# CANNABIS SUB TEAM Update

6.25.24

### Where are we?

- Operational considerations
  - Engaged consultant Opus Consulting
    - o Business and budget development
    - o Guidance for retail and production direction
  - > Site selection and facility sizing
    - Confirmed by TCR
    - Recommendations in place for retail and production facility footprints
  - Setting a Budget
    - o Proposed budget received from Opus
    - Will finalize with RFP process
  - Branding and marketing
    - o Internal team identified to work on proposed concepts
  - > RFP for design and construction services
    - Launching in next few weeks
  - > Timetable
    - o Permanent retail facility 16-18 mo.
    - o Permanent production facility 24-27 mo.
- Legal considerations
  - MPTN Cannabis Regulatory Law enacted, 49 M.P.T.L.
    - o Regulations to be issued by Cannabis Regulatory Commission created under tribal law
  - ➤ Tribal-State compacting
    - NOT REQUIRED
    - Vertical integration and compacting can work <u>IN PARALLEL</u>
    - o Is there value? How does it impact timing?

## Opus Consulting – based in Portland, ME

#### **Native Nation**

- Chippewa Cree in Montana
  - Hemp and Cannabis Feasibility
- Pokagon Band of Potowatomi in Michigan
  - Cannabis feasibility
  - Project execution
- Mississippi Band of Choctaw in Mississippi
  - Cannabis feasibility
- Seneca Nation in New York
  - Cannabis feasibility
  - Project execution
- Passamaquoddy in Maine
  - Non-cannabis agricultural management advisory



# Retail site approved by TCR102623-01 of 05

#### Lot 10 is the best location for a cannabis retail store

#### Reasonings

- On-territory
  - Tax benefits
  - Ease of licensing
  - Ease of permitting/etc
- Ample room
- Minimal site work
- Speed to market
- High visibility
- Proximity to Foxwoods



### Production site approved by TCR102623-01 of 05

#### SITE



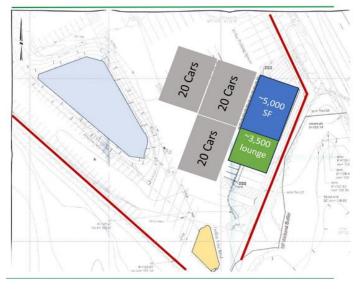
#### CONSIDERATIONS

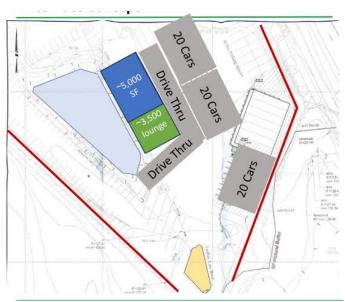
- General size of parcel and expandability
- Potential wetlands
- Existing power
- Existing water
- Expand up, not out due to site location

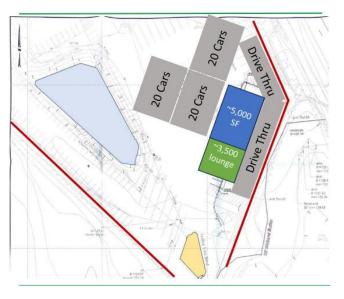
### **Budget and Site Specs**

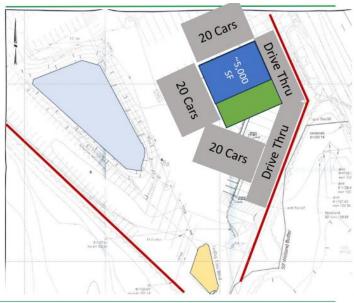
- Total estimated investment ~\$23.5M
  - ~\$4M retail facility construction investment
  - ~\$15M cultivation and production facility construction investment
  - ~\$4.5M equipment purchases and operating expenses
- Estimated annual return ~\$4M-10M (incl. tax revenue)
- Approximate payback period ~4.5 years
- Production facility ~20,000 sq ft footprint
  - Multilevel flexibility (up to 40,000 sq ft)
  - Potential for specialized manufacturing
  - 6,500 sq ft flower canopy
  - Space for admin, post processing, shipping/receiving, manufacturing
- Retail facility ~5,000 sq ft
  - 12 points of sale
  - Drive thru lane(s)
  - 50-60 parking spots
  - Additional ~3,500 sq ft indoor/outdoor consumption lounge space

