

City Overview

- Mayor Teegardin was elected as mayor in November 2015
- Edgewater's population is 5,200 in less than a square mile across from Sloan's Lake
 - The city is a gateway into Jefferson County from Denver

History of Marijuana in the City

- In 2010, the city enacted medical marijuana
 - Provisions: 500 feet from any daycare or educational facility
 - There were four medical dispensaries
- When Amendment 64 passed, the city grandfathered every medical marijuana dispensary that wanted to sell retail marijuana
 - A fifth dispensary was then opened

Regulating Marijuana

- The city thought the land use (zoning) code would cap dispensaries in the city at five
 - A licensing authority was not created, it was put under the City Clerk as business license
- After six months, a six dispensary was opened causing Kris (he was on City Council at the time) to ask for a cap on dispensaries
- City Council tried to negotiate the city's codes through land use and zoning to restrict anymore dispensaries, but it was not feasible
 - City Council then created a cap on dispensaries allowing five dispensaries
 - It was retroactive in that if one of the retail dispensaries in the city closed, the cap would be at five.
- If there is a grow facility in the city, they have to sell to one of the dispensaries in the city
- The city does not allow grow clubs

Revenue

- 2015: revenue from the dispensaries was a little over 9% of the city's budget
 - The tax revenue will pave the city's roads in the next 2-3 years

The Dispensaries

- The city's dispensaries are open till midnight

- A lot of revenue between 7 pm- midnight
 - A lot of people come directly from DIA and a lot of people passing through the city

- The city's relationship with the dispensaries has been mostly positive

- The city did drug sweeps in its schools and found only one student with marijuana on them
 - Most of the city's schools are Title 1 schools but the city's higher poverty rates do not reflect higher drug use
- In terms of crime, there has been very little impact
 - Someone tried to throw a brick through one of the dispensaries
 - Someone got robbed outside of a dispensary

- The majority of the city's residents don't know there are six dispensaries in the city

- The dispensaries are low key
- The dispensaries are beginning to get involved in the community: with non-profits and giving back to the community
 - The city is trying to get the dispensaries on the West Chamber of Commerce and involved in the regular business processes of Jefferson County

Lessons Learned

- Retail marijuana is an experiment for us as a country

- The city of somewhat on the leading edge of retail marijuana

- Dispensaries are open till midnight
- Benefits from the revenues because the city does not collect property taxes and rely solely on sales tax

- It's been an overwhelming success

- Other communities in the region are looking to the city and as example and to dispel some of the myths around retail marijuana