

# CITY OF COLFAX

## ORDINANCE NO. 534

### AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COLFAX REPEALING MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 17.162 AND REPLACING IT WITH CANNABIS REGULATIONS

The City Council of the City of Colfax does ordain as follows:

#### Section 1:

Colfax Municipal Code Chapter 17.162 is hereby repealed and replaced with the Ordinance attached hereto as Exhibit A which is incorporated herein by this reference.

#### Section 2. Superceding Provisions

The provisions of this Ordinance and any resolution adopted pursuant hereto shall supersede and repeal any previous Ordinance or resolution to the extent the same is in conflict herewith.

#### Section 3. Severability

If any section, phrase, sentence or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by the final judgment of any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision; and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.

#### Section 4. California Environmental Quality Act Findings

The City of Colfax finds that, if the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resources Code §21000 et seq (hereinafter "CEQA") apply, the title of this ordinance would constitute a brief description of the "Project" as required by Section 15062(a)(1) of the Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act published by the State of California Office of Planning and Research (the "CEQA Guidelines").

#### FINDING OF NO PROJECT

The City of Colfax finds that adoption of this ordinance does not constitute a "Project" as that term is defined by or used in CEQA, the CEQA Guidelines or any court or attorney general opinion construing the same. Accordingly, the City of Colfax finds that the provisions of CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines are not applicable to said action.

FINDING OF EXEMPTION

In the event that it is found that the said action constitutes a "Project" as defined by or used in CEQA or the CEQA Guidelines, which finding would be contrary to the City's opinion of its action, the City of Colfax hereby finds that said action is exempt from compliance with CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines, for the following reasons: The action falls within the exemptions provided by Senate Bill 94, and within the "common sense" CEQA exemption provided in 14 CCR 15061(b)(3) in that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the action may have a significant effect on the environment, the action is not subject to CEQA. CEQA Guidelines, Section 15061(b)(3). It can be seen with certainty that adoption of this ordinance and its provisions cannot possibly have a significant effect on the environment.

Section 5. Effective Date

This Ordinance, and all of its provisions, shall take effect thirty (30) days after its adoption and shall, within 15 days after its adoption, be published or posted in accordance with Section 36933 of the Government Code of the State of California with the names of those City Council members voting for and against it.

The foregoing Ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Colfax held on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2017, and passed at a regular meeting of the City Council held on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2017, at a duly held regular meeting of the City of Colfax, by the following vote:

AYES: Douglass, Hesch, Mendoza, Stockwin  
NOES: Harvey  
ABSENT: None



Stephen L. Harvey, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Alfred Cabral  
City Attorney

ATTEST:



Lorraine Cassidy  
City Clerk

## COLFAX MUNICIPAL CODE

### CHAPTER 17.162

#### CANNABIS REGULATIONS

Colfax Municipal Code Chapter 17.162 is hereby repealed and replaced with the following provisions.

##### 17.162.010 Application

The provisions of this chapter shall apply generally to all property throughout the City of Colfax wherein any of the conditions herein specified are found to exist. However, nothing in this chapter is intended, nor shall it be construed, to burden any defense to criminal prosecution under the Compassionate Use Act of 1996, codified as California Health and Safety Code Section 11362.5 (the "CUA"), the Medical Marijuana Program codified as California Health and Safety Code Sections 11362.7 et seq., (the "MMP"), the Medical Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act ("MCRSA") or the Adult Use Of Marijuana Act passed and adopted by the voters in November, 2016 (the "AUMA") as the MCRSA and AUMA were enacted or as they have been repealed or amended by the Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act ("MAUCRSA").

##### 17.162.020 Administration.

The City Manager or designee, the Placer County Sheriff, the Placer County Chief Building Official, and any employee designated by any of those persons, are authorized to administer and enforce this chapter to ensure compliance.

##### 17.162.030 Definitions

As used herein, the following definitions shall govern the construction of this chapter:

"Abatement costs" mean any costs or expenses reasonably related to the abatement of conditions which violate this chapter, and shall include, but not be limited to, enforcement, investigation, attorneys' fees, collection and administrative costs, and the costs associated with removal or correction of the violation.

"Accessory structure" means a structure that is accessory to any principal structure and customarily a part thereof, which is clearly incidental and secondary to the principal structure and is significantly smaller in area than the principal structure and does not change the character of the principal structure or principal use of the premises.

"Administrative costs" mean the cost of City staff time and Placer County Sheriff time reasonably related to enforcement, for items including, but not limited to, site inspections, travel time, investigations, telephone contacts and time spent preparing summaries, reports, notices, correspondence, warrants and hearing packets, and the time expended by the code enforcement officer or designee to calculate the above costs and prepare itemized invoices, may also be recovered.

“Authorized grower” means any person, including a person with an identification card, primary caregiver, or qualified patient, who is authorized by state law to grow cannabis for personal medical or non-medical use in compliance with local and state laws that authorize such cannabis cultivation.

