

## New Laws

Every year, legislation is enacted in the state of Arizona that affects cities, businesses, neighborhoods and individuals. City officials are studying two new laws that will directly impact all of us.

HB2246 allowed the legal sale of fireworks in Arizona beginning December 1, 2010. As permitted under this new law, cities and towns may regulate the “use” of consumer fireworks but not the sale. Many Arizona cities have passed ordinances to restrict the use of fireworks within their jurisdiction. Glendale continues to consider the proper ordinance that will be most effective in regulating this activity.

In November, Arizona voters approved Proposition 203 which legalized marijuana for medicinal purposes. The new law gives the State Department of Health Services licensing authority and allows for up to 124 dispensaries statewide. It also allows cities and towns to adopt “reasonable regulations” for these operations. These dispensaries are legitimate operations under state law; therefore, Glendale’s ability to regulate them locally must be consistent with the state’s land use statutes. The administrative process regulating these establishments will include permitting them only in specific zoning districts, limiting the size of buildings, and requiring minimum distances from residential areas, schools, and between dispensaries.

The City of Glendale will continue to work on these and other changes to state law to ensure that we are in compliance and acting in the best interest of our residents.