

1. Introduction

Providing Emeryville with a safe and community-serving retail solution

GL Partners, Inc. (the "**Applicant**") is a California corporation formed by experienced California medical cannabis dispensary owner/operators to open and operate a new cannabis dispensary in Emeryville, CA (the "**City**"). The shareholders of the Applicant are licensed to operate the following medical cannabis dispensaries in the State of California:

Dispensary name	Dispensary location	Operating since
Harvest on Geary	San Francisco, CA	2016
Harvest off Mission	San Francisco, CA	2016

The Applicant's San Francisco dispensaries, [Harvest on Geary](#) and [Harvest off Mission](#) (the "**Harvest Dispensaries**") serve as the reference models for this application. Each has been credited with invigorating its local business area with a highly compliant, innovative and well-managed retail cannabis operation deemed compatible with the City.



If the Applicant is granted a permit to operate in the City it would operate as "**Harvest of Emeryville**" and leverage the goodwill created by the Harvest brand through its modern format that consumers, employees, neighbors, local businesses and city officials have come to trust and respect as a new definition of retail cannabis in California.

Making retail cannabis safe, accessible and community-friendly

Consistently revered for their striking design and neighborhood-enhancing impact, the Harvest Dispensaries are more-importantly credited with normalizing retail cannabis by creating a stigma-free shopping experience.

- Voluntary independent testing of all cannabis products offered for sale
- On-site consumption lounges staffed by trained personnel
- Bright, modern interiors that are inviting and user-friendly
- Merchandising practices that help consumers better-understand product benefits
- Curated product selection serving many consumer segments

Modern on-site consumption lounges anchor the Harvest Dispensaries to their communities through educational and social events that attract hundreds of local residents per week. These comfortable facilities elevate the dispensary through their stylized and professional format and management.



Consumer safety: Testing of all product for harmful chemicals, pesticides and mold and pre-packaged labeling with helpful content on all cannabis flowers.

Customer service: Trained employees helping patients in an comfortable retail setting—not from behind counters with long lines and wait times.

Community service: Generous sponsors of local charities and host of public events that unite the neighborhood, business area and city.

Compassionate care: Discounts and special programs for veterans, seniors, terminally ill and disadvantaged patients.

Influencing consumer attitude and industry trend

Regional media coverage has recognized Harvest for its major impact on customer service and the format in which the cannabis industry can interact with patients and the local community:

San Francisco Chronicle

Excerpted from 2016 and 2017 coverage

“Gone is the old pot shop’s intimidating, bulletproof glass and black-iron-bar foyer, its surly and hairy staff, the rap soundtrack and pungent aroma of ganja.”

“Is it a high-end cafe? Is it a grocery store? Nope, it’s a medical marijuana dispensary.”



“It reminds me of a Barneys (New York) or a beautiful Whole Foods. It’s pretty impressive,” said Kathryn Azad from Los Gatos.

“This is nice. Very nice. It’s even bigger and better,” said Horace Thomas, a 70-year-old resident of a downtown single-room-occupancy hotel. The former janitor and political activist has been smoking pot for 35 years and heard of the party through the pro-pot Brownie Mary Democratic Club. “You learn a lot from (cannabis). It breaks down racial lines, ethnic lines, cultural lines, sectarian lines and gender lines. It pulls people together. You meet a lot of people through it.”

© 2016, 2017 San Francisco Chronicle