“Cannabis,” “marijuana” “medical cannabis,” “medical marijuana,” and/or “marijuana products” shall be used interchangeably and means all parts of the plant *Cannabis sativa* Linnaeus, *Cannabis indica*, or *Cannabis ruderalis*, whether growing or not; the seeds thereof; the resin, whether crude or purified, extracted from any part of the plant; and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plant, its seeds, or resin. “Cannabis” also means the separated resin, whether crude or purified, obtained from cannabis. “Cannabis” does not include the mature stalks of the plant, fiber produced from the stalks, oil or cake made from the seeds of the plant, any other compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the mature stalks (except the resin extracted therefrom), fiber, oil, or cake, or the sterilized seed of the plant which is incapable of germination. For the purpose of this division, “cannabis” does not mean “industrial hemp” as defined by Section 11018.5 of the Health and Safety Code.

“Cannabis plant” means any mature or immature cannabis plant (and/or cannabis plant clone), or any cannabis seedling, unless otherwise specifically provided herein.

“Child care center” means any licensed child care center, or any daycare center, or childcare home, or any preschool.

“Church” means a structure or leased portion of a structure, which is used primarily for religious worship and related religious activities.

“Commercial cannabis activity” includes cultivation, possession, manufacture, distribution, processing, storing, laboratory testing, packaging, labeling, transporting, delivery or sale of cannabis or cannabis products.

“Cultivation” means any activity involving the planting, growing, trimming, harvesting, drying, curing, grading, processing or storage of one or more cannabis plants or any part thereof in any location, indoor or outdoor, including a fully enclosed and secure structure or accessory structure.

“Dispensary” means any facility, location, establishment or similar entity that distributes, delivers, or supplies cannabis for any purpose and shall include but not be limited to a dispensing collective or cooperative.

“Code enforcement officer” means any person authorized by the City of Colfax to administer this chapter or his or her authorized deputies or designees, each of whom is independently authorized to enforce this chapter.

“Fence (solid)” means a barrier constructed of wood or other materials which form an opaque screen.

“Fence (other than solid)” means a barrier constructed of posts made of wood, metal or any other rigid material connected with wire, fabric, boards or other materials which is intended to demarcate a boundary, separate land uses, secure animals, enclose property, exclude people and animals from a designated area, and the like, and which does not form a visually opaque screen.

“Fully enclosed and secure structure” means a space within a building that has been approved by the City of Colfax and complies with the California Building Code, as adopted by the City of Colfax, or if exempt from the permit requirements of the California Building Code, that has a complete roof enclosure supported by connecting walls extending from the ground to the roof; a foundation, slab or equivalent base to which the floor is secured by bolts or similar attachments, is secured against unauthorized entry; and is accessible through one or more lockable doors. Walls and roofs must be constructed of solid materials that cannot be easily penetrated or breached, such as two-inch by four-inch nominal or thicker studs overlaid with three-eighths inch or thicker plywood or the equivalent. Plastic sheeting, regardless of gauge, or similar products, do not satisfy this requirement. If indoor grow lights or air filtration systems are used, they must comply with the California Building, Electrical, and Fire Codes as adopted or applied by the City of Colfax. Any detached, fully-enclosed and secure structure used for the cultivation of marijuana must have a ventilation and filtration system installed that shall prevent marijuana plant odors from exiting the interior of the structure except through the ventilation and filtration system. Such structure shall be located in the rear yard area of a legal parcel or premises, maintain the setbacks set forth in the Colfax Municipal Code and the area surrounding the structure or back yard must be enclosed by a solid fence at least six feet in height. When this chapter allows that cultivation of marijuana occur indoors, the harvest of such marijuana shall also be accomplished indoors.

“Harvest” includes but is not limited to the drying, processing, or storage of marijuana which may only occur within a fully enclosed and secure structure or accessory structure.

“Immature cannabis plant” means a cannabis plant, whether male or female, that has not yet flowered and which does not yet have buds that are readily observed by unaided visual examination.

“Indoors” means within a fully enclosed and secure structure or accessory structure.

“Legal parcel” means any parcel of real property that may be separately sold in compliance with the Subdivision Map Act (Division 2 (commencing with Section 66410) of Title 7 of the Government Code).

“Manufacture” means to compound, blend, extract, infuse, or otherwise make or prepare a cannabis product.

“Manufacturer” means a person that conducts the production, preparation, propagation, or compounding of cannabis or cannabis products either directly or indirectly or by extraction methods, or independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis at a fixed location that packages or repackages cannabis or cannabis products or labels or re-labels its container.

“Manufacturing” means the producing, preparing, propagating, or compounding of cannabis or cannabis products either directly or indirectly or by extraction methods, or independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis at a fixed location that packages or repackages cannabis or cannabis products or labels or re-labels its container.

“Mature cannabis plant” means a cannabis plant, whether male or female, that has flowered and which has buds that are readily observed by unaided visual examination.

“Medical marijuana collective” means qualified patients, persons with valid identification cards, and the designated primary caregivers of qualified patients who associate by agreement, or form a cooperative within the City in order to collectively or cooperatively cultivate marijuana for medical purposes, as provided in Health and Safety Code Section 11362.775. The term collective shall include “cooperative” unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

“Outdoor” or “outdoors” means any location within the City of Colfax that is not within a fully enclosed and secure structure or accessory structure as defined herein.

