**CCRS Next Steps**

The Cannabis Central Reporting System (CCRS) is the LCB’s current cannabis reporting system.

CCRS has been the reporting mechanism that the industry uses to report all steps that regulated cannabis plants and products must follow throughout their lifespan from seeding to retail sale.

CCRS has been in place since December 2021. It was developed by LCB with input from the industry.

While it is serving its intended purpose of bridging the gap between our former vendor’s (MJ Freeway) product (Leaf Data Systems) and LCB’s next traceability system. It was never intended to be LCB’s long-term traceability solution.

While the reporting requirements are less stringent in CCRS than previous platforms (Leaf Data Systems and Biotrack), it is not fully meeting the needs of the industry nor the LCB. There are reporting and traceability needs that CCