



## KITTITAS COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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"Building Partnerships – Building Communities"

### AGENDA STAFF REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** November 18, 2013

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Approval of Resolution Establishing Policy to treat Growth, Processing, and Retail Sales as Agriculture Production, Agriculture Processing, and Retail Sales within the Kittitas County Code

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**BACKGROUND:** The State began to implement Initiative 502 approved by the public in 2012. The State Department of Liquor Control has adopted initial guidelines for growth, processing and sale of marijuana throughout the State. Two million acres of marijuana will be allowed throughout the State of Washington, and the Liquor Control has developed guidelines for such activity. Between the period of November 18, 2013 and December 18, 2013, the State will accept license applications from companies and individuals as the first step in the process for allowing the growth and processing of the plant.

A high number of individuals and companies throughout the State have made inquiry to Community Development Services as to the County's policy to permit growth and process of the marijuana plant. Staff has initially indicated to potential growers and processors that the growth of marijuana will be handled by the existing zoning criteria, Kittitas County Code Title 17. The existing Code allows "agriculture production" (which includes product growth) and "agriculture processing" as defined in KCC 17.08 within a number of zones throughout the County. It is proposed that formal policy through the approval of the attached resolution be used to respond to potential buyers in their pursuit of license to grow and process marijuana over the next month. The resolution is intended to provide present and potential policy which may result in potential revenue for local government in production of the product.

**INTERACTION:** CDS and the Board of County Commissioners

**ATTACHMENTS:** Resolution for Policy for Marijuana Growth and Processing

#### STAFF

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends that the Board approve the attached Resolution and requests the signature by the Board as soon as it is adopted in order to permit CDS to provide formal response to individuals requesting information as they apply for State license.

**HANLDING:** Returning the signed resolution to responsible staff.

**RESPONSIBLE STAFF:** Robert "Doc" Hansen, Planning Official

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