“Parcel” means a “legal parcel” as defined herein and a property assigned a separate parcel number by the Placer County assessor.

“Person” means any individual, partnership, co-partnership, firm, association, joint stock company, corporation, limited liability company, cooperative or combination of the above in whatever form or character.

“Premises” means a single, legal parcel of property that includes an occupied legal residence, such as a house, an apartment, a condominium, a mobile home or other similar dwelling, which is a dwelling in compliance with the Colfax Municipal Code and has also met the requirements of this chapter. Where contiguous legal parcels are under common control or ownership, such contiguous legal parcels shall be counted as a single “premises” for purposes of this chapter.

“Primary caregiver” shall have the meaning set forth in Health and Safety Code Section 11362.7(d), as may be amended.

“Private residence” means a house, a duplex, an apartment unit, a condominium, a townhouse, a mobile home or other similar dwelling or premises.

“Qualified patient” shall have the meaning set forth in Health and Safety Code Section 11362.7(f), as may be amended.

“Recommendation” means a written current recommendation signed by a licensed California physician pursuant to Health and Safety Code Sections 11362.5 and 11362.7.

“Residential treatment facility” means a facility provided for treatment of drug and alcohol dependency, including any “sober living facility” run by treatment providers for the benefit of transitional living.

“School” means an institution of learning for minors, whether public or private, offering a regular course of instruction required by the California Education Code, or any child or day care facility. This definition includes a nursery school, kindergarten, elementary school, middle or junior high school, senior high school, or any special institution of education, but it does not include a vocational or professional institution of higher education, including a community or junior college, college or university.

“Youth-oriented facility” means elementary school, middle school, junior high school, high school, public park, and any establishment that advertises in a manner that identifies the establishment as catering to or providing services primarily intended for minors, or the individuals who regularly patronize, congregate or assemble at the establishment are predominantly minors. This shall not include a day care or preschool facility.

17.162.040 Outdoor Cannabis Cultivation

A. When authorized by state law, an authorized grower shall be allowed to cultivate cannabis outdoors for personal use only, subject to the regulations in this chapter and elsewhere in the Colfax Municipal Code and the following restrictions:

1. The regulations of this chapter and the Colfax Municipal Code shall apply to all outdoor cultivation of cannabis; and
2. A maximum of six plants on no more than one-hundred (100) square feet in total is allowed for outdoor cultivation of cannabis per parcel with a private residence. Cannabis plants may be cultivated on no more than one-hundred (100) square feet in total per parcel with a private residence, regardless of the number of authorized growers, qualified patients or primary caregivers residing in a private residence on the parcel. The total combined outdoor cultivation of cannabis per parcel with a private residence shall not exceed one-hundred (100) square feet at any time. For the purposes of this section, the area used to cultivate cannabis shall be measured by the aggregate area of vegetative growth of live cannabis plants on the premises; and
3. All outdoor cultivation of cannabis may only occur on a parcel with the private residence of the authorized grower, and the authorized grower may only cultivate cannabis on one parcel and may not cultivate outdoors if there is any indoor cannabis cultivation occurring on the parcel; and
4. All outdoor cultivation shall be setback by a minimum of ten (10) feet from all parcel property lines; and
5. All outdoor cultivation shall not be closer to an existing private residence on an adjoining property than to the private residence of the authorized grower on the parcel whereon the outdoor cultivation site is located; and
6. All outdoor cultivation shall be screened (~~with a solid fence~~) from all public rights-of-way, private access easements, and exterior property lines of the parcel where the outdoor cultivation takes place to prevent being easily visible to individuals on adjoining parcels

or to individuals either passing through or by the subject parcel, and to prevent members of the public from gaining access; and

7. The use of volatile solvents is prohibited. For purposes of this ordinance, “volatile solvent” means volatile organic compounds, including but not limited to: (1) explosive gasses such as Butane, Propane, Xylene, Styrene, Gasoline, Kerosene, O<sub>2</sub> or H<sub>2</sub>; and (2) dangerous poisons, toxins, or carcinogens, such as Methanol, Iso-propyl Alcohol, Methylene Chloride, Acetone, Benzene, Toluene, and Tri-chloro-ethylene.

8. The parcel where the outdoor cannabis is cultivated shall not be located within six hundred (600) feet of any school, church, park, library, child care center, or youth-oriented facility. Such distance shall be measured in a straight line from the fence or other enclosure to the nearest boundary line of the premises upon which the school, church, park, child care center, or youth-oriented facility is located. For the purposes of this chapter, a youth-oriented facility is any facility used for and predominantly occupied by individuals under eighteen (18) years of age, including (but not limited to) a boys or girls club, an indoor or outdoor soccer field, a little league baseball field, an amusement park, and a community swimming facility; and

9. The area for the outdoor cultivation of cannabis shall not adversely affect the health or safety of the occupants of the parcel or any other property by creating dust, glare, heat, noise, noxious gasses, odor, smoke, traffic, vibration, mold, or other impacts, and shall not be maintained so as to constitute a hazard due to use or storage of materials, processes, products or wastes; and

10. All outdoor cultivation shall be in accordance with applicable regulations set forth in the Colfax Municipal Code and any codes incorporated therein; and

11. All outdoor cultivation which exists prior to the enactment of this ordinance must be in compliance with applicable regulations set forth in the Colfax Municipal Code and any codes incorporated therein, and the regulations in this chapter.

