

## **Natural Medicine Ordinance**

Town Council Kelsey Thede, Deputy Town Clerk Kelly Driscoll, Planning Manager

Nov. 12, 2024



## **Overview**

- Background
- Proposal
- Decision



# **Background – What is Natural Medicine?**

Defined to include psilocybin/psilocyn

- The definition does not include synthetic or synthetic analogs of these substances. Nor does it include peyote (except ceremonial).
- "Natural medicine product" means products infused with natural medicine that is intended for consumption.



# **Background – State Action**

#### Prop 122

Decriminalized cultivation, possession, consumption and sharing of natural medicine for personal use for persons 21 and over. SB 23-290

Amended Prop 122 to clarify and establish regulatory framework.



# **Background - Timing**

- November 2022 Prop 122 passed by Colorado voters (53.64%)
- Dec. 30, 2022 decriminalized personal use and possession by 21+
- Dec. 31, 2024 State licensing, certification, permitting and registration of businesses will be in place
- Jan. 1, 2025 State to issue licenses after this date



# **Background – State Requirements**

- 1,000 feet from property line of childcare centers, preschools, elementary, middle, junior or high schools or residential childcare facilities.
- Municipalities can vary the distance restrictions or may eliminate one or more types of schools or facilities.



# **Background – State Restrictions**

- Cannot prohibit establishment or operation of licenses within Town boundaries.
- Cannot adopt ordinances or regulations that are unreasonable or conflict with the Colorado Natural Medicine Code.
- Cannot prohibit transportation on public roads by licensed individuals.



# Background – What can the Town regulate?

Time, place, and manner

- Hours of operation
- Zoning Districts, and distance requirements
- Other operational requirements



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# **Proposed Ordinance**

Creation of new chapter in Title 10 (UDC)

- Chapter 15 Natural Medicine
- Natural Medicine Healing Centers
  - Allowed in Business (B), and Community Commercial (CC) districts
- Natural Medicine Business
  - Allowed in Light Industrial (LI)



## **Proposed Ordinance**

#### Distance

- 1,000 feet from childcare center, preschool, elementary, middle, junior or high school, residential childcare facility
- 250 feet from residences

#### **Operations**

- 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Saturday for healing centers
- 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday for all others
- Odor confined to premise
- Secure disposal of remnants or by-products
- Processing with hazardous materials is prohibited



Schools or Childcare Facilities
School or Childcare Property
Parks & Open Spaces
Ineligible Areas\*

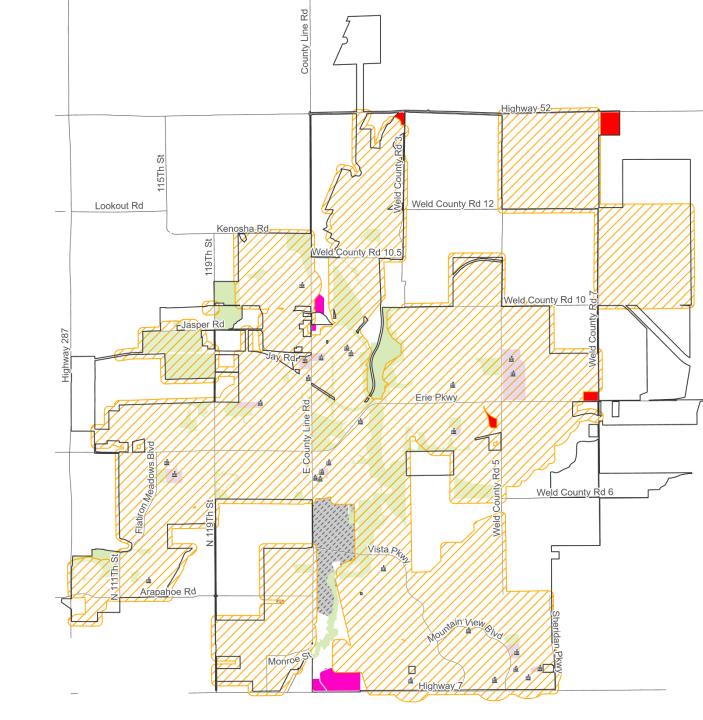
#### **Proposed Zoning Districts Allowing Natural Medicine Businesses**

Community Commercial (CC)

Business (B)

Light Industrial (LI)

\*areas within 1,000 feet from schools or childcare, and 250 feet from residential





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# Approval Criteria – 10-7-18

- a. The proposed amendment will promote the public health, safety, and general welfare;
- b. The proposed amendment is generally consistent with the Town's Comprehensive Master Plan and the stated purposes of this UDC; and
- c. The proposed amendment is necessary or desirable because of changing conditions, new planning concepts, or other social or economic conditions.



## **Public Notice**

Published in the Colorado Hometown Weekly Oct. 23, 2024



# **Planning Commission Summary**

Considered the draft ordinance at their Oct. 16 meeting Discussion included:

- Allowed zoning districts and potential overlap with retail marijuana
- Limits on number of stores
- Operational hours
- Listing of carbon dioxide as hazardous

Unanimously passed resolution P24-15



# **Operational Hours**

Setting operational hours of healing centers could be restrictive and exclude indigenous practices

- Sessions typically last six to eight hours
- State laws in place to ensure safe discharge, transportation, etc.

Alternative version of ordinance provided removing the operational hours for healing centers:

• M-F, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., hours of operation remain for cultivation facility, manufacturer, or medicine testing



## **Staff Recommendation**

Adopt Ordinance 041-2024, or alternate, amending Title 10 of the Erie Municipal Code regarding Natural Medicine



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