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MAJOR ONLINE PLATFORM INUNDATING NEIGHBORHOODS WITH ILLEGAL POT DELIVERIES
Public Safety & Livable Neighborhoods Chairman Demands “Weedmaps” Halts Advertisements

San Diego, CA: At the December 6, 2017 Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee meeting, Councilmember Chris Cate and the Committee received an informative update from the City Attorney’s office and the San Diego Police Department about the collaboration currently underway to enforce the City’s Municipal Code pertaining to illegal marijuana delivery services.

With the commencement of recreational marijuana sales beginning on January 1, 2018, a top concern of Chairman Cate is exploring opportunities to address online platforms that advertise illegal marijuana delivery services and provide consumers access to the illegal and unpermitted marijuana delivery market.

“Several Councilmembers at the December committee meeting spoke about the importance of addressing these online platforms. I respectfully requested that the City Attorney’s office explore opportunities to collaborate with online platforms advertising illegal marijuana deliveries to gain voluntary compliance, and, if appropriate, pursue legal action against these platforms. Cities, such as Los Angeles, have been successful in the past in shutting down online illegal marijuana delivery platforms through lawsuits. This avenue should be furthered explored in the City of San Diego,” stated Chris Cate, Public Safety & Livable Neighborhoods Committee Chairman.

Currently, online platforms, such as Weedmaps, serve as online advertisers for hundreds of marijuana delivery services that do not have a corresponding Conditional Use Permit in the City of San Diego. A majority of these delivery services are illegal under San Diego Municipal Code Section 141.0504(j) which specifies that, “deliveries shall be permitted as an accessory use only from marijuana outlets with a valid Conditional Use Permit.” Enforcement of our City regulations ensures safe access to legal marijuana and that the City of San Diego receives the tax revenue to help pay for enforcement and essential City services.