B. It is hereby declared to be unlawful, a public nuisance and a violation of this chapter for any person owning, leasing, occupying, or having charge or possession of any parcel within the City of Colfax to cause or allow such parcel to be used for the outdoor cultivation of cannabis, unless the person is authorized by state law to grow cannabis, and such authorized grower is complying with the Colfax Municipal Code and any codes incorporated therein, and the regulations in this chapter.

C. A public nuisance may also be deemed to exist, if such activity produces: (1) odors which are disturbing to people of normal sensitivity residing or present on adjacent or nearby property or areas open to the public; (2) repeated responses to the parcel or residence from enforcement officers; (3) a repeated disruption to the free passage of persons or vehicles in the immediate neighborhood, (4) excessive noise which is disturbing to people of normal sensitivity on adjacent or nearby property or areas open to the public; and (5) any other impacts on the neighborhood which are disruptive of normal activity in the area.



17.162.050 Indoor Cannabis Cultivation.

A. When authorized by state law, an authorized grower shall be allowed to cultivate cannabis indoors for personal use, subject to the following restrictions:

1. The regulations of this chapter and the Colfax Municipal Code shall apply to all indoor cultivation of cannabis; and

2. The indoor cultivation of cannabis is on a parcel upon which the private residence of the authorized grower is located. Each authorized grower may use only one private residence for the cultivation of cannabis. If the parcel and private residence are not owned by the authorized grower, the authorized grower must have a legal right to occupy and use the parcel and private residence to cultivate cannabis. The authorized grower shall obtain a written statement from the owner or owners of the parcel and private residence as proof to demonstrate that the owner or owners have acknowledged, consented to and granted permission to the authorized grower for the cultivation of cannabis in an amount in accordance with this chapter. Nothing provided in this chapter requires the owner or owners of the parcel and private residence to consent to and allow the cultivation of cannabis by an authorized grower. Nothing provided in this chapter authorizes the cultivation of cannabis in violation of the rules of a home owner's association, deed restrictions, or other property conditions and covenants. If there is more than one owner of the parcel and private residence, all owners must have acknowledged, consented to and granted permission to the authorized grower for the cultivation of cannabis in an amount in accordance with this chapter. The written statement shall be dated and signed by the owner or owners of the parcel and private residence. The written statement shall be valid for twelve (12) months from the signing of the written statement. If ownership of the parcel or private residence changes during the twelve (12) month period after the previous owner or owners had granted permission for the cultivation of cannabis, the authorized grower must obtain, within thirty (30) days of the change of ownership, a new permission statement from the new owner or owners of the parcel and private residence. Upon request by a code enforcement officer, the authorized grower shall provide the written statement from the owner or owners of the parcel and private residence as proof that the owner or owners have acknowledged, consented to and granted permission to the authorized grower for the cultivation of cannabis; and

3. All indoor cultivation of cannabis may only occur inside a private residence that is a fully enclosed and secure structure located on the parcel or inside an accessory structure to a private residence that is a fully enclosed and secure structure on the parcel. There shall be no indoor cannabis cultivation if there is any outdoor cannabis cultivation occurring on the parcel at the same time; and

4. A maximum of six plants on no more than one-hundred (100) square feet is allowed for cultivation of cannabis in total per parcel inside a private residence that is a fully enclosed and secure structure or inside an accessory structure to a private residence that is a fully enclosed and secure structure on a parcel. Cannabis plants may be cultivated on no more than one-hundred (100) square feet in total per parcel inside a private residence that is a fully enclosed and secure structure or inside an accessory structure to a private residence that is a fully enclosed and structure on a parcel, regardless of the number of authorized growers, qualified patients or

primary caregivers residing in a private residence on the parcel. The total combined indoor cultivation of cannabis per parcel with a private residence shall not exceed one-hundred (100) square feet at any time. For the purposes of this section, the area used to cultivate cannabis shall be measured by the aggregate area of vegetative growth of live cannabis plants on the premises; and

5. The area used for cultivation complies with applicable California Building, Plumbing, Mechanical, Electrical and Fire Codes, and the parcel has: (1) a permitted permanent water well or connection to a public water source drawing water, (2) does not engage in unlawful or unpermitted surface drawing of water for such cultivation, (3) does not permit illegal discharges of water from the parcel, (4) the parcel where the cultivation of cannabis takes place shall either be connected to a public sewer system or have a City or Placer County inspected and permitted sewage disposal system; and

