

City Council
Sent via email
February 4, 2025

City Council,

As members of the Green Drug Task Force, it is our mission to support families and individuals impacted by addiction, mental health or human trafficking, and promote a culture of compassion, understanding, and support through education and awareness initiatives. Therefore, we support the following legislation **2025-01 Ordinance prohibiting the Sale and Distribution of Marijuana**.

Collectively we believe this legislation, banning marijuana from being sold in our community, upholds the mission of the Drug Task Force, while maintaining Green as a safe place to live and a family-friendly community. Our main focus as a Task Force is to provide awareness and prevention education, which we know will be increasingly needed as recreational marijuana use becomes normalized in our society. By enacting a moratorium on the sale within our city, we are demonstrating to our youth that recreational marijuana is not something “everyone does.”

We are not alone in this ban on the sale of this drug. To date, there are 124* Ohio cities/townships that currently have active moratoriums including neighboring northeast Ohio towns Ashland, Avon Lake, Barberton, Copley Township, Hudson, Independence, Jackson Township, Medina Township, New Franklin, North Olmstead, North Royalton, North Canton, Westfield Township, and Westlake. In Michigan, where marijuana has been recreationally legal since 2018, more than 70% of municipalities have moratoriums.

In addition, research shows that overall crime increases in communities where marijuana is legally sold, including crimes against the dispensaries as they are highly cash-based businesses. We feel that any incremental increase in tax revenue from these establishments may easily be offset by the need to hire additional sheriff deputies to maintain a safe community.

We encourage you to vote to extend the moratorium on all marijuana dispensaries in Green.

Respectfully,



Andy Platt, Chair, Green Drug Task Force
and the following members of the Drug Task Force: **Greg Myers, Michael Taylor, Dennis Shawhan, Bryon Cadwell, Andrea Rossiter, Jeff Miller, Julie McMahan, Drew Funai**

*<https://moritzlaw.osu.edu/faculty-and-research/drug-enforcement-and-policy-center/research-and-grants/policy-and-data-analyses/ohio-marijuana-moratoriums>