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Revisions to Cannabis-Related Fees Under Consideration in the City of Los Angeles

The Los Angeles Department of Cannabis Regulation (“LADCR”) released a comprehensive fee study in April of 2025, recommending several amendments to the Los Angeles Municipal Code. The proposed changes include adjustments to existing fees and penalties, with the goal of: (1) continuing to function as a department that pays for itself without the need for outside funding (i.e., full cost recovery); and (2) continue to supplement the budgets of other city departments that support the LADCR. These recommendations are being considered by the Los Angeles City Council during a regular meeting this Wednesday.

A selection of proposed changes include:

- The addition of two new violation categories “low” and “severe” set at \$3,000 and \$39,000, respectively.
- Fees for administrative services such as business premises diagram submissions, review of entity formation documents, and compliance inspections.
- The offering of expedited services that may be requested an applicant that may be approved by the LADCR at its sole discretion.

The LADCR emphasizes that failure to implement these changes would likely result in staff reductions and diminished service levels for licensees and applicants.

The full study can be found on the Office of the City Clerk’s website.

Follow us for more insights and updates within the evolving cannabis regulatory landscape in Los Angeles and beyond.