received per Council District would be processed
- Staff attempted to explain what "COMPLETE" means:

In Q&A with all successful applicants, Staff suggested, "No Gaps", "Substantially Complete," and ultimately, "Complete in Good Faith"

Later on June 12, Staff circulated an email to all attendees to submit: 

#### "Your BEST Application"

with "all of the information you would like to have considered in your CUP application" (Exhibit)

## In reliance on Staff, Sweet Flower submitted its CUP application FIRST in Pasadena

### Sweet Flower filed the first CUP application, for a location in CD3

In accord with the City staff's final instruction as to "completeness" this was Sweet Flower's Best Application, Complete, In Good Faith with No Gaps



Sweet Flower's application contained ALL of the information required

> Two other applicants, Harvest and Atrium, filed later that same day (also for locations in CD3) – neither application contained a radius map prepared by a licensed surveyor

# Issue 1 - Staff should not have rejected Sweet Flower's initial CUP submission

## **City rejected Sweet Flower's application as Incomplete**

On June 27, Staff rejected Sweet Flower's CUP application as incomplete

- Reason: Solely that Sweet Flower's Radius Map was not "Prepared by a Licensed" Surveyor"
  - Radius Map submitted was **complete** and **accurate** in all respects (and was prepared by a retired licensed surveyor)
  - Licensed Surveyor requirement is extraordinary (*unprecedented in our experience*)
  - Staff have been unable to define what "*Prepared by a Licensed Surveyor*" means requirement is vague and arbitrary, and Staff could not define the requirement
  - Our application was complete in every other respect

The ONLY basis for rejection of Sweet Flower's application is that its accurate and complete radius map was "prepared" by a retired Licensed Surveyor

## Sweet Flower's Application Should Not Have Been Rejected

- The Surveyor Requirement was not a legitimate basis to reject Sweet Flower's application as *incomplete* 
  - Sweet Flower's application was unquestionably "COMPLETE" it contained a complete, accurate radius map, as well as all other required or relevant information
  - If Staff, in reviewing the application, felt the radius map should be verified by a licensed surveyor (again, an unprecedented requirement in our experience), that could easily be done as part of the review process



# Issue 2 - Staff have inconsistently applied "Complete" standard

11

## Staff Has Not Applied its "Prepared by a Licensed Surveyor" Requirement Consistently

No competing CUP Applicant had a Licensed Surveyor actually "Prepare" their Radius Map

- Just like Sweet Flower's rejected map, NONE of the other applicants' radius maps were "Prepared By" a licensed surveyor – but none have been rejected
  - Harvest The licensed surveyor only "concurred with" a radius map prepared by a mapping company (not by a licensed surveyor) (Exhibit)
  - Integral The radius map was prepared by a mapping company (not by a licensed surveyor); the supplemental "licensed surveyor map" was not a radius map and only measured to two separate distances (and is wrong) (Exhibit)
  - Atrium The licensed surveyor researched/investigated and reviewed sensitive receptors, but no evidence that the map was prepared by a licensed surveyor (Exhibit)

## Only Sweet Flower's latest map is *actually* "prepared" by a licensed surveyor – and is in all other respects COMPLETE

- Staff stated (in our BZA appeal) "The most precise work is reliably prepared only by a licensed surveyor"
- No OTHER applicant has had a licensed surveyor actually prepare their Radius Map
- Staff (in our BZA appeal) were unable to define what "Prepared By" actually meant
- The Chair of the BZA agreed with Sweet Flower, stating that all of our maps are the same in substance
- Nevertheless, Sweet Flower resubmitted its application with a map ACTUALLY prepared by a Licensed Surveyor – the only applicant to do so



## Additionally, other Competing Applications are Incomplete in Material Respects

- Competing applications have been accepted by Staff as "COMPLETE" <u>although each</u> have material deficiencies, while Sweet Flower's application was rejected as incomplete due to a non-substantive issue
  - Harvest's application:
    - Did not include the required Master Application Form when filed (and not until July 16, 2019 – per City rules, it must be dated July 16 (*after* Sweet Flower) and not June 12) (Exhibit)
    - Does not include the required Land Owner Consent (consent is signed only by lessee, not the actual owner)
  - Atrium's application:
    - Does not include the required Land Owner Consent simply not present, although required for COMPLETENESS

# Harvest's application is materially deficient in multiple areas, is incomplete, but has not been deemed so by Staff

Harvest's CUP application had no Master Application when filed, and no consent by a land owner – BOTH are required



Harvest's CUP is dated June 12. Its FIRST redacted CUP application did NOT contain the Master Application

Harvest's Master Application Form **is dated July 16** *(after Sweet Flower)* NOT June 12

Harvest's Land Owner Consent is NOT signed by Land Owner (Peschke Realty), merely by a Lessee

(The Lessee claims to be the property owner and to give himself authority to act as his own agent)

