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Miami Township trustees approve medical marijuana ban

Board believes too many 'unknowns' remain in marijuana industry

The Miami Township Board of Trustees voted unanimously Tuesday evening, Dec. 12, 2017, to approve Miami Township Zoning Commission recommendations to make necessary revisions to Article 3 of the Miami Township Resolution, effectively banning any medical marijuana establishments from setting up shop in Miami Township.

Although the state of Ohio recently announced where the initial cultivation facilities will be located, the township believes there are too many questions still to be answered moving forward about these facilities.

“These facilities are heavily regulated and must follow strict state guidelines and are not necessarily located based upon market demand,” Chris Snyder, Miami Township community development director said. “It is difficult to know how much demand or use each facility will generate. Traffic flow and parking needs at these facilities will become more apparent as the state evaluates how many facilities are required to meet consumer demand.”

There are many issues to be considered, including conflicts with current federal law that have not been resolved. The action taken by the board does not prevent an individual from utilizing medical marijuana obtained outside the township under the state medical marijuana program.

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The Zoning Commission voted to recommend approval of the changes to Zoning Case 425-17 at its Nov. 11, 2017, meeting. The new amendment will take effect January 11, 2018 and replaces the six-month moratorium approved on Nov. 14, 2017.

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