

Resolution No.

STOCKTON PLANNING COMMISSION

RESOLUTION APPROVING A COMMISSION USE PERMIT TO ESTABLISH A CANNABIS RETAIL STOREFRONT AT 5066 WEST LANE (APN 096-140-27) (APPLICATION NO. P25-0022)

The applicant, Caroline Johnson/Twinflame Ascension, LLC, submitted an application for a Commission Use Permit to relocate from their approved Commisison Use Permit at 2521 West Lane to 5066 West Lane, APN 096-0140-27 withthin “The Village at Weber Ranch” Shopping Center, as allowed by Stockton Municipal Code (SMC) Section 16.80.195(A)(14), and establish a cannabis retail storefront businesses within a ±6,000 square-foot suite in a commercial building, on a parcel zoned Commercial, General (CG), herein referred to as the “Project”; and

The applicant is a general pool applicant winner of the City’s 2021 Commercial Cannabis Lottery, used to designate how many applicants are allowed to apply for certain commercial cannabis types; and

On August 14, 2025, the Planning Commission opened a duly noticed public hearing on the application, in compliance with Stockton Municipal Code (SMC) Chapter 16.88, and on August 14, 2025, the Planning Commission conducted a public hearing, at which point all persons wishing to be heard were provided such opportunity, and prior to acting on the requested actions, the Planning Commission continued the hearing to August 28, 2025; and

On August 28, 2025, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the application in compliance with SMC Chapter 16.88, at which point all persons wishing to be heard were provided such opportunity, and prior to acting on the requested actions, the Planning Commission considered the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) determination reflected in the findings below; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STOCKTON, AS FOLLOWS:

A. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and incorporated by reference.

B. Based on the staff report, staff presentation, comments received, and the public hearing, the Planning Commission makes the following findings based on substantial evidence in the record:

USE PERMIT FINDINGS

1. The proposed use is allowed within the subject zoning district with the approval of a use permit and complies with all other applicable provisions of this Development Code

and the SMC. The proposed cannabis retail storefront use is conditionally allowed in the CG Zone with approval of Commission Use Permits. The Project meets the location requirements set forth in SMC Section 16.80.195(A)(6); is not located within 300-feet of any existing residential zone or use. The Project is not located within 600-feet of any park, school providing K-12 instruction, day care center, or youth center, childcare center, child care, in-home (family day care home), religious facilities, or drug abuse or alcohol recovery/treatment facility. As conditioned, the cannabis operation will be in conformance with the development standards outlined in Title 16 of the Municipal Code. Adequate off-street parking spaces are integrated in the shopping center.

2. The proposed use would maintain or strengthen the integrity and character of the neighborhood and zoning district in which it is to be located. The proposed cannabis business would operate within an established commercial shopping center that host a variety of commercial businesses. The cannabis retailer storefront business will occupy the last remaining vacant space in the building, which would strengthen the site's commercial character. The business would also help strengthen the integrity and security of the area by the presence of additional security due to the nature of the land use. The proposed use would also align with the intent of the general plan to attract employment and tax-generating businesses that support the economic diversity of the city.

3. The General Plan Land Use Map designates the subject site as Commercial. The Commercial designation is intended to accommodate a wide variety of commercial uses, including, but not limited to, retail, services, and commercial uses; business, medical, and professional, residential uses, public and quasi-public uses; and other related uses. The proposed use is a cannabis retail storefront and retail delivery business, which is consistent with the intent described in the General Plan for the Commercial land use designation and the following General Plan goals and policies:

- Goal LU-6: To provide for orderly, well-planned, and balanced development.
- Goal CH-3: Expand opportunities for local enterprise, entrepreneurship, and gainful employment.
- Policy LU-4.2: Attract employment and tax-generating businesses that support the economic diversity of the city.

The proposed use furthers the above goals and policy since it would provide for a business type that generates tax revenue for the City of Stockton's general fund and expands opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship. The introduction of the cannabis business diversifies the types of commercial establishments in the surrounding area that consist primarily of service uses such as fueling stations and fast-food restaurants. The proposed location was chosen by the applicant in part because it is not located in an area surrounded by sensitive uses identified in SMC Section 16.80.195(A).

4. The subject site would be physically suitable for the type and density/intensity of the use being proposed including the provision of services (e.g., sanitation and water), public access, and the absence of physical constraints (e.g., earth movement, flooding,

etc.). The proposed Project has been analyzed by all applicable departments, and it has been determined that all existing streets and public accessways are adequate to serve the Project. The site will have access to existing City utility services, which are presently available at the site. Further, a Building Permit for a tenant improvement is required for the proposed cannabis facility, and the Project will be required to comply with all applicable Building Code standards.