There is NO evidence the ACTUAL Land Owner consented to the CUP<sup>15</sup>

# Further, at least one proposed location (cited by Staff in our BZA hearing as an example of a "correct map") is actually NON-COMPLIANT

 Integral's location – 908-918E Colorado Blvd. - when correctly measured by a Licensed Surveyor – is only 556.69' to the nearest Property Line of the affected Parcel (Pasadena Code 17.50.066.D5b -

No retailer shall be established or located within 600' measured from the **nearest property lines of each of the affected parcels,** of any existing residential zone)

• The proposed location is within 600' of the nearest property line of the affected residential parcel, making it NON-compliant – and should be disqualified

(Exhibit; Legal Opinion provided to City)



# Integral's "Supplemental" Map measured to the wrong point – not the Affected Parcel; its proposed location is too close and should be disqualified

Integral's map should have been measured to the "nearest property line of the Affected Parcel" (circled in RED), **NOT** to the middle of Mentor Ave. (where it was originally measured to on Integral's map)



# Summary – Fairness and Due Process requires Sweet Flower be reinstated as First CUP applicant

### Summary

- Sweet Flower filed its application first. The application was "complete," based on Staff's directions provided to all applicants at the time
- Staff rejected Sweet Flower's application solely because the map, while complete and accurate, was prepared by a *retired* licensed surveyor
  - No other applicants' radius maps were "prepared by a licensed surveyor" yet only Sweet Flower's application was rejected
- All other applications are materially deficient NONE are complete
  - And at least one applicant Integral is actually in the wrong location and non**compliant** with the ordinance
- Yet these applications were deemed "complete" by Staff and currently stand in line ahead of Sweet Flower

#### Fairness and Due Process requires Sweet Flower be reinstated as the **First CUP applicant** 19

# Exhibit – Multiple Deficiencies and non-Compliance in all competing CUP applications

### Instructions from Staff on June 12 indicated a very different standard for "COMPLETENESS" than was applied to Sweet Flower's application

#### Sweet Flower relied to its detriment on a series of mixed messages and representations from Staff

From: Nunez, Guille Sent: Wednesday, June 12, 2019 2:20 PM To: marijuanaregulations <marijuanaregulations@cityofpasadena.net<mailto:marijuanaregulations@cityofpasadena.net><mailto:marijuanare gulations@citvofpasadena.net><mailto:marijuanaregulations@citvofpasadena.net>> Subject: Instructions for Preliminary Submission of CUP for Cannabis Retailer

Good afternoon.

Thank you for attending this morning's cannabis application meeting. As discussed, attached is the:

- Master Application
- Conditional Use Permit Application for Cannabis Retailer
- Live Scan Authorization form for the Cannabis Permit

#### A sample of the location map will be sent to this group by tomorrow.

Instructions for Submitting your Appointment Request

As stated in today's meeting, applications will be accepted via appointment only. To request your appointment, you will first need to have a fully completed application that is sent electronically to me. We will be using OneDrive, a filesharing service, for submission of the applications. OneDrive issues a date and time stamp when the file is uploaded.

1. The applications will be reviewed in the order that they are uploaded onto OneDrive. You will receive an email confirming receipt of your submission. The email will tell you where your application stands in the queue. For example, if you are the 3rd applicant to submit you will receive an email indicating that your application is 3rd in line for review. Do not make any changes to the file after it is uploaded as this will void your application and you will be required to re-submit. Submission of an incomplete application will not 'hold your place' in line. If your application is incomplete, an appointment will not be issued and your application wil be taken out of the queue. As indicated in today's meeting, we expect all applicants to submit their best application at the time that the appointment is requested with the full body of information you want included for the CUP.

A secured, private folder has been created for each applicant on OneDrive. You will be receiving a link to the folder within the next 10 minutes. Access to this folder is restricted only to the specific email addresses that receive the invitation. We are limiting access to only two email addresses per applicant. There is no limit to the file size that can be uploaded onto OneDrive.

Once your appointment is set, you will need to bring your completed application, including required duplications, along with a check or credit card for payment of the CUP application fee. The fee is \$13,654.

At the critical time – June 12 - Staff were unclear about the standard for "COMPLETENESS" required by the City, and did not have a sample Map available

City direction states "Any changes" voids the application – **but** Harvest changed its file on July 16 adding a required document not present on June 12

In addition to suggesting "*No Gaps*", "*Substantially* Complete," and ultimately, "Complete in Good *Faith*" when meeting with applicants, Staff further stated "[your] best application... with the full body of information you want included for the CUP"

# Integral's Radius Map was not prepared by a Licensed Surveyor; and its "Supplemental" Land Use Map is wrong



Integral's supplemental "Land Use Radius Map," prepared June 11, is NOT a Radius Map – it only measures to two points from its location

Integral's "Map" measures to the wrong point - not to the "nearest property line of the affected parcel"

