



## CANNABIS USE APPROVAL - FAQ

September 13, 2017

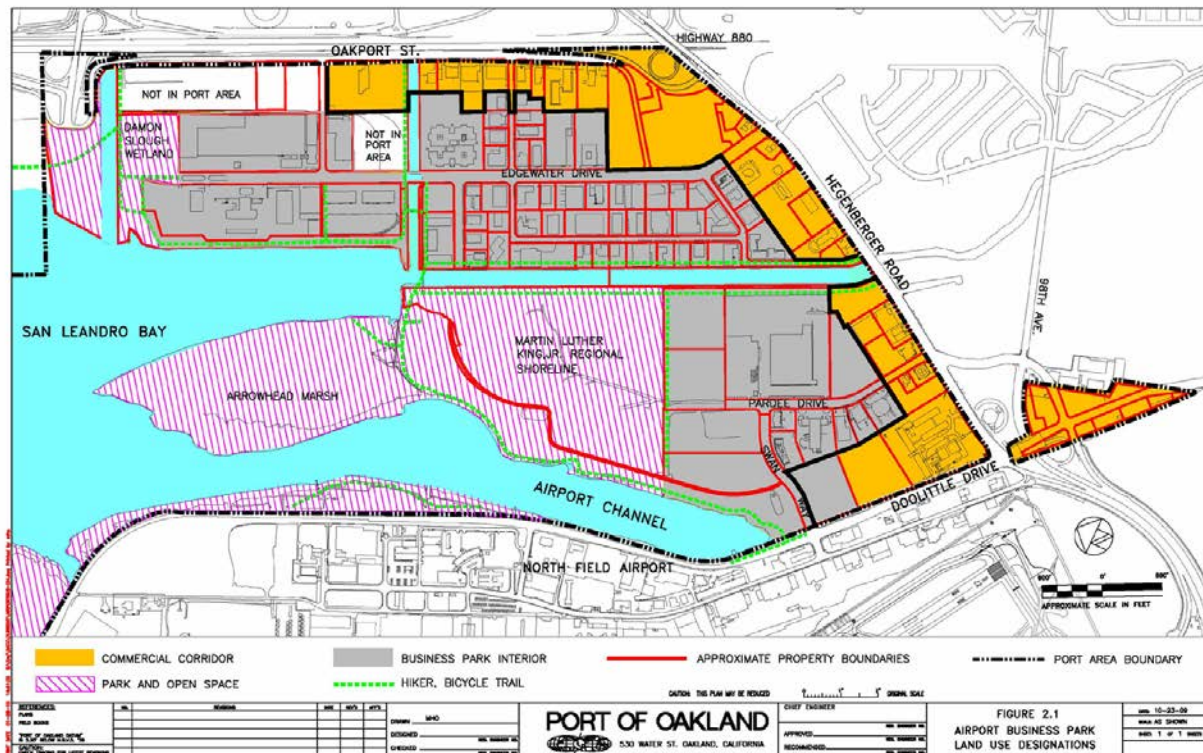
The City of Oakland has established a process to issue Special Business Permits for cultivators, delivery-only dispensaries, distributors, testing laboratories, manufacturers and transporters of medical cannabis products. Approval of the use by the Port or City Zoning Department is the first step in obtaining a Special Business Permit. The full process is described at the website below:

<http://www2.oaklandnet.com/government/o/CityAdministration/OAK064043>

Areas within the City of Oakland where Cannabis Dispensary and Non-Dispensary uses are targeted, referred to as the “Green Zone”, include the Port Area. The Port of Oakland has land use (zoning) jurisdiction in the Port Area. Cannabis-related businesses are allowed in certain areas of the Port Area under specific conditions. Having an allowed use provides the tenant with authority to obtain a City Business Permit. A Special Business Permit must be obtained from the City before operating the business.

The Port Area includes the Aviation (Airport), Maritime (Seaport), and Oakland Airport Business Park (OABP) areas. Aviation and Maritime areas are restricted to uses related to those industries (non-cannabis) and are primarily owned by the Port. The Oakland Airport Business Park (OABP) is a mix of light industrial, R&D, warehousing, and commercial uses. Most of the properties are under private ownership. This area provides opportunities for cannabis-related businesses.

The OABP is divided into three main areas: Commercial Corridor (CC), Business Park Interior (BPI), and Park and Open Space. CC and BPI areas allow for various cannabis related uses.



The full text of the ordinance can be found at the Permit web page:

<http://www.portofoakland.com/business/bids-rfps/bid-engineering/permits/>

**Allowable Uses in the OABP**

The Port does not have a conditional use permit process. Uses are “allowed” or “not allowed”, and some allowed uses are only allowed under specific conditions. Cannabis activities are allowed under various use categories.

- **Growing/Cultivation-** Indoor Agriculture is an allowed use covering this activity. This use is allowed in the BPI.
- **Extraction-** Oil extraction or other processing of plants to create raw materials is considered a Light Industrial use. This use is allowed in the BPI and on Oakport Street properties.
- **Edibles-** Creation of end products to sell in dispensaries is considered Light or Custom Manufacturing. Both uses are allowed in the BPI and on Oakport Street properties.
- **Research-** R&D activities working with cannabis and cannabis products are allowed in the BPI.
- **Dispensaries, Delivery Only-** Dispensaries that do not serve customers on site are considered a Warehouse and Distribution use, and are allowed in the BPI.
- **Dispensaries, Walk-in-** Standard dispensaries are considered Medical Service, or General Retail, which are both allowed only in the CC.
- **General Wholesale-** Wholesale activities are allowed in the BPI and on Oakport Street properties.
- **Warehousing, Storage, and Distribution-** Warehousing and distribution activities are allowed in the BPI.

**Approval Process:**

- 1) Check to see that use is approved.
- 2) Obtain authorization from property owner.
- 3) Start the Special Business Permit process with the City Business License Office.
- 4) Bring the Inspection Card to the Port for signature. Call or e-mail for an appointment.
- 5) Complete the Inspection Card.
- 6) Finish the process for City of Oakland Special Business Permit to obtain Business License.
- 7) Obtain required building permits from the Port and City for any construction or alteration work proposed to meet your business needs.

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