6. The use of volatile solvents is prohibited. For purposes of this ordinance, “volatile solvent” means volatile organic compounds, including but not limited to: (1) explosive gasses such as Butane, Propane, Xylene, Styrene, Gasoline, Kerosene, O<sub>2</sub> or H<sub>2</sub>; and (2) dangerous poisons, toxins, or carcinogens, such as Methanol, Iso-propyl Alcohol, Methylene Chloride, Acetone, Benzene, Toluene, and Tri-chloro-ethylene.; and

7. The cultivation of cannabis is concealed/secured so that it is not visible from the exterior of the private residence or accessory structure, the parcel, the public right-of-way, and/or neighboring properties, and is not accessible by underaged occupants or the general public; and

8. The area for the cultivation of cannabis shall not adversely affect the health or safety of the occupants of the private residence or the parcel or any other property by creating dust, glare, heat, noise, noxious gasses, odor, smoke, traffic, vibration, mold, or other impacts, and shall not be maintained to constitute a hazard due to use or storage of materials, processes, products or wastes; and

9. All indoor cultivation is in accordance with applicable regulations set forth in the Colfax Municipal Code and any codes incorporated therein, and the regulations in this chapter; and

10. All indoor cultivation which exists prior to the enactment of this ordinance must be in compliance with applicable regulations set forth in the Colfax Municipal Code and any codes incorporated therein, and the regulations in this chapter.

B. It is hereby declared to be unlawful, a public nuisance and a violation of this chapter for any person owning, leasing, occupying, or having charge or possession of any parcel within the City of Colfax to cause or allow such parcel to be used for the indoor cultivation of cannabis, unless the person is authorized by state law to grow cannabis, and such authorized grower is complying with all requirements of this chapter.

C. A public nuisance may also be deemed to exist, if such activity produces: (1) odors which are disturbing to people of normal sensitivity residing or present on adjacent or nearby property

or areas open to the public; (2) repeated responses to the parcel or residence from enforcement officers; (3) a repeated disruption to the free passage of persons or vehicles in the immediate neighborhood, (4) excessive noise which is disturbing to people of normal sensitivity on adjacent or nearby property or areas open to the public; or (5) any other impacts on the neighborhood which are disruptive of normal activity in the area.

#### 17.162.060 Commercial Cannabis Activity Prohibited.

It is unlawful for any person to engage in conduct or carry on, or to permit to be engaged in, conducted or carried on, in or upon any parcel, premises or location within the City of Colfax, commercial cannabis activity, except for the transportation of medical cannabis, medical cannabis products, marijuana and marijuana products on public roads by a state licensee transporting medical cannabis, medical cannabis products, marijuana or marijuana products in compliance with state law.

#### 17.162.070 Manufacturing Cannabis Activity Prohibited

It is unlawful for any person to engage in, conduct or carry on, or to permit to be engaged in, conducted or carried on, in or upon any premises or location within the City of Colfax, manufacturing cannabis activity.

#### 17.162.080 Cannabis Dispensaries Prohibited

It is unlawful for any person to engage in, conduct or carry on, or to permit to be engaged in, conducted or carried on, in or upon any premises or location within the City of Colfax, the operation of a cannabis dispensary, and/or processing facility, and/or testing laboratory. The sole exception to this prohibition is that one medical marijuana dispensary that existed and had a valid City business license as of November 27, 2009 shall be conditionally allowed subject to the provisions of the Colfax Municipal Code, as amended or replaced from time-to-time. In addition thereto, such dispensary shall become a prohibited use and shall not be allowed to engage in business in Colfax upon the happening of any of the following events:

- A. The operators of the dispensary, or any of its owners, are convicted of any crime other than an infraction relating to the operation of the dispensary;
- B. The dispensary becomes a public nuisance;
- C. The dispensary or its operators violate any provision of this Code relating to its operation;
- D. The dispensary is closed for any reason.
- E. The dispensary's activities are curtailed by the action of a superior governmental authority, by order of any court of competent jurisdiction, or by other valid legal process; or
- F. The dispensary becomes a prohibited use by amendment to any provision of the Colfax Municipal Code, any code incorporated therein, or any provision of California law; or

- G. The dispensary violates any condition of any permit issued by the City of Colfax or any license issued by the State of California.

#### 17.162.090 Delivery of Cannabis Prohibited

Delivery of cannabis or products made from cannabis to or from any person, business, or location in the City of Colfax is prohibited. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a primary caregiver may personally deliver medical cannabis, products made from medical cannabis to a qualified patient or person with an identification card, for whom he or she is the primary caregiver.

#### 17.162.100 Enforcement

A. **Public Nuisance.** Violation of this chapter is hereby declared to be a public nuisance and subject to the enforcement process as set forth herein.

B. **Abatement Authority.**

1. The City of Colfax may, in its discretion, abate the violation of this chapter by prosecution of a civil action, including an action for injunctive relief without first going through the administrative procedures set forth herein. The remedy of injunctive relief may take the form of a court order, enforceable through civil contempt proceedings, prohibiting the maintenance of the violation of this chapter or requiring compliance with other terms.

2. The City may also abate the violation of this chapter through any lawful abatement process established by California law.