### Harvest's Radius Map was prepared by a mapping company, NOT a Licensed Surveyor; and was merely "certified"

RADUS	MAPS
-------	------

Data Management Services for Government and Business

June 10, 2019

169 W. Colorado Blvd. Pasadena, CA 91105

lesse Francoeur Harvest of Pasadena, LLC 1155 W. Rio Salado Pkwy., Ste. 201 Tempe, AZ 85281

Dear Mr. Francoeur:

Thank you for choosing RADIUS MAPS for your Sensitive Use Study documents. Our study determined the following:

- The zoning of your proposed cannabis site is: CD-1 AD-1
- No cannabis retailer or cultivation site was found within 1000 feet of the exterior boundary of the subject site.
- No cannabis testing laboratory was found within 500 feet of the exterior boundary of the subject site.
- No residential zones were found within 600 feet of the exterior boundary of the subject site.
- No childcare center or in-home family day care home was found within 600 feet of the exterior boundary of the subject site.
- No youth-oriented facility was identified within 600 feet of the exterior boundary of the subject site.
- No church or faith congregation was found within 600 feet of the exterior boundary of the subject site.

Radius Maps Company.....211 S. State College Blvd., Anaheim CA 92806 PH (888) 272-3487 FAX (800) 815-9619 Cell (714) 323-6031

Harvest's Map was prepared by a Mapping Company, not by a licensed surveyor

> **Licensed Surveyor letter is** clear that the Licensed Surveyor merely reviewed and did not prepare any material

With respect to ALL sensitive land use determinations, the **Licensed Surveyor deferred to** the mapping company

#### Kimley »Horn

June 12, 2019

Attn: City of Pasadena, Licensing

City of Pasadena 100 North Garfield Avenue Pasadena, CA 91101

Suite 2050 660 South Figueroa Los Angeles, California

Re: Distance Certification Letter for proposed cannabis site located at 169 W. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91105. APN 5713-004-016

The surveyor listed below has performed measurements of the subject site in relation to sensitive uses in accordance with land use information provided in the enclosed Sensitive Use Study prepared by Radius Maps, JN 19184, dated June 11, 2019. With respect to business licenses and sensitive land use determination, we defer to said study.

Utilizing scaled, high-resolution ortho-imagery, we have measured the radius rings (500', 600' & 1,000') from all corners of the subject parcel. We have reviewed the location of structures and the land use areas identified and concur with the results of the Sensitive Use Study.

We hereby certify that the distances as represented in the Sensitive Use Study are accurate both in radius and identification. We further certify that the distances to the nearest cannabis facilities, from addresses stated within the Sensitive Use Study, are accurate.

Michael J. Knapton, PLS No. 8012 Registered California Professional Land Surveyor



Attachments: Sensitive Use Study

# Atrium's Radius Map was researched, investigated and reviewed by a Licensed Surveyor; but no evidence who actually prepared the Map

#### RADIUS MAP CERTIFICATION STATEMENT CITY OF PASADENA

\_\_\_\_\_\_ has conducted a research investigation and review to identify all the sensitive receptors that surround the property located at 70 W UNION ST, PASADENA, CA.

This review has been conducted to the best of our ability and is reflected in the 600' & 1000' Land Use Map provided, utilizing the following methods:

- A physical inspection of each parcel of land within a 600 foot radius of the site to identify the specific land uses
- Internet research using various databases, such as Google Earth

Cannabis retailers shall be permitted in only the CO, CL, CG, CD and IG zoning districts and shall be subject to the following requirements:

- A. No retailer shall be established or located within 1,000 feet, measured from the nearest property lines of each of the affected parcels, of any other cannabis retailer or cultivation site, or within 500 feet of any testing laboratory; **NONE WERE EVIDENT**
- B. No retailer shall be established or located within 600 feet, measured from the nearest property lines of each of the affected parcels, of any existing residential zone; **NONE WERE EVIDENT**
- C. No retailer shall be established or located within a mixed-use development project containing a residential use component; **NONE WERE EVIDENT**
- D. No retailer shall be established or located within 600 feet, measured from the nearest property lines of each of the affected parcels, of any childcare center, in-home (family of day care home), youth-oriented facility, church or faith congregation, or substance abuse center; NONE WERE EVIDENT
- E. No retailer shall be established or located within 600 feet, measured from the nearest property lines of each of the affected parcels, of any park, library, or K-12 school; **NONE WERE EVIDENT**
- F. Retailers shall be required to comply with all zoning, land use and development regulations applicable to the underlying zoning district in which they are permitted to establish and operate as set forth in the Pasadena Municipal Code. **NONE WERE EVIDENT**

We hereby certify that the above information and Land Use Map being provided for this investigation is correct and true to the best of our knowledge and ability



Atrium's Radius Map was researched, investigated and reviewed by a Licensed Surveyor; no evidence who prepared the Map - Licensed Surveyor does not say they prepared it