# Retail site layout ideas









## Branding – Retail concept

#### **Modern Industrial Luxury: Examples**









#### Considerations

- Flex-use industrial building shell
  - · industrial flooring, walls, windows,
  - incorporate interior luxury finishes: cabinets, built-ins, seating, wall paneling
- Mixes well with interior/exterior lounge concept or additional activities such as pool, ping pong, outdoor sports
- Allows for high customer traffic, kiosk or mobile floorplan, and lounge incorporation
- Budget depends on level of finishes
- Incorporate design elements to complement other business enterprises
- Cost per sq. foot varies, depending on design choices and level of customization/ finishes
  - Recent examples of dispensaries range from \$600-\$800/sq. foot (all in CapEx, not just construction costs)

# Branding – Retail concept

**Design Inspiration: Mother Earth** 

#### **Upscale Industrial Modern**





# Branding – indoor/outdoor lounge concept

#### **Example Design Imagery**



#### **Decisions / Assignments**

- Indoor-outdoor concept; offering progressive flow with partial cover
- Explore technical door between interior and exterior seating area
- Build overhanging roof to protect transitional space with seating area and ability to weather proof (with temporary rain or cold barrier)
- Remaining outdoor area to be setup "patiostyle" with landscaping and fencing, but minimal built-ins.
  - Opportunity to 'build up' with further concept refinement in future
- Outdoor lounge concepts to be confirmed, possibilities include:
  - Tailgate games, picnic style/beer garden, fire pit, landscaping options

## Marketing – What do we know about CT market?

#### MUNICIPAL APPROVALS IN CONNECTICUT

#### Municipality Approval Status

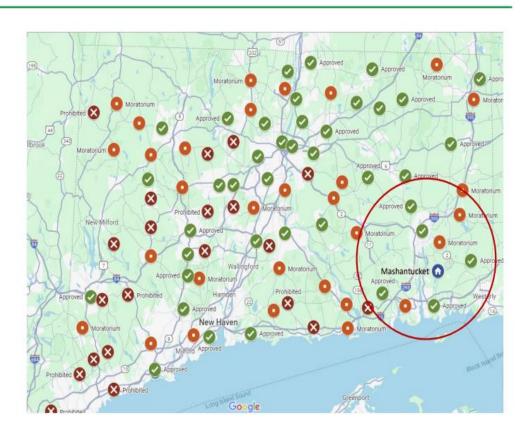
Approved: 41Moratorium: 31Prohibited: 21

 Of the 11 municipalities nearby (~15mi radius), 5 approve adult-use, 5 have moratoriums, and 1 prohibits retail

#### MSOs in CT:

- Curaleaf (same name)
- Green Thumb (RISE dispensaries)
- Verano (Zenleaf & MUV dispensaries)
- Trulieve (same name)
- Acreage (The Botanist)

Approved Dispensaries: **41** (*medical*, *hybrid*, *adult-use*)



- 4 dispensaries
   within 15 min drive
  - ➤ Zen Leaf (Norwich)
  - ➤ The Botanist (Montville)
  - ➤ Curaleaf (Groton)
  - ➤ Higher Collective (New London)

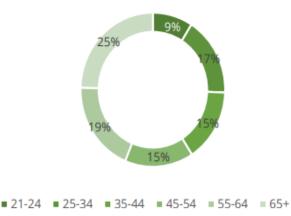
### Marketing – area visitors are crucial to dispensary success

#### **Local Market Data**

- Population within a 5-mile radius: 32,826
- Households: 12,020
- New London County population: 268,595 with ~73% of population addressable
- Projected to represent a smaller percentage of dispensary customers

#### **New London County Demographics**

% of addressable Population



#### **Casino Customer Demographics**

- Casino draws about 20,000 people/day
- Estimate capturing roughly 2% of Casino Customers, ~600/day
- Customers from CT represent 32% of total casino goers; 68% are from out of state
- 59% of out of state customers are from other states wherein cannabis is legal

<b>Projected Customer Der</b>	mographics
Avg Daily Customers	600
Annual Customers	219,000
CT customers	70,080
Out of State Customers	148,920

- Top M-Th casino customers are 65+, from CT/MA/NY
- Top Weekend customers are from CT, MA, NY, RI with increased representation in 45-54, 55-64 age groups
- Non-top 5 weekend groups include greater representation from younger customers