C. **Abatement Procedures.**

1. Whenever a code enforcement officer determines that a public nuisance (as defined in this chapter) exists, he or she shall post a seventy-two (72) hour notice to abate on the property where the public nuisance exists, and mail a copy of the same to those persons shown on the latest county tax roll or equivalent registry to be the owners of the property. The seventy-two (72) hour notice to abate shall inform the owner and/or tenants of the basis for the violation, and that an administrative penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per cannabis plant in excess of six plants or five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per every twenty-five (25) square feet of cannabis outside the allowed one-hundred (100) square feet; explain that if the violation is not corrected, the matter will be set for a nuisance abatement hearing, at which time the administrative penalty will increase to one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per cannabis plant in excess of six plants or one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per every twenty-five (25) square feet of cannabis outside the allowed one-hundred (100) square feet and explain that to prevent the accrual of additional penalties and costs, the owner or tenant must contact the code enforcement officer and arrange a time for a code enforcement officer to inspect the property, and confirm that the violation(s) have been corrected.

2. If the nuisance continues to exist after the expiration of the seventy-two (72) hour period, a code enforcement officer may set the matter for hearing by issuing a notice of nuisance abatement hearing. If the matter is set for hearing, the code enforcement officer shall post the

property upon which the public nuisance exists and shall mail, with a proof of service, notices to those persons known to be in possession of the property, if any, and to persons shown on the latest county tax roll or equivalent registry to be the owners of the property at least five days prior to the hearing. The administrative penalty shall increase to one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per cannabis plant in excess of six plants or one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per every twenty-five (25) square feet of cannabis outside the allowed one-hundred (100) square feet from the date the notice of nuisance abatement hearing is posted on the property.

3. All hearings conducted under this chapter shall be held before a hearing officer designated by the City.

4. At the time and place set for the hearing, the hearing officer shall hear testimony and receive written and/or documentary evidence relating to the alleged violation. Additional procedural rules may be adopted by resolution of the Colfax City Council. The City shall record the hearing, and provide a copy of the recording to the hearing officer following the conclusion of the hearing. The City shall preserve the record of the hearing, and all photographs and demonstrative and documentary evidence at the time of the hearing, for a period of three years.

5. Within three days after the hearing is closed, the hearing officer shall render his or her written decision relating to the existence or nonexistence of the alleged public nuisance. If a violation is found to have existed at the time the notice of nuisance abatement hearing was posted, the decision shall include a statement that the City is entitled to recover its administrative costs and administrative penalties. If the hearing officer determines that the violation continues to exist, the decision shall also order that the owner of the property, or persons known to be in possession of the property, abate the violation within a reasonable time, not to exceed five days from the date the decision is placed in the mail. A copy of the decision shall be mailed by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the person or persons shown on the last City tax roll or equivalent registry to be the owners of the property which is the subject of the hearing and the occupant of such parcel, if any. All other persons noticed pursuant to this section shall be mailed a copy of the decision by first class mail, postage prepaid. The decision of the hearing officer shall be final and conclusive on the date the decision is deposited in the mail.

6. a. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this code, if a final decision of the hearing officer finds that a violation exists and the public nuisance is not voluntarily abated within five days of said decision being placed in the mail by the hearing officer, the City may abate the public nuisance by cutting and/or removing all cannabis plants from the property, pursuant to a warrant issued by a court of competent jurisdiction. The owner or owners of the property shall be responsible for paying all of the City's abatement costs and administrative costs, and administrative penalties. The code enforcement officer, or designee, shall keep an accounting of the abatement and administrative costs for each case. Upon completion of the abatement of the nuisance, whether by the City or the owner or tenant, the code enforcement officer, or designee, shall post the property and send a bill to the owner, and any persons known to be in possession of the property, requesting payment of the City's abatement and administrative costs, as well as all administrative penalties. The bill shall also state that failure to pay the costs and penalties within fifteen (15) days from service of the bill may result in the recording of a lien and the placement of a special assessment against the property.

b. If the City's costs and penalties are not paid within fifteen (15) days from service of the bill, the code enforcement officer, or designee, shall render an itemized report to the City Clerk for submittal to the City Council for hearing and consideration regarding the proposed lien and special assessment. The report shall include the names and addresses of the owner of record and any persons known to be in possession of the property, and an itemized account of the City's abatement costs, administrative costs, and administrative penalties. At least fifteen (15) days prior to said hearing, the City Clerk shall give notice, with proof of service, of said hearing to all persons named in the code enforcement officer, or designee's, report and shall post the property with a copy of the notice. The notice shall describe the property by assessor's parcel number and street number or other description sufficient to enable identification of the property and contain a statement of the amount of the proposed lien and special assessment. The notice shall also contain a statement that the Council will hear and consider objections and protests to the proposed lien and special assessment at the designated time and place.

7. At the time and place fixed in the notice, the City Council shall hear and consider the proposed lien and special assessment together with objections and protests thereto. At the conclusion of the hearing, the City Council may make such modifications and revisions to the proposed lien and special assessment costs it deems just and may order that the proposed lien and special assessment be recorded and specially assessed against the property by the Placer County auditor-controller's office. The lien shall have the same force, priority and effect as a judgment lien and the special assessment shall have the same priority as other City taxes.

