



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
MAYOR KATJANA BALLANTYNE

May 29, 2025

CITY OF SOMERVILLE MASSACHUSETTS

**EXECUTIVE ORDER EXTENDING A MORATORIUM ON NEW RETAIL MARIJUANA
HOST COMMUNITY AGREEMENTS**

WHEREAS, By vote at the State election on November 8, 2016, the voters of the Commonwealth approved legislation regulating commerce in marijuana, marijuana accessories, and marijuana products and for the taxation of proceeds from sales of such products. It also authorized cities and towns to adopt reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of operating marijuana businesses; and

WHEREAS, The City of Somerville amended the Somerville Code of ordinances, and adopted new zoning ordinances authorizing, among other uses, Marijuana Retail Establishments, also referred to as Marijuana Retailers or Cannabis Retail Sales; and

WHEREAS, The City of Somerville, through the Office of the Mayor, has entered into 13 Host Community Agreements (“HCAs”) with prospective Marijuana Retail Establishments; and

WHEREAS, On November 29, 2023, I entered an executive order adopting a temporary moratorium on accepting new HCA applications for Marijuana Retail Establishments, so as to allow the City sufficient time to study, to reflect, and to engage in a planning process for locating future Marijuana Retail Establishments; and

WHEREAS, The City continues an economic study regarding the number of Marijuana Retail Establishments present in the City; and

WHEREAS, Additional time is required to complete the purposes under which the moratorium was adopted.

THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED, by the Mayor, pursuant to her authority as Chief Executive Officer for the City of Somerville:

1. That from the date of this order, the Mayor shall not execute a Host Community Agreement for any new prospective Marijuana Retail Establishment.





2. The November 29, 2023 Executive Order shall remain in effect for an additional nine (9) months from the date of its signing, subject to further extensions as may be required to complete the goals of this Order, or until such time as it is rescinded.
3. This Order shall apply to all Marijuana Retail Establishments.
4. This Order shall not apply to Marijuana Retail Establishments that have already executed an HCA with the City of Somerville.
5. This Order shall not apply to any person or entity acquiring a Marijuana Retail Establishment that has previously executed an HCA with the City of Somerville and is engaged in a Court Supervised Proceeding, as defined by 935 CMR 500.002.
6. Notwithstanding the above, the Mayor may sign additional Host Community Agreements as may be required to comply with the minimum number of Marijuana Retail licenses required under Section 2-221(b)(1) of the Somerville Code of Ordinances.

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne

Date: May 29, 2025