



Randomized Cannabis Retail License Selection Process

The randomized selection took place at City Hall with Municipal Court Judge Dan Robinson and City Attorney John Shaver moderating the process. Of the 32 applicants, most of whom were in attendance, each first confirmed their business address and name on a preprinted card. It was then folded, sealed with a sticker and placed into an acrylic drum by the city deputy clerk. If a business representative was not in attendance, the city deputy clerk managed this part of the process on their behalf. All 32 cards were tumbled and the deputy city clerk drew each card at random from the drum. As each card was selected it was assigned a number from 1-32. After all the cards were drawn, the 32 corresponding numbered balls were placed in a wire cage. Judge Robinson, who had remained outside the auditorium during the assignment of numbers, entered the room without having prior knowledge of which business received which number. He proceeded to spin the wire cage with all the numbered balls. As each numbered ball dropped into the chute, the number was read aloud and the corresponding number placed on a city map. The marks on the map corresponded with location addresses not the names of the applicants. Once all 10 licenses were selected, a list of all the applicants was projected highlighting those that may now proceed to the steps necessary to secure a regulated cannabis business license.

Applicants were not required to be present at the selection but were required to have submitted \$5,000 to secure the license should their number be drawn. Applicant deposits for anyone who was not selected will be refunded.

On March 15, 2023, the City Council adopted an emergency ordinance to amend the city code concerning the randomized selection process. That ordinance provided two additional selection processes for today's event if 1) more than two applications for possible licenses in the Horizon Drive Business Improvement District (HDBID) were selected, and 2) so that the random process could continue notwithstanding litigation with one of the applicants. Neither of the secondary processes were used today because only two licenses were drawn for HDBID and the applicant in appeal with the District Court was not drawn.

Applicants selected for a cannabis license in the randomized process will be issued a city license after having completed an application with the state. At the time of issuance of a license, the applicant is required to have paid all fees and must begin operations within 12 months of selection. If a regulated cannabis business does not begin operations within 12 months of selection through the randomized selection process, the license shall be forfeited and the business may not start operation, unless the hearing officer has granted an extension. Questions can be directed to 970.244.1509. or cityclerk@gjcity.org

At the April 6, 2022, regular meeting, City Council adopted [Ordinance No. 5064 \(PDF\)](#) related to including certain cannabis use licenses and regulations in the Grand Junction Municipal Code (GJMC), and [Ordinance No. 5065 \(PDF\)](#), which articulates the uses of the special sales and use tax and excise tax of 6 percent from the City's regular sales tax collection of 3.25 percent. The total number of stores allowed in city limits will be capped at a maximum of ten (10).

On May 4, 2022, City Council adopted [Ordinance No. 5070 \(PDF\)](#) related to cannabis business licensing land use regulations including use standards, buffering, and signage requirements.

To operate legally, cannabis businesses must follow both City and State rules and regulations.