5. The establishment, maintenance, or operation of the proposed use at the location proposed and for the time period(s) identified, if applicable, would not endanger, jeopardize, or otherwise constitute a hazard to the public convenience, health, interest, safety, peace, or general welfare of persons residing or working in the neighborhood of the proposed use. The proposed land use will require the applicant to adhere to all applicable Building and Fire Codes, and additional requirements established by the State of California, Department of Cannabis Control. The Department of Cannabis Control issues annual licenses and regulates cannabis retail storefronts to ensure safe practices. The applicant will also be required to obtain and maintain an Operator's Permit from the City that requires the business owner to develop and maintain a security and lighting plan that is reviewed annually by the Police Department.

All cannabis operations for the proposed retail storefront will occur indoors. Appropriate security provisions will be incorporated into the Project operations plan, including electronic surveillance and on-site security. The site will use an activated carbon filtration system to prevent any odors from spilling outside of the facility.

For the above reasons, the establishment, maintenance, or operation of the proposed land use activity would not endanger, jeopardize, or otherwise constitute a hazard to the public convenience, health, interest, safety, or general welfare of persons residing or working in the neighborhood of the proposed use.

6. The design, location, size, and operating characteristics of the proposed use would be compatible with the existing and future land uses on-site and in the vicinity of the subject property. The proposed cannabis retail storefront business would be located in an existing vacant suite in a commercial development and does not raise any potential issues related to parking, as the commercial development has adequate shared parking facilities. The proposed use is commercial and raises no potential issues related to compatibility with the existing and future land uses on-site and in the vicinity of the subject property.

7. The proposed action is in compliance with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the City's CEQA Guidelines. The Project will occupy an existing building in a commercial development center. The Project is categorically exempt from the CEQA, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15301(a) (Existing Facilities) since the Project will occupy an existing building and no expansion of the site is proposed.

//
//

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

The Planning Commission hereby approves the Project, based on the incorporated Conditions of approval, listed below.

1. This approval authorizes the operation of cannabis retail storefront business within an existing commercial development as shown in Exhibit 1, attached and incorporated by this reference.
2. In accordance with SMC Section 16.80.195(A)(14), the ODS shall surrender the previously approved Commission Use Permit P21-0602 for a retail storefront cannabis business at the 2521 West Lane location in the manner specified in the code, within 60 days of this approval.
3. In accordance with SMC Section 16.80.195(A)(14), the ODS shall surrender the previously approved Administrative Use Permit P21-0602 for a non-storefront (delivery only) cannabis business at the 2521 West Lane location in the manner specified in the code, within 60 days of this approval.
4. No building permits or subsequent permits shall be issued prior to submittal of notarized "Surrender of Use" form, pursuant to SMC Section 16.80.195(A)(14)(b).
5. The Project shall comply with all applicable State, County, and City codes, regulations, and adopted policies and standards, and pay all applicable fees.
6. In the event the operation of this use should prove to be detrimental to the health, safety, peace, or general welfare of the surrounding neighborhood, this Use Permit will be subject to revocation or modification, as required by the Development Code.
7. The Use Permit shall become effective following the completion of a ten (10) day appeal period following approval of the application.
8. The Use Permit shall be posted in a conspicuous place and be made available immediately to City personnel upon inspection of the premises.
9. The owners, developers and/or successors-in-interest (ODS) shall post a sign at the entrance to the location containing the name and functioning telephone number of a 24-hour on-call person engaged in the management of the cannabis business who shall receive, log, and respond to complaints and other inquiries. This data shall be made available upon request by the Police Department and other City Departments on a yearly basis, in accordance with SMC Section 5.100.250.
10. ODS shall apply for an address at the time of building permit submittal by contacting addressing@stocktonca.gov

11. The ODS shall be responsible for the City's legal and administrative costs associated with defending any legal challenge of the approvals for this Project or its related environmental document, if any.

12. Prior to commencing operations, the ODS or business owner shall submit a complete security plan, subject to review and approval by the Police Department. The Chief of Police or designee may impose additional security and safety conditions upon receipt of the security plan before the facility can begin operations. All employees at the cannabis retail storefront business shall be approved by the Police Department prior to the start of their employment.

13. The Fire Department shall be allowed to inspect the cannabis business at any reasonable time to ensure compliance with all applicable provisions of the Fire Code, as well as other applicable codes, laws, and provisions, and is authorized to enforce those standards, as necessary.

14. Prior to commencing operations, a Cannabis Operations Permit shall be obtained in accordance with SMC Chapter 5.100 (Commercial Cannabis Activity Permits).

15. All cannabis retail operations shall be limited to the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., per SMC section 5.100.280 (Retailer operator permit – Hours of operation).

The Project is required to obtain a Building Permit from the Building Department for any building modifications or new building construction. Plans submitted for building permit(s) shall reflect compliance with the conditions outlined in this approval and Title 16 (Development Code) of the SMC.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED: August 28, 2025.

JEFF SANGUINETTI, CHAIR
City of Stockton Planning Commission

ATTEST:

MICHAEL McDOWELL, SECRETARY
City of Stockton Community Development