# Other Branding/Marketing Considerations

- Consumption lounge likely to be a novelty in state and regional market
- Price pressures
  - > Local customers will price and product shop across competitors
  - >Area visitors will be accustomed to lower pricing in more mature MA and RI markets
- Next steps refining brand approach and developing logo
  - > Team approach for branding development
  - ➤ Will bring final concepts to MPTN membership for approval













### Compacting

- Currently working on a potential compact with the state in addition to developing our own seed-to-sale operations
  - > Tribal operation will exist with OR without compact
  - > Council will only enter compact if it is beneficial to MPTN
  - > Washington and Nevada models are helpful guide
- Compact opens door to
  - > tribally-licensed operator accessing state products for sale on reservation
  - > state-licensed operator accessing tribal products for sale outside tribal lands
- Potential benefits
  - > provides earlier access to products than MPTN having to grow and manufacture products on its own
  - > may delay or decrease needed investment (~\$15M+) in production facility
  - > compact could open door to temporary/pop-up retail facility while permanent facility constructed
- Critical what are key terms of compact?
  - Taxes (NV/WA model)
  - Regulatory standards
  - Product tracking
- Other issue delivery by state licenses on reservation
  - > DCP agrees that state licensees may not deliver "out of state" (including reservation)
  - ➤ July 1 CT moves to delivery by separate licensees only, i.e. no retailers
    - o DCP is issuing notice to licensees to confirm no permission re tribal lands
    - o MPTN notice to non-registered entities and DCP

## Timeline

#### (projections with compact)

Production	Proj. Start Date:
Facility	7/1/2024

Facility				7/1/2024
Stage	Task	Est. Duration (months)	Est. End Date	
RFP 1	Issue Architect RFP		1	8/1/2024
RFP 1	Review Proposals		0.5	8/16/2024
RFP 1	Select & Engage Architect		1	9/16/2024
Design	Initiate Arch. Design Phase		0.5	10/1/2024
Design	Review Drafted Arch. Design		0.5	10/16/2024
Design	Comments/ Edits		0.5	10/31/2024
Design	Initiate MEP Design		0.5	11/15/2024
Design	Review MEP Design		1	12/16/2024
Design	Final Review / Q&A		0.5	12/31/2024
RFP 2	Issue Construction RFP		1	1/31/2025
RFP 2	Review Proposals		0.5	2/15/2025
RFP 2	Select & Engage Construction Firm		1	3/17/2025
Preconstruction	Permitting		0.5	4/1/2025
Preconstruction	Subcontractor Awarding		0.5	4/16/2025
Preconstruction	Sitework & Material Sourcing		1	5/17/2025
Construction	General Buildout		12	5/17/2026
Construction	Commissioning, Punchlist		1	6/16/2026
Licensing	Licensing, Staffing		0.5	7/1/2026
Operations	Initial Planting		1	7/31/2026
Operations	First Harvest		3	10/29/2026

Retail Store &	Proj. Start Date:
Lounge	7/1/2024

				1,1,2021
Stage	Task	Est. Duration (months)	Est. End Date	
RFP 1	Issue Architect RFP		1	8/1/2024
RFP 1	Review Proposals		0.5	8/16/2024
RFP 1	Select & Engage Architect		1	9/15/2024
Design	Initiate Arch. Design Phase		0.5	9/30/2024
Design	Review Drafted Arch. Design		0.5	10/15/2024
Design	Comments/ Edits		0.5	10/30/2024
Design	Final Review / Q&A		0.5	11/14/2024
RFP 2	Issue Construction RFP		1	12/15/2024
RFP 2	Review Proposals		0.5	12/30/2024
RFP 2	Select & Engage Construction Firm		1	1/30/2025
Preconstruction	Permitting		0.5	2/14/2025
Preconstruction	Subcontractor Awarding		0.5	3/1/2025
Preconstruction	Sitework & Material Sourcing		1	4/1/2025
Construction	General Buildout		5	8/31/2025
Construction	Commissioning, Punchlist		1	9/30/2025
Licensing	Licensing, Staffing		0.5	10/15/2025
Operations	Inventory Purchasing*		1	11/15/2025
Operations	Start Operations		0	11/15/2025

### Timeline

(projections with no compact)

