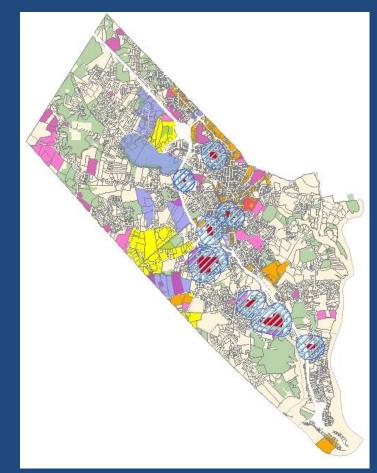
#### Alternative Treatment Centers Draft Regulations - Update





March 10, 2015

## **Minimum Statutory Criteria**

- Statute includes two specific locational restrictions (RSA 126-X:8.II):
  - ATCs may not be located in any <u>residential district</u> and
  - may not be located within 1,000 feet of any school or <u>drug free zone</u>

## "Residential Districts"

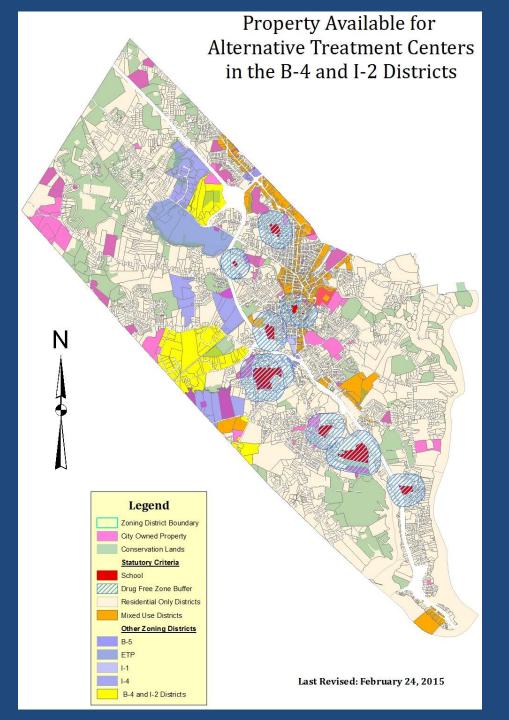
- City staff interpret "residential districts" to mean any district in which residential uses are permitted
  - Staff is not aware of any contrary interpretation by the Department of Health and Human Services or otherwise

# "Drug Free Zones"

- NH RSA 193-b:1, II defines drug-free school zone as "...an area inclusive of any property <u>used for school purposes</u> by any school, whether or not owned by such school, within 1,000 feet of any such property[.]"
- NH Department of Education regulation 316 distinguishes between and provides definitions for "<u>temporary</u>" and "<u>permanent</u>" drug free zones.
- How these definitions apply to the ATC statute and where ATCs may be located has not been fully clarified by the Department of Health and Human Services. There remains a significant amount of uncertainty as to how to interpret and apply the "drug free zone" language.
- The Therapeutic Cannabis Program Steering Committee met on March 9, 2015. It is staff's understanding that the drug free school zones issue was discussed.

# Map Changes

- School boundaries reduced from 2,000 ft to 1,000 ft
- McConnell Center property added meets definition of "drug free zone"
- B-4 District properties along Knox Marsh Road no longer encumbered by what staff had interpreted as the radius of the drug free zone



### **Staff Recommendations**

- Staff recommends allowing ATCs in the B-4 and I-2 Districts
- Uncertainty in interpretation of statute and regulations reinforces importance of a proactive zoning approach
- Placement in B-4 and I-2 will avoid interpretation issues entirely – no schools or school uses are located in these zones

### **Questions?**

Department of Planning and Community Development

http://www.dover.nh.gov/government/city-operations/planning