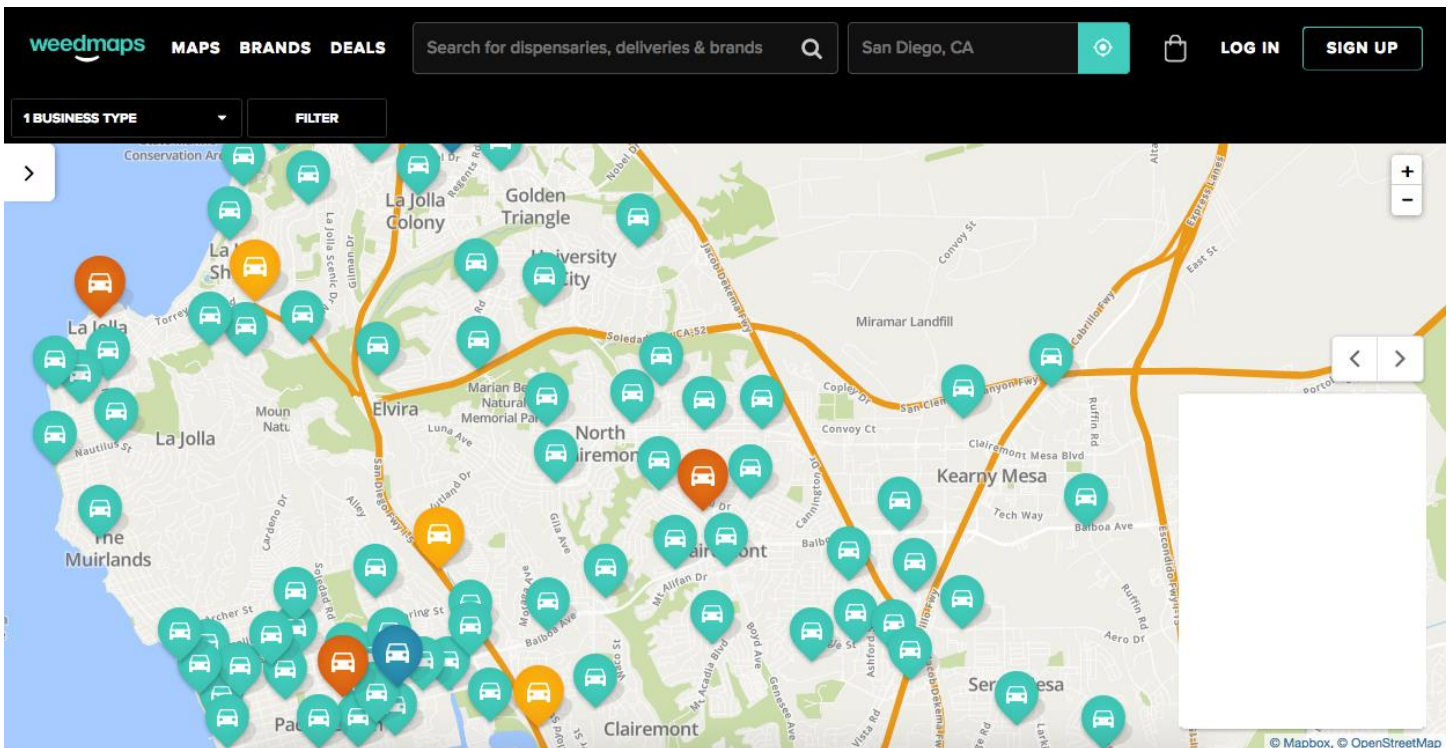
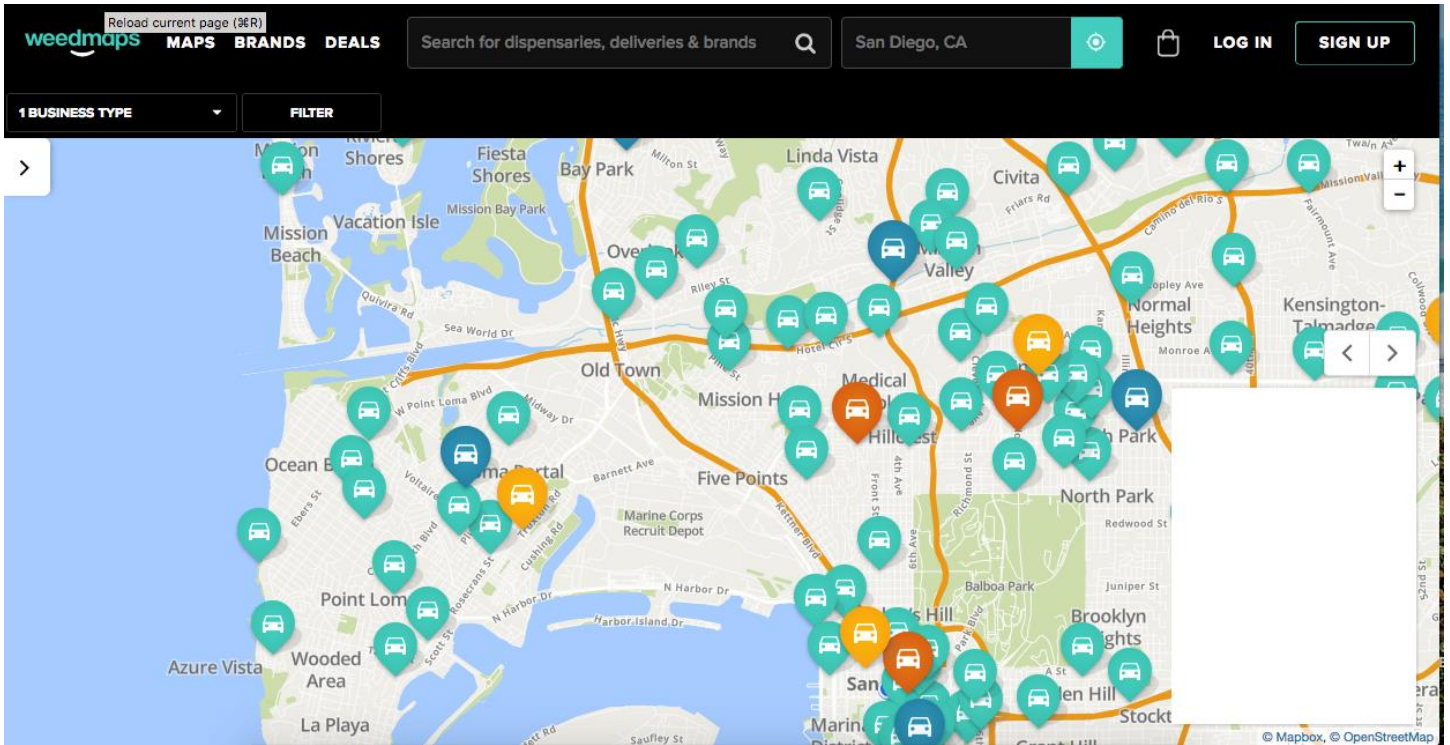
“If you look at Weedmaps’ website, there are hundreds of locations being advertised in the City of San Diego. As of today, there should be no more than sixteen (16) locations on the Weedmaps’ platform in the City of San Diego. It is apparent that there are many illegal deliveries being advertised.”

View Councilmember Cate’s letter to Weedmaps here: <http://bit.ly/2CLoh4X>

View Councilmember Cate’s Memorandum to the City Attorney here: <http://bit.ly/2CLvGS9>

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