



June 2025 – CEO REPORT

Introduction

In May 2025, the Mendocino Cannabis Department (“MCD”) reviewed and granted local authorization for 15 active Cannabis Cultivation Business License (“CCBL”) applications. MCD also advanced local equity efforts by executing 4 Local Equity Entrepreneurial Program (“LEEP”) direct grant agreements, delivering \$200K in state-funded resources to eligible local cannabis operators. In addition, the Department launched a LEEP fee relief window expected to provide \$92,000 in County fee waivers to verified equity applicants.

Below are several key accomplishments of MCD in May of 2025:

- Issued and renewed approximately 18.5K square feet (0.43 acres) of commercial cannabis cultivation.
- Completed 10 physical inspections of proposed or existing CCBL sites.
- Concluded the Cannabis Tax Appeal application process as of May 20, 2025, with 52 applications approved.

Department Fiscal Updates

- The Department collected 59 fees, totaling \$16,478.00.
- Fee revenue helps offset staff time dedicated to specific, fee-related tasks.
- Staff time is allocated based on time studies conducted for each individual task.

For more information on MCD’s Monthly Activity, please click [HERE](#).

I. Effective County Government Organization

- The Department began conducting Priority Inspections in May and will visit 5% of all CCBL sites enrolled in the program by the end of the cultivation season. This effort ensures onsite compliance for all licensed operators.

II. A Safety and Healthy County

- The Cannabis Department participated in the Pre-Fire Season Coordination Meeting, to collaborate and share information regarding Ag Pass Program. The Ag Pass program allows commercial agricultural producers, livestock operators, and authorized cannabis operators to access restricted areas during emergencies like wildfires.

III. A Thriving Economy

- 39 number of annuals were licensed at the State level, only 130 number of applications remain without both local and state licensure.
- MCD’s current LEEP grant provides up to \$50,000 in funding for business expenses to support eligible cannabis businesses. This grant program is currently in progress, and the Department



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anticipates being able to fund an additional 7 direct grants already in queue with the current round of funding.

- MCD opened a LEEP fee relief window for applicants which will assist verified equity operators with over \$92K in County fee assistance.
- The Mendo Cup, held on May 4, 2025, brought together hundreds of visitors, local vendors, and cannabis innovators, showcasing Mendocino County's dynamic role in California's thriving cannabis economy. With strong turnout, local business participation, and widespread media attention, the event highlighted the region's growing reputation as a hub for sustainable agriculture and green industry leadership.