



County of San Diego

# **Socially Equitable Cannabis Program**

## **Phase 3 Outreach: Four Additional SECP Board Directed Items**

Planning & Development Services

July 18, 2023

# Project Contact Information



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[www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/Cannabis.html](http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/Cannabis.html)

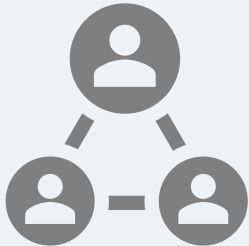
# Agenda



Program  
Overview



Items From  
June 15, 2022  
Board Direction



Phases of  
Community  
Outreach

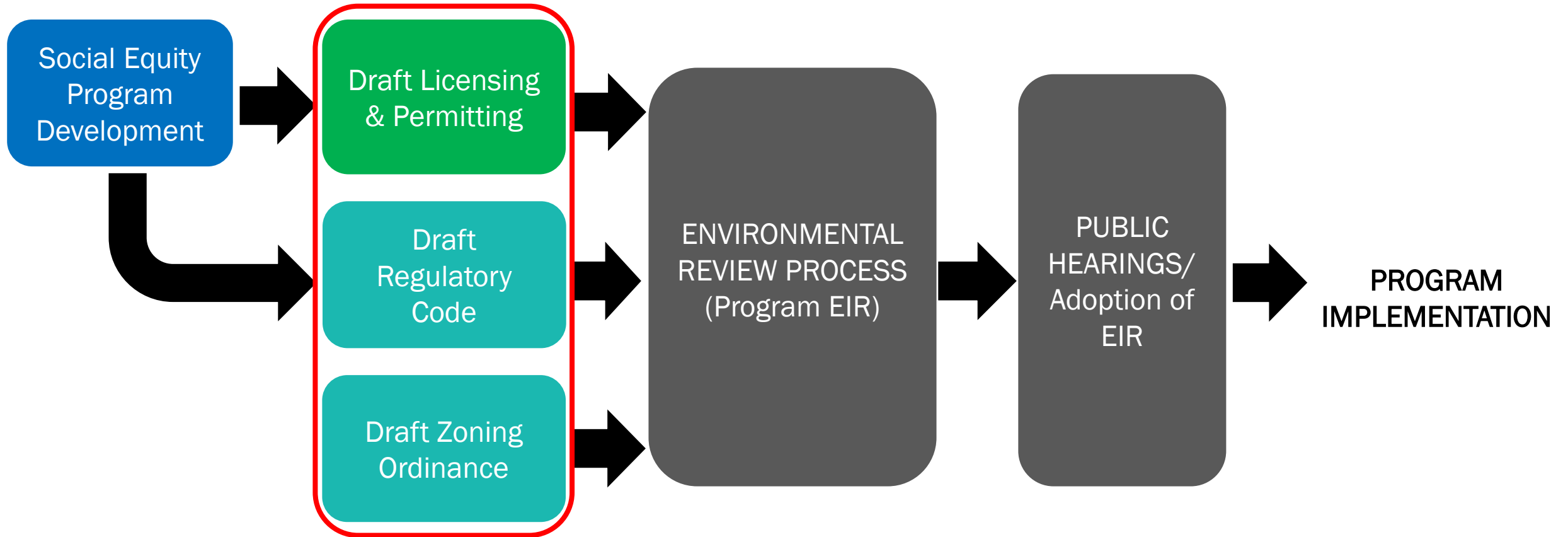


Emerging Concepts  
& Findings



Opportunity for  
Additional  
Feedback

# Program Overview



**\*We are here**

# Items From June 15, 2022 Board Direction

For each type of cannabis facility, develop a design guideline checklist, similar to existing design guidelines in unincorporated communities

Propose options for each Community Planning Sponsor Group (CPSG) area that includes a limit on each type of cannabis facility and a cumulative limit on indoor consumption lounges

Develop a definition and guidelines for cannabis events

Establish Community Equity Contribution Program

# Phases of Community Outreach



# Design Guidelines - Recap

## June 15 Board Direction:

**Board Letter Measure 4** - For each type of cannabis facility, develop a design guideline checklist, similar to existing design guidelines in unincorporated communities, that will generally detract those under 21 from seeking to visit the facility

## Best Practice Research:

### Community Design Guidelines Cover

- Architectural Designs
- Parking Lots
- Landscaping
- Signage
- Lighting
- Other

# Design Guidelines – What We’ve Heard

All new businesses should follow existing guidelines

- Existing guidelines are not specific to business type

No special design guidelines for cannabis facilities

- Children not allowed in cannabis facilities by law
- Creates additional costs and obstacles

Main concerns:

- Misleading names
- Advertising
- Packaging

- Topics not covered by existing design guidelines

## Message To Board:

- Cannabis facilities would be subject to existing Community Design Guidelines
- Concerns regarding youth messaging are or would be addressed with other regulations



# Facility Caps - Recap

## June 15 Board Direction:

**Board Letter Measure 5** - Propose options for each Community Planning Sponsor Group (CPSG) area that includes a limit on each type of cannabis facility and a cumulative limit on indoor consumption lounges

## Best Practice Research:

- CPSGs are not formed based on census tract data
- Not all areas of the County are within CPSGs
- Option to set caps by Supervisor District

