

## PUBLIC FUNDING OF EVANSTON'S LOCAL REPARATIONS PROGRAM

126-R-19 A RESOLUTION Establishing a City of Evanston Funding Source Devoted to Local Reparations

The Evanston City Council has declared that the Cannabis 3% Retailers' Occupation Tax on adult/recreational cannabis sales within the City shall be designated solely for Evanston's Reparations Program. The Council has projected an amount of \$10 million will be generated for the program within ten years.

The 3% tax will not be imposed/collected from customers by the dispensary until July 1, 2020. The revenue generated will be remitted to the City of Evanston on a quarterly basis.

Evanston currently has one dispensary selling medical and adult/recreational cannabis.

Adult cannabis has been sold since January 1, 2020. Given projections of sales from Jan 1 until now, the 3% tax would have yielded approximately \$450,000 minus administrative fees taken by the state. Our public funding is going to be as we planned once it is activated!

Illinois was to issue 75 new dispensary licenses on May 21, 2020. Evanston is part of a 9 county area that has been allocated 47 of those 75 licenses. The issuance has been delayed due to several reasons including the Governor's executive order due to COVID 19 and the many tie scores in rating applicants. However, given there are 700 applicants for the 75 licenses, 1 or 2 new Evanston licenses will make a big difference in giving a boost to financing Evanston's Reparations Program

Additionally, 40 craft grower and 40 infuser licenses are scheduled to be issued by the Illinois Department of Agriculture in July. It would be great news to hear that Evanston applicants secured 1 or 2 of these.

Dispensary License distribution by BLS (Bureau of Labor Statistics) Region for licenses issued May 1, 2020