8. The notice of lien shall, at a minimum, identify the record owner or possessor of the property, set forth the date upon which the decision of the hearing officer was issued, describe the real property subject to the lien, set forth the amount of the costs and penalties incurred to date and, if applicable, the date upon which the abatement was completed. If the abatement has not yet been completed, the notice shall so state and shall also indicate that the lien is a partial lien and that additional abatement costs will be incurred in the future.

9. A copy of any notice required by this chapter or decisions of either the hearing officer, City Council or designee as required by this chapter may be recorded in the office of the County Recorder of Placer County.

a. **Release of Notice.** Where a notice has been served as required by this chapter and a hearing body has determined that sufficient grounds do not exist for nuisance abatement, or where the owner of an affected premises has corrected the condition that was the basis for initiation of enforcement action, the official shall record a satisfaction release and removal of notice of nuisance or notice of nuisance abatement.

b. **Payment of Costs Prior to Release.** In the event that enforcement costs have been incurred in the investigation/processing of a violation for which a notice is required, the release of such notice shall not be recorded until all such costs have been reimbursed to the City.

c. **Attorney Fees.** In any action to foreclose on a lien issued pursuant to this chapter, the City shall be entitled to an award of attorney's fees and costs.

D. **Abatement Costs—Administrative Costs.** In any action, administrative proceeding, or special proceeding to abate a nuisance, attorneys' fees may be recovered by the prevailing party. In no action, administrative proceeding, or special proceeding shall an award of attorneys' fees to a prevailing party exceed the amount of reasonable attorneys' fees incurred by the City in the action or proceeding.

E. **Summary Abatement.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, when any unlawful cannabis cultivation constitutes an immediate threat to the public health or safety, and where the procedures set forth in subsection C of this section would not result in abatement of that nuisance within a short enough time period to avoid that threat, the City Manager or designee, the Placer County Sheriff, the Placer County Chief Building Official, and any employee designated by any of those persons to summarily abate the nuisance. The code enforcement officer shall make reasonable efforts to notify the persons identified in subsection C.2 of this section but the formal notice and hearing procedures set forth in this chapter shall not apply. The City may nevertheless recover its costs for abating that nuisance in the manner set forth in this chapter.

#### 17.162.110 Non-Exclusive Remedy

This chapter is cumulative to all other remedies now or hereafter available to abate or otherwise regulate or prevent public nuisances under this chapter or by applicable law.

#### 17.162.120 Administrative Penalties

It is unlawful and a public nuisance to violate any of the provisions of this chapter and the City shall have the authority to cause the abatement and removal thereof in accordance with the procedure prescribed in this chapter. The violation of any provision of this chapter shall be and is hereby declared to be contrary to the public interest and shall, at the discretion of the City, create a cause of action for injunctive relief. In addition to the penalties set forth herein, any person that violates the provisions of this chapter may be subject to administrative remedies, as set forth by City ordinance. Unless otherwise expressly provided, the remedies, procedures and penalties provided by this section are cumulative to each other and to any others available under state law or other City ordinances.

A. For violation of Section 17.162.040 (Outdoor cannabis cultivation), a civil penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per cannabis plant in excess of six plants or five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per every twenty-five (25) square feet of cannabis cultivation outside the allowed one-hundred (100) square feet; however, if a notice of nuisance abatement hearing is issued, the penalty shall increase to one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per cannabis plant in excess of six plants and one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per every twenty-five (25) square feet of cannabis cultivation outside the allowed one-hundred (100) square feet.

B. For violation of Section 17.162.050 (Indoor cannabis cultivation), a civil penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per cannabis plant in excess of six plants or five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per every twenty-five (25) square feet of cannabis cultivation outside the allowed one-hundred (100) square feet; however, if a notice of nuisance abatement hearing is issued, the penalty shall increase to one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per cannabis plant in excess of six

plants or one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per every twenty-five (25) square feet of cannabis cultivation outside the allowed one-hundred (100) square feet.

C. For violation of Section 17.162.060 (Prohibition of commercial cannabis activity), a civil penalty of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per plant for each violation of commercial cannabis cultivation and a civil penalty of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) per day for all other violations.

D. For violation of Section 17.162.070 (Prohibition of manufacturing cannabis activity), a civil penalty of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) per day for each separate violation.

E. For violation of Section 17.162.080 (Prohibition of cannabis dispensaries), a civil penalty of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) per day for each separate violation.

F. For violation of Section 17.162.090 (Prohibition of delivery of cannabis activity), a civil penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for each separate violation.

