

CITY OF WELLINGTON

Ballot Question 2B- Allowing the sale of Medical and Retail Marijuana in the Town of Wellington.

“SHALL THE SALE OF RETAIL AND MEDICAL MARIJUANA BE LAWFUL IN THE TOWN OF WELLINGTON AND SHALL THE TOWN BE AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE LICENSES FOR THE SALE OF RETAIL MARIJUANA AND MEDICAL MARIJUANA IN THE C-3 ZONING DISTRICT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REFERRAL ORDINANCE SUBMITTED TO THE TOWN BOARD BY THE TOWN CLERK ON MAY 11, 2021 AND PUBLISHED ON THE TOWN’S WEBSITE?”

Background: The State of Colorado legalized use of medical marijuana in 2000, and retail/recreational marijuana in 2014, subject to regulation of cultivation, processing, testing, sales, and taxation. The state laws allow local governments to authorize or prohibit these activities locally. The City of Fort Collins began allowing retail sales of marijuana in 2014. Thus far, the Town of Wellington has prohibited the operation of facilities for marijuana cultivation, product manufacturing or testing, and retail marijuana stores. In 2020 a citizen’s initiative was submitted to the Wellington Town Board to allow the sale of medical and retail marijuana in the Town. The petition had flaws and was not submitted to voters. The Wellington Board of Trustees feels that the question of whether retail or medical marijuana sales should be allowed in the Town should be decided by the voters, and has submitted a corrected petition for the November 2, 2021 election, along with an initial regulatory scheme that includes the authority to modify the regulatory scheme if needed, after 11 months.

Major Provisions:

- The Town’s ban on medical and retail marijuana sales would be repealed.
- Sales allowed only in licensed marijuana stores, subject to regulations controlling licensing, fees, record keeping, the type of commercial zoning district, distance from schools, public areas and residential neighborhoods, and other marijuana stores.
- If passed, it would go into effect on February 1, 2022.

Pros and Cons:

At the time the League of Women Voters of Larimer County compiled this information, no formal statements of support or opposition to this measure had been published in local or county newspapers. If formal statements were filed with the County Clerk’s Office, they will be included in the Larimer County Voter Information publication.