

RESOLUTION 026P-003

A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF COALINGA RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF A ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT (1) AMENDING SECTION 9-5.128 OF TITLE 9, CHAPTER 5 OF THE COALINGA MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO THE STANDARDS FOR COMMERCIAL CANNABIS OPERATION IN THE CITY; AND (2) AMENDING TITLE 9, CHAPTER 5, ARTICLE 1 OF THE COALINGA MUNICIPAL CODE TO REPEAL SECTION 9-5.129 PERTAINING TO THE STANDARDS FOR RETAIL CANNABIS OPERATIONS AND FIND THAT THE PROJECT IS EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 15061(B)(3) OF THE CEQA GUIDELINES

WHEREAS, on November 3, 2016, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 797 establishing Section 9-5.128 of the Coalinga Municipal Code to regulate commercial cannabis operations within the City, authorizing cultivation, manufacturing, testing, and distribution activities subject to local permitting requirements; and,

WHEREAS, on January 4, 2017, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 804 establishing Section 9-5.129 of the Coalinga Municipal Code to regulate retail cannabis operations within the City; and,

WHEREAS, since the adoption of Sections 9-5.128 and 9-5.129, the State of California has significantly evolved its cannabis regulatory framework, including through the Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act (MAUCRSA) and subsequent legislative and regulatory amendments, which have altered licensing categories, compliance requirements, and operator obligations applicable to commercial cannabis businesses; and

WHEREAS, as a result of this incremental adoption and the ongoing evolution of State cannabis law, certain provisions of the City's existing cannabis regulations have become duplicative, outdated, or internally inconsistent, creating potential ambiguity for operators, the public, and City staff responsible for administration and enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that consolidating, updating, and restating the City's commercial cannabis regulations into a single, comprehensive section of the Municipal Code will improve clarity, enforceability, and administrative efficiency, while preserving the City's authority under applicable State law to exercise local control over the permitting and regulation of commercial cannabis operations within its jurisdiction; and,

WHEREAS, Notice of Public Hearing was posted at City Hall, Police Department Bulletin Board, Fire Department Bulletin Board, Coalinga District Library, Chamber of Commerce, and City of Coalinga website, on April 8, 2026, and;

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission held the duly noticed Public Hearing on April 28, 2026, to take testimony with regard to the proposed Zoning Text Amendment; and

WHEREAS, the laws and regulations relating to the preparation and adoption of environmental documents, as set forth in the State Guidelines Implementing the California Environmental Quality Act have been adhered to; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has fully considered this request and the potential environmental effects; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission completed its review of the proposed Zoning Text Amendment and details in the Staff Report and has considered the testimony received during the public hearing process, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE PLANNING COMMISSION DOES HEARBY FIND, DETERMINE, RESOLVE, AND RECOMMEND AS FOLLOWS:

1. Recitals. The Planning Commission hereby finds that all the facts set forth in the recitals above are true and correct and incorporated herein.
2. CEQA. The Zoning Text Amendment is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines because the amendments will have no significant effect on the environment.
3. Zoning Text Amendment. The Planning Commission finds as follows per Coalinga Municipal Code Section 9-6.910. – Required findings.
 - a. The proposed Zoning Ordinance amendment would not be detrimental to the public interest, health, safety, convenience, or welfare of the City.
 - b. The proposed Zoning Ordinance amendment is consistent and compatible with the goals, policies, and actions of the General Plan, and the other applicable provisions of the Zoning Ordinance.
 - c. The proposed Zoning Ordinance amendment has been processed in accordance with the applicable provisions of the California Government Code and the California Environmental Quality Act.
4. Recommendation of Approval. Given that all findings can be made, the Planning Commission recommends to the City Council approval of the Zoning Text Amendment as set forth in Exhibit A, amending Section 9-5.128 – Cannabis cultivation, manufacturing, testing, transportation and distribution of Title 9, Chapter 5 of the Coalinga Municipal Code and repealing in its entirety, Section 9-5.129 – Retail Cannabis Operations of Title 9, Chapter 5 of the Coalinga Municipal Code.
5. Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution is for any reason held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections of this Resolution. The Planning Commission hereby declares that it would have passed this Resolution, and each section, subsection, clause and phrase thereof, irrespective of the face that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be delivered forthwith by the City Clerk to the City Council of the City of Coalinga.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the City of Coalinga Planning Commission at a regular meeting held on the 28th day of April 2026 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Chairman/Vice Chairman

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Exhibit "A"
Ordinance 880