



News Release

Oregon Liquor Control Commission
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Liquor Store expansion adds eight small businesses to the metro region Latest phase of long-planned effort to address population driven retail growth

PORTLAND, OR. – The Oregon Liquor Control Commission held a two day Commission meeting to evaluate approximately 50 small business proposals for eight new liquor store locations planned for the current phase of OLCC's retail liquor store expansion program. Commissioners also discussed the progression of the legislative session and held a lengthy discussion on the Commissions proposed settlements.

In February of this year, the Commission announced the opportunity to operate eight new liquor stores within Multnomah, Clackamas and Washington Counties, as a part of the Commission's retail expansion program. This expansion opportunity generated significant interest resulting in the Commission receiving the large number of applications.

Commissioner Kiauna Floyd noted that she was very excited for the applicants that were selected as new state liquor store agents in a highly competitive process. "This pool of applicants was rich with people from diverse communities, diverse life experiences, and diverse professional backgrounds," said Floyd. "Not only am I excited for what this opportunity means for those new agents who come from diverse communities, I'm excited about what all these agents will bring to their customers and to the state's bottom line. And that's exactly what we should be doing."

Over the course of the meeting, Commissioners listened to business proposals and questioned applicants about their experience and plans to operate a retail liquor store. The Commission is charged with ensuring that liquor store operators manage their business in a safe and professional manner, while generating an economic benefit to the state, providing Oregon consumers with a range of distilled spirit selections while at the same time keeping alcohol out of the hand of minors.

The OLCC's retail expansion program started in 2015 when there were 248 liquor stores across the state. Currently, there are 281 liquor stores operating in Oregon. Population growth, shifting demographics and consumer demand are factors in the store location decision making process.

After listening to each presentation and deliberating, the Commissioners announced that the following businesses would be given the opportunity to operate a liquor store (*addresses are tentative*):

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Clackamas County

Thapa Liquor Inc.	901 Main St	Oregon City	97045
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Multnomah County

Johns Family Inc.	4239 SE 182nd Ave	Gresham	97080
Urbana Market LLC	3550 S River Pkwy	Portland	97239
Salud PDX LLC	10143 SE Foster Rd	Portland	97266
B & W L LLC	3514 SE 122nd Ave	Portland	97236
Rothenfluch Inc.	6900 NE Glisan St	Portland	97213
CR DM Fremont LLC	4941 NE Fremont St	Portland	97213

Washington County

JZO LLC	11505 SW Pacific Hwy	Tigard	97223
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Commissioners acknowledged the hard work put in by the field of applicants, while observing that the competitive opportunity put a limit on the number of proposals they could select.

“We’ve reached a new era in the quality of applicants – professional, polished, entrepreneurial and if we had had more available locations we would have certainly made additional appointments,” said Paul Rosenbaum, Commission Chair. “So I’d encourage these applicants to stay ready because they’re the kind of candidates who are important to our future.”

The Commissioners also appointed RB Bruns Foods Inc. as the agent to operate the Veneta store located as the previous agent had retired. Oregonians who want to find their local liquor store should visit <http://www.oregonliquorsearch.com/>.

During the course of discussing and deliberating proposed alcohol licensee violation settlements earlier, several Commissioners expressed concerns about the impact of COVID-19 on the hospitality industry, and did not move forward on any of the proposed settlements.

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