

Cannabis Retail Stores

November 2020 update



What are the City's regulations for cannabis stores?

The Zoning Bylaw identifies 10 lots on which 'Cannabis Store' is a permitted use (see map on reverse) and there is a limit of 4 stores within the city. These regulations have been in effect since December 2, 2019, when Council adopted Cannabis Store Regulations Amendment Bylaw 2902-2019 and Cannabis Retail Store Policy C005-11. For information about the planning process that led to the new regulations, visit abbotsford.ca/cannabis.

↳ Why this approach?

The 4-store limit is based on direction from Council and reflects the guiding principles for the planning process endorsed in May 2019. As per the guiding principles, the City is taking measured and incremental steps in planning for cannabis stores. Eligible lots were identified through analysis of the OCP, zoning and lot size criteria, and refined based on community feedback.

Application process

A consolidated intake and competitive review process for cannabis store applications was undertaken in 2020. Applications were received during a 3-month intake period (February 3 - May 1) and processed concurrently in accordance with Council's Cannabis Retail Store Policy, including screening, public input and evaluation. Staff's recommendations were presented to Council on October 19, 2020.

What was the outcome? Council passed a resolution on October 19 to endorse 4 of the 7 applications that were under consideration (see map on reverse). Details are included in Council Report PDS 107-2020, available online at: <https://abbotsford.civicweb.net/document/56210>.

Future considerations: The intent of the City's regulatory framework has been fulfilled with Council's endorsement of 4 applications. Once all 4 stores are open and operational for a period of time, at the direction of Council, staff may review the regulatory framework and make adjustments, if needed, to improve the approach. This could include a review of City bylaws and/or Policy C005-11, including the number of permitted stores.

Locations of Zoned Lots (10) and Endorsed Applications (4)

