

February 27, 2024 Ballot Proposal



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On **February 27**, voters will have an opportunity to cast ballots for a referendum on **Adult-Use Marihuana** in Pontiac. This referendum is not a determination of whether the purchase of Adult-Use Marihuana at retail locations will be allowed. The ordinance allowing that, **Ordinance 2406**, was approved by City Council in April 2023.

Following City Council's approval of Ordinance 2406, a group of individuals disagreed with language in the Ordinance and circulated petitions in opposition. Because the group had the appropriate number of valid signatures, City Council reviewed Ordinance 2406 and made a number of amendments which were passed under **Ordinance 2424**.

Ordinance 2424 covers a number of issues governing how Adult-Use Marijuana retail business applications will be considered for licensing, including:

- **Application language**
- **Determination of direct and indirect ownership**
- **Social Equity ownership**
- **Criminal background checks**
- **Neighborhood education communication**
- **Community improvement**
- **Redevelopment of blighted buildings**
- **and other considerations.**

Below are QR Codes to scan and links to **Ordinance 2406** and **Ordinance 2424** so that you may *read through them entirely* and *be informed* about the decision you are being asked to make:

Ordinance 2406: <http://tinyurl.com/Ordinance2406>

Ordinance 2424: <https://tinyurl.com/Ordinance2424>



[So, what proposal are voters considering on February 27, 2024 and how did it make it to the ballot?](#)

Last fall, after additional review, consideration and deliberation, City Council decided and approved on October 10, 2023 to let voters choose whether the amendments contained within **Ordinance No. 2424** should become effective or the original language in **Ordinance 2406** should stand.

On February 27, 2024, residents will vote **YES** or **NO** on Proposal 1 regarding **Ordinance 2424**.

The Pontiac City Charter allows residents to place a referendum on the ballot that seeks to repeal an ordinance adopted by City Council. A ballot question committee, organized entirely outside of any city office, collected enough signatures to place the proposal on the ballot. That is why voters are being asked to consider Proposal 1 on the February 27, 2024 ballot.

[What does a Yes or No vote on the proposal mean?](#)

A **YES** vote on the proposal means Ordinance No. 2424 as adopted by City Council in October 2023 becomes effective.

A **NO** vote rejects the amendments (**Ordinance 2424**) adopted by City Council in October 2023, and the adult-use marihuana ordinance that was originally adopted by City Council in April 2023 (**Ordinance 2406**) becomes effective.