THE STATE of ALASKA
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

ALCOHOL & MARIJUANA CONTROL OFFICE
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1600
Anchorage, AK 99501
Main: 907.269.0350

April 11, 2024

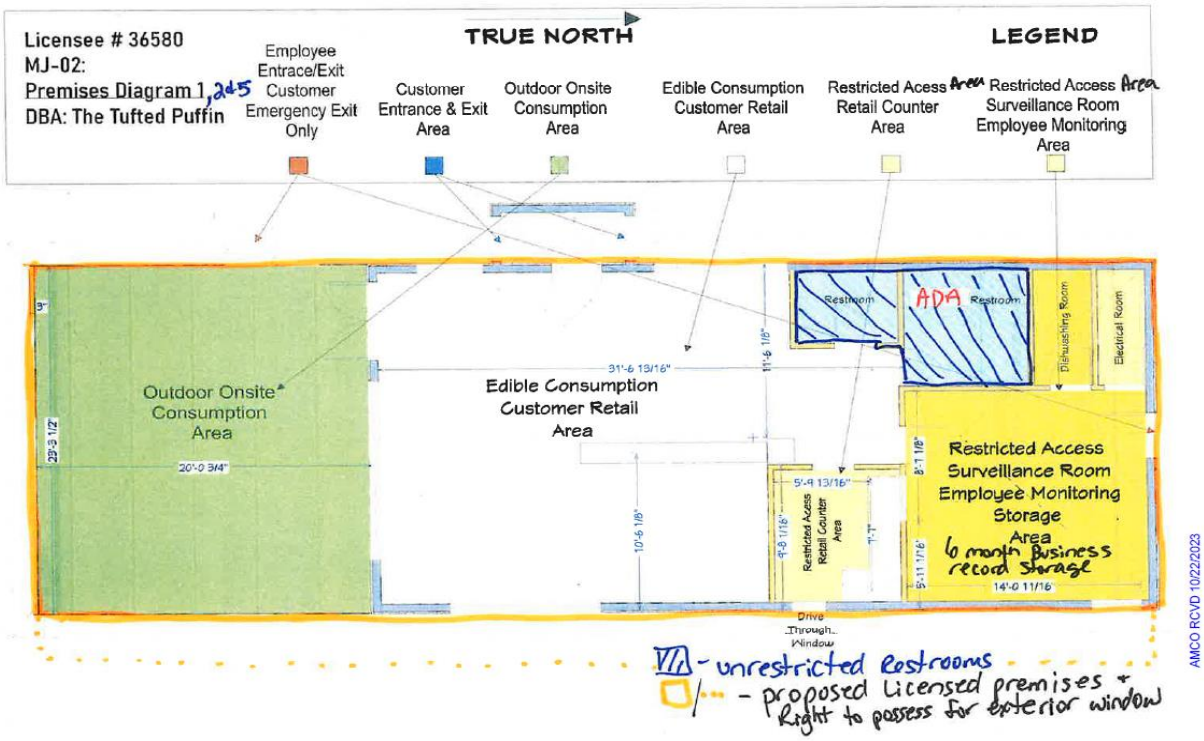
To: Chair and Member of the Board

From: Jane P. Sawyer, Program Coordinator

Re: Tufted Puffin, LLC d/b/a The Tufted Puffin License 36580

The board approved with delegation this application at its January 2024 meeting. Since then,

- we received two more objections/comments within the 30-day window under 3 AAC 306.065, that the board must consider, and
- we found that we/AMCO missed that the layout of the onsite consumption area might not meet all the criteria of 3 AAC 306.370(e)(1) which states "*the marijuana consumption area must be isolated from the other areas of the retail marijuana store, must be separated by walls and secure door, and must have access only from the retail marijuana store;*"



From: mica@stormchasersmarine.com
To: Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored)
Subject: The Tufted Puffin, LLC, Lic #36580
Date: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 1:48:23 PM
Attachments: 240117 Council Calendar.pdf

You don't often get email from mica@stormchasersmarine.com. Learn why this is important

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I am writing to object to the onsite consumption endorsement application by The Tufted Puffin, LLC, Lic #36580. My understanding is that this will be an outdoors onsite consumption location. I am opposed to this outdoor, onsite use in this particular location. This location has a very popular sidewalk on our main road into town. In this location, families with kids, teenagers and community members cannot access town or the harbor without passing through this one bottleneck location. There are no alternate streets that can be used to avoid this location for anyone travelling to town by foot or bike. This sidewalk is heavily used by families, children and teenagers all summer long and even in the winter. Fumes from this outdoor use will not be able to be avoided by anyone who is travelling into town by vehicle, bicycle, or on foot. Every single person who travels into our town/harbor passes this location, sidewalk users are especially close.

