



News Release

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OLCC Commissioners initiate an Alcohol Impact Area in Portland

PORTLAND, Ore. – At their monthly meeting, the Commissioners of the Oregon Liquor Control Commission voted unanimously in favor of beginning the rulemaking process in regard to an alcohol impact area in Downtown Portland.

The petition submitted by the City of Portland and approved by the Commissioners could result in a rule that would limit what alcohol is sold in the downtown area.

“The majority of those who testified, testified in support of an alcohol impact area,” says OLCC Executive Director, Steve Pharo. “Now that the commissioners have accepted the petition, OLCC staff will work with our stakeholders during the rulemaking process to flesh out the details of the proposal so that it creates the greatest opportunity for success.”

The rulemaking process is inclusive – which means that it takes sufficient time to gather feedback from a variety of stakeholders such as The City of Portland, businesses that may be affected by an alcohol impact area, special interest groups and citizens.

The five citizen commissioners are the policy-making body of the OLCC. They meet monthly for one or two days to make decisions on liquor licenses, rules, contested case hearings and appointments of liquor store agents. Commission meetings are held every other month at OLCC's main office, 9079 SE McLoughlin Blvd., Room 103A in Portland. Subsequent months, the meetings are held via phone. Agenda items can be obtained on-line at http://www.oregon.gov/OLCC/public_meetings.shtml

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Did you know that in the last two years, the OLCC distributed more than \$343 million to Oregon's General Fund, Cities, Counties, and Drug and Alcohol Abuse Programs? [See the distribution of dollars on OLCC's Website.](#)