The objectives of the Medical Marijuana Measure are as follow:

- Establish a specific area within the City where the limited types of medical marijuana business can be located (see map for proposed locations);
- Reaffirm the existing ban on cultivation and dispensaries within the City; and
- Impose a tax on all types of marijuana businesses at a rate of 6% of gross receipts.

The Medical Marijuana Measure will compete with two other measures: “Allow Operation of up to Four Licensed Medical Marijuana Businesses within the City of Costa Mesa” and “Allow Operation of up to Eight Licensed Medical Marijuana (Cannabis) Businesses within the City of Costa Mesa”. If a majority of voters approve the Medical Marijuana Measure and either or both of the the above stated measures, the one with the higher percentage of the vote will control.

If it passes, the measure shall take effect immediately.

Significant Years in California Medical Marijuana History

1996 California Voters approve Proposition 215 (Compassionate Use Act (CUA)) which exempts certain patients and their caregivers from criminal liability under state law for possession or cultivation of marijuana for medical purposes.

2003 California enacts Senate Bill 420 (Medical Marijuana Program Act) which clarifies the CUA and authorizes local governing entities to adopt and enforce laws.


2014 The House of Representatives votes to stop federal law enforcement from interfering with medical marijuana operations in states which have decriminalized such operations.

2015 Governor Jerry Brown signed the Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act into law which provides a regulatory framework for licensing, control and taxation of medical marijuana related businesses.
The City of Costa Mesa is adding a measure to the Nov. 8 ballot titled *City of Costa Mesa Medical Marijuana Measure*. The measure is related to medical marijuana businesses and does not conflict with federal guidelines nor does it permit any activity that is prohibited under any applicable law.

Although marijuana remains an illegal substance under federal law, guidelines have been issued to allow state-specific regulations for the control of marijuana products as long as those regulations are consistent with state law. California law grants local governments the authority to regulate land use to allow, restrict, limit or entirely prohibit facilities that distribute medical marijuana.

Currently, the City of Costa Mesa prohibits cultivation and dispensaries and is only proposing to establish reasonable land use controls and operations for the establishment of limited, non retail types of medical marijuana businesses. These limited types of medical marijuana businesses include: wholesale distributors, manufacturers, research and testing laboratories, processors, and transporters as defined by existing state law.

**Measure X**