I live in the neighborhood very close to this location. Almost every day, I can smell either fumes from the grill at Safeway, from neighbors blocks away who are burning coal or from the fish processing plant that is located in the harbor. The fumes are very strong, even at my house in the neighborhood. I do not know why these fumes do not dissipate well in this area, perhaps due to the bowl shape of our community but the simple fact remains that they do not. It would be unacceptable for our neighborhood homes to also have to smell marijuana fumes.

This location is also very close to our railroad depot where thousands of visitors disembark to enjoy our town. This is not the kind of welcome we want our visitors to receive as they arrive.

I also have concerns that this application was not properly noticed before approval by City Council. Many in our community were not aware that this was on the agenda. In fact, when the city council's agenda was sent out initially, this application was NOT on the agenda. It was added after this public notice was made. I have attached the public notice for the city council meeting and the agenda that shows this was NOT on the original agenda.

I am not against this kind of business but I am against this particular location for this use.

Sincerely,
Mica Van Buskirk
Seward resident for 28 years
907-491-1671

From: Clerks Office <clerk@cityofseward.net>

Sent: Wednesday, January 17, 2024 9:54 AM
To: Clerks Office <clerk@cityofseward.net>
Subject: Council Calendar for January 17, 2024

Hello all,

Attached is the Council Calendar for January 17, 2024.

Note the PACAB Work Session today has been cancelled.

Kris Peck (he/him)
City Clerk
Seward, Alaska
(907) 224-4045

From: Karen Lechner
To: Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored)
Subject: Tufted Puffin Onsite Consumption Endorsement Request
Date: Thursday, February 1, 2024 12:36:07 PM

You don't often get email from kabob37@outlook.com. Learn why this is important

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February 1, 2024

TO: AMCO / ATTN: AMCO Marijuana Licensing Board

RE: New Onsite Consumption Endorsement Application by The Tufted Puffin LLC

We are lifelong resides of Seward. We have worked, raised our children, built a home, recreated, and enjoyed life in Seward. We genuinely care for our community and advocate wholesome living.

It has come to our attention that the Tufted Puffin has applied for an Onsite Consumption Endorsement for their business located on Port Avenue in Seward, Alaska. We are writing today to convey our objection of this application request.

The location of this business is on the corner of one of the busiest intersections in Seward. Port Avenue is aptly named, as it is the route to the Port of Seward. There is routinely considerable traffic of cargo transport vehicles going to and from the port area. Port Avenue is also an industrial area which contributes to the large transport vehicles from OBI Fisheries, Shoreside Petroleum, and Alaska Logistics to name a few. Our USCG station is also located on Port Avenue.

Seward is a tourist and seasonal weekend destination for many in Alaska. Port Avenue leads to docks which are part of the city operated Small Boat Harbor. It also has boat storage facilities. The City of Seward Harbor department regularly operates a boat lift to move marine vessels in and out of the water via Port Avenue. This area of our community is really the first glimpse many visitors get of our community. Last year, more than 90 cruise ships docked at the Seward Port. Buses, taxis, and foot traffic are a constant to and from these ships.

Seward has seasonal daily train service. The Seward train depot is located directly behind the property the Tufted Puffin occupies, which may be within 250 linear feet. There is much vehicle and foot traffic in this area as the train arrives and departs. The train depot in Seward is small, so many travelers wait outdoors for rides or to enter and exit the train.

There is also a well-used bike path that runs parallel to the front of the property. The bike path is also used as a footpath for residents and visitors to and from our two main grocery stores, the chamber of commerce, the military resort, city ball fields, schools, and the only access to the one road in and out of Seward. We, ourselves, use this bike path/footpath seasonally to bike or walk to work, utilize the beachfront, harbor area, and access to the downtown area.

We find the odor of cannabis very offensive and are concerned for those who frequent the area to be subjected to it. There are also businesses in the area that would have to deal with

the smell from this neighboring merchant. There is a coffee shop in the area that offers outdoor seating.

Cannabis is an addictive, intoxicating, and mind-altering drug. We have firsthand knowledge of this as family members and friends have fallen prey to the use and addiction to it. We are concerned with individuals using the product and then getting in their vehicles to drive. We have long battled this scenario with over consumption of alcohol. Do we really want to go down that sad road with cannabis consumption?

This application request by the Tufted Puffin for Onsite Consumption Endorsement in no way contributes to wholesome living in Seward. We urge you to deny this request.

Sincerely,

Robert & Karen Lechner
PO Box 1444, Seward, AK 99664
Message Phone: 907-362-1499