



Clark County Department of Building & Fire Prevention

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Division:	Building Division	Code Interpretation:	BD-CI-046
Subject:	MEDICAL MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENTS	Effective Date:	12/02/2014
Code:	IBC, NEC, IECC	Revised Date:	New

A. CODE REQUIREMENT:

This code interpretation identifies minimum standards for the design, construction, alteration, maintenance for Medical Marijuana Establishments. It is intended to protect the public's safety, health and general welfare by setting certain standards for installation, construction, maintenance, alteration, used to cultivate, produce, and distribute medical marijuana.

B. INTERPRETATION

International Building Code. Medical Marijuana Establishments shall comply with all applicable provisions of the Building Code of Clark County. The following shall apply to those structures and portions thereof that cultivate, produce and dispense medical marijuana products.

1. Cultivation and processing buildings or portions thereof shall be located inside a building or structures classified as an F-1 occupancy.
2. Dispensaries buildings or portions thereof shall be located inside a building classified as an M or B occupancy depending on the services provided.
3. Testing laboratories shall be classified as a B occupancy.
4. Membrane structures may be an acceptable structure to house Medical Marijuana Establishments. Those structures shall be classified as either Type IIB, or VB construction as referenced in the International Building Code.
5. Medical Marijuana Establishments with cultivation, processing, laboratories and/or dispensaries may occur in a single building as either Separated or Non-Separated occupancies as pursuant to the International Building Codes Sections 508.3 or 508.4, as allowed by the Zoning Code of Clark County.
6. Buildings or portions thereof shall be evaluated by a Registered Design Professional for possible combustible dust hazards. Production of combustible dust hazards shall meet the applicable portions of the Building Code of Clark County.
7. Any portion of any building that stores, uses, or processes materials that by their chemical nature and quantities stored or used that require a building or portion thereof to be a hazardous occupancy, shall be designed and constructed in accordance with the applicable portions of the Building and Fire Codes of Clark County.

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8. Structural Requirements

The risk category shall be in accordance with Table 1604.5 and shall not be less than risk category II. Wind and Seismic loads shall correspond with the established risk category.

Dead Load:

Planters and the nutrient medium shall be considered fixed service equipment. The equipment locations shall be specified on the drawings and the maximum soil depth established based on a specified unit weight. The nature of the planters shall determine if the dead loads are superimposed as uniformly distributed on a projected area or concentrated loading to the floor system.

Live Load:

The F1 occupancy designation for marijuana cultivation and processing facilities would indicate a light manufacturing use in IBC Table 1607.1. Where the light manufacturing live load of 125 psf is considered to be overly conservative, an alternate method for determination of the live load may be justified. The alternate method determination of the live load may be based on IBC section 1607.2.1 Loads not specified.

- Where an alternate method is being considered, levels above slab-on-grade shall not be less than a uniformly distributed live load of sixty pounds per square foot. Mobile equipment shall be considered when establishing live loads above slab-on-grade.

In accordance with IBC section 1607.3 Uniform live loads; Live loads shall be the maximum loads expected by the intended use or occupancy and established as a uniformly distributed load.

- Slab-on-grade live load shall be a minimum of 250 pounds per square foot.

National Electrical Code Medical Marijuana Establishments shall comply with all applicable provisions of the Electrical Code of Clark County. The following shall apply to those structures and portions thereof that cultivate, produce and/or dispense medical marijuana products.

1. Buildings or portions thereof used for cultivation shall be considered a wet location for wiring methods and corrosion protection unless a Registered Design Professional licensed in the State of Nevada can provide substantial evidence to the satisfaction of the Building Official, or his designee, that cultivation areas are not required to meet the requirement of National Electrical Code for wet locations.
2. Buildings or portions thereof shall be evaluated by a Registered Design Professional for possible combustible dust hazards. Production of combustible dust hazards shall meet the applicable portions of the Electrical Code of Clark County.

International Energy Conservation Medical Marijuana Establishments shall comply with all applicable energy code requirements as adopted by Clark County, except as follows:

1. Lighting used in building or portions thereof that are used for cultivation are exempt from the Energy Code of Clark County for the maximum allowance of light wattage per square foot of area. All other code requirement regarding energy conservation shall apply to Medical Marijuana Establishments in accordance with the applicable portions of the Energy Code of Clark County.

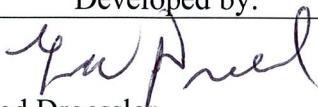
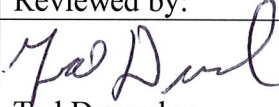

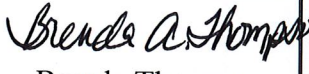


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C. RATIONALE

This interpretation is to provide clarity regarding the code application for Medical Marijuana Establishments submitted to the Clark County Department of Building and Fire Prevention for the purposes of building and relevant trade permits.

Revision History:

POLICY #	TITLE	Effective Date	Revised	Reviewed
BD-CI-046	Medical Marijuana Establishments	December 1, 2014	New	

Developed by:	Reviewed by:		
 Ted Droessler Manager or Staff	 Ted Droessler Engineering Manager	 Kevin McOsker Plans Exam Manager	 Brenda Thompson Inspection Manager
Reviewed by:	Approved by:		
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