# Facility Caps – What We’ve Heard

Opposition to caps of any kind

- Market should decide
- Proposed zoning and buffers serve as de facto ban/limit

Support caps on retail ONLY

- Startup costs are significant
- Heavy competition can cause businesses to fail

Support limits/caps on size of cultivation facilities

- Potential impacts to groundwater, roads and small, local farmers

Any proposed caps should be set by Supervisor District

- Not all unincorporated areas are within CPSGs

## Message to Board:

- Facility caps should not be considered unless necessary for environmental mitigation with considerations for retail and cultivation
- If caps by geographic area are desired, area should be by Supervisor District

# Cannabis Events - Recap

## June 15 Board Direction:

**Board Letter Measure 6** - Develop a definition for a “cannabis event” and provide guidance on geographic restrictions and frequency of events

## Best Practice Research:

### Department of Cannabis Control Definition

- Multi-day events (1 to 4 days)
- Sell and consume cannabis
- Must have security, age restriction, a daily limit of cannabis sales, employee identification, and others

# Cannabis Events – What We’ve Heard

Follow State definition and regulations

- Be consistent with State requirements
- Treat same as beer gardens

Cannabis events are not appropriate in residential zones

- Limit to commercial, industrial, and agricultural zones

## Message to Board:

- County should use the State’s definition and regulations for cannabis events
- Treat the same as regulated alcohol events
- Limit to commercial, industrial and agricultural zones

# Community Equity Contribution Program – Recap

## June 15 Board Direction:

**Board Letter Measure 9** - Propose a Community Equity Contribution Program (CECP), to be funded by the County, that will provide direct benefits to the community where cannabis facilities and operations will be located



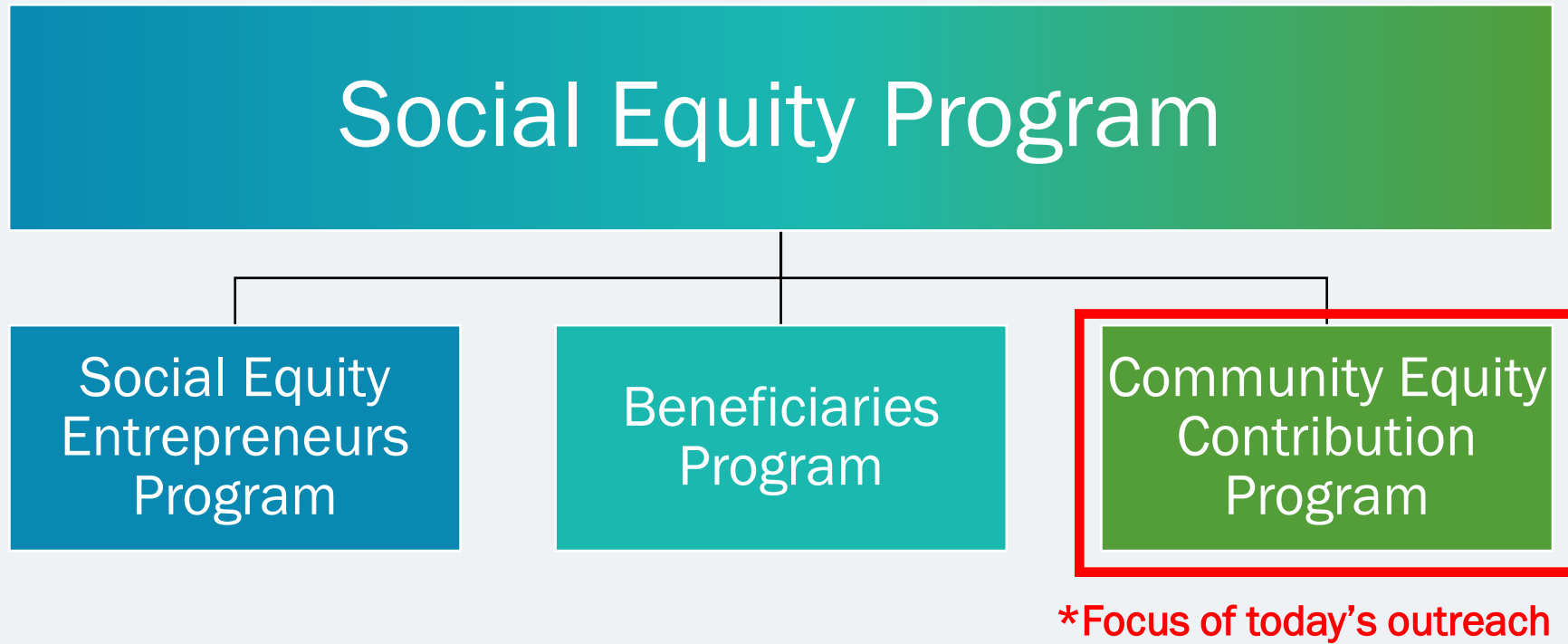
### **Social Equity Entrepreneurs Program**

The County of San Diego is working to develop a Social Equity Entrepreneurs Program concurrently ...

[View Project](#)

# Social Equity Program

Background Information:



# Community Equity Contribution Program – What We’ve Heard

Social equity benefits should go to those harmed by War on Drugs

- Stay focused on original purpose
- Law enforcement should not have input or receive benefits

Concerns about how CECP funding will be set up

- Need to ensure funds are earmarked for equity benefits
- Community should recommend how funds are allocated

Recommendations for community benefits

- Education, public health resources, youth programs, workforce development, etc.

## Message to Board:

- The County should prioritize benefits for those harmed by the War on Drugs
- The community should recommend how funds toward benefits are allocated
- There should be a wide array of benefit options



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