

**City Council Agenda Item 3.A
Meeting of March 2, 2026**



Title: Substance Regulations

Report from: Scott Boerboom, Chief of Police
Julie Wischnack, FAICP, Community Development Director

Submitted through: Erik Nilsson, City Attorney
Mike Funk, City Manager

Presenter: Scott Boerboom and Julie Wischnack

Action Requested: Receive information and provide feedback.

Summary Statement

The city council requested information about substance regulations within Minnetonka. Specifically, the council requested information about Kratom (a newer product), tobacco regulations, and cannabis. This report is intended to be informational and provide updates to the city council.

Kratom

Kratom can have stimulant or opioid-like effects, and adverse health incidents have been documented by agencies such as the Food and Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, while the Drug Enforcement Administration has identified it as a substance of concern.

It is often sold locally with little regulation or age restriction, creating challenges for youth access, first responders, and healthcare providers. Even without immediate regulatory action, discussing kratom allows local leaders to educate the community, monitor trends, coordinate with neighboring governments, and make informed, proactive policy decisions rather than reacting after problems arise.

Tobacco Update

Each year, the Police Department partners with Community Development to enforce local and state tobacco regulations, including restrictions on flavored products. During compliance checks, officers conduct enforcement activities and provide education to retailers regarding ordinance requirements and prevention of underage sales.

In 2025, several retailers were cited for selling tobacco products to minors, and one retailer was cited for violating flavored tobacco restrictions. Follow-up inspections and additional education were conducted after reports of continued violations.

Cannabis Update

The city has received 3 out of 5 retail cannabis location requests. Ember Roots at 12949 Ridgedale Drive has signed a lease and will begin construction soon. Once the work is completed, the city will approve the retail location's registration. Before issuing the license, the Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) will contact the city for final zoning approval and confirm the establishment has registered with the city. When the state receives the city's approval, the location is then considered for its official state license. E-Cig Pod Dispensary at 14645 Excelsior Boulevard has also applied for construction permits and, once complete, will move on to state licensing. The third location, 12970 Wayzata Blvd, has only recently

applied for city registration but has not requested permitting at this time.

The city has fielded many inquiries for various store locations. In one case, the city was unable to approve a location due to its proximity to youth-oriented facilities. The city logs and documents every inquiry about locations for retail establishments. After the in-process registrations are complete, 2 locations are remaining in the city.

Strategic Plan Relatability

Safe & Healthy Community

Substances directly relating to community health and safety. The discussion elevates awareness and education about certain substances.

Background

See attached information.

Discussion Questions

Does the council have any questions or feedback?

ATTACHMENTS:

[Kratom Background Information](#)