



Town of Bowdoinham

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Memo:

To: Planning Board

Date: July 18, 2023

From: Yvette Meunier, Director of
Planning & Development

Reference Updated language re:
marijuana/cannabis

Basis Statement:

The Select Board is requesting that our Land Use Ordinance be consistent with the 2021 state law changes which replaces the word marijuana with cannabis. We are presenting these proposed ordinance changes based on a simple find-and-replace for the word marijuana and a rearrangement of things to maintain alphabetical ordering.

Further, this change was discussed with the Town's attorney who performed a "spot check" of various provisions of the LUO and compared them with state law. They noted that there are more inconsistencies than just terminology. For example, there are many legal citations that need to be updated. However, our lawyer has not had time to do this more in-depth analysis in time for this presentation.

If the planning board would like to move forward with this simple update with the goal of being brought to the November 2023 ballot we would anticipate another update proposed in June 2024 once a more complete analysis has been done. Please note that we are also reaching out to the State's Office of Cannabis Policy for more recommendations.