G. At the nuisance abatement hearing, the hearing officer shall determine the total amount of administrative penalties that have accrued at the time of the hearing, and that amount shall be reflected in the decision and awarded to the City. Administrative penalties shall not be awarded if the property owner establishes all of the following: (1) that, at the time he or she acquired the property, a violation of this chapter already existed on the property; (2) the property owner did not have actual or constructive notice of the existence of that violation; and (3) prior to the nuisance abatement hearing, the property owner initiates and pursues, with due diligence, good faith efforts, to meet the requirements of this code. In his or her decision, the hearing officer may compromise the amount of any administrative penalties. When determining whether to compromise any penalty amount, the hearing officer shall take into consideration the nature, circumstances, and gravity of the violation(s), any prior history of violations, the degree of culpability, the financial burden to the person(s) upon whom the penalty has been imposed, the degree to which the proposed compromise will facilitate collection of the penalties without the need for further legal action, and any other matters justice may require. If at the time of the hearing the nuisance has yet to be abated, the decision shall state that the administrative penalties shall continue to accrue as specified in subsections A through F of this section until the nuisance is abated. The decision of the hearing officer shall be final and conclusive on the date the decision is deposited in the mail.

H. Any decision regarding the amount of administrative penalties imposed by a hearing officer pursuant to this chapter may be appealed by any aggrieved person to the Colfax City Council as follows:

1. **Appeal Subject.** Any appeal under this section shall be limited to the amount of administrative penalties imposed by the hearing officer.

2. **Timing and Form of Appeal.** An appeal must be filed within ten (10) days from the date the decision was deposited in the mail. Appeals filed more than ten (10) days after the decision was deposited in the mail shall not be accepted for filing. A notice of appeal shall be in



writing, shall include a detailed statement of the factual and/or legal grounds upon which the appeal is being taken and shall include a copy of the decision of the hearing officer. The appeal shall be accompanied by the filing fee set by the most current City fee schedule.

3. **Filing and Processing.** An appeal shall be filed with the City Clerk, who shall process the appeal pursuant to this section, including scheduling the matter before the City Council. The Colfax City Council may designate a subcommittee of two or three members to hear and rule upon any appeal provided for in this section.

4. **Effect of Filing.** In the event of an appeal under this section, only the decision as to the amount of the administrative penalties shall be set aside and have no effect until final action by the appeal body pursuant to this section. The appeal shall have no effect on any other factual or legal determination of the hearing officer.

5. **Report and Scheduling of Hearing.** When an appeal has been filed under this section, the City Manager, or designee, shall prepare a report on the matter and shall schedule the matter for consideration by the City Council (or subcommittee so designated) after completion of the report.

6. **This Section intentionally omitted.**

7. **Action and Findings.** After an appeal has been scheduled by the City Clerk, the City Council (or subcommittee so designated) shall conduct a public hearing. At the hearing, the City Council (or subcommittee so designated) shall initiate a discussion limited only to the amount of the administrative penalties imposed by the hearing officer and, in addition, the specific grounds for appeal.

a. The City Council (or subcommittee so designated) may affirm, affirm in part, reverse or reverse in part the decision or determination of the hearing officer as to the amount of the administrative penalties imposed based upon findings of fact about the particular case. The findings shall identify the reasons for the action on the appeal, and verify the compliance or noncompliance of the subject of the appeal with the provisions of this chapter.

b. A decision by the City Council (or sub-committee so designated) under this section shall be final.

8. **Time Limits on Appeals.** Upon receipt of an appeal in proper form, the City Council shall schedule the matter for consideration by the City Council. The City Council, or a subcommittee thereof, shall commence a public hearing on the appeal within ninety (90) days of its proper filing, or within such other time period as may be mutually agreed upon by the appellant, in writing, and the appeal body, in writing. If the public hearing is not commenced within ninety days, or an alternative time period is not agreed upon by the appellant and the appeal body, the decision rendered by the hearing officer shall be deemed affirmed. Once commenced, a public hearing on an appeal may be continued from time to time for good cause.

9. **Withdrawal of Appeal—Hearing Decisions.** After an appeal of a decision has been filed, an appeal shall not be withdrawn except with the consent of the appropriate hearing body.

I. All money and assets collected in payment for penalties for violations of this chapter and all money and assets collected for recovery of costs of enforcement of this chapter shall be used to offset the cost of enforcement of this chapter.

#### 17.162.130 Criminal Penalty Provisions

A. Violation of any provision of this chapter is a misdemeanor unless (1) the city attorney authorizes issuance of an infraction citation or files, or authorizes the filing of, a complaint charging the offense as an infraction or (2) a court with jurisdiction over the matter, upon recommendation of the city attorney, determines that the offense should be prosecuted as an infraction.

B. Any person who violates any provision of this chapter shall be guilty of a separate offense for each and every day during any portion of which any such person commits, continues, permits, or causes any violation thereof, and shall be penalized accordingly.

#### 17.162.140 No Duty To Enforce

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as imposing on any code enforcement officer or the City of Colfax any duty to issue a notice to abate, nor to abate any violations of this chapter and neither the code enforcement officer, nor the City, shall be held liable for failure to issue an order to abate any violation of this chapter.

#### 17.162.150 Severability

The provisions of this chapter are declared to be separate and severable. The invalidity of any clause, phrase, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or portion of this chapter, or the invalidity of the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this chapter, or the validity of its application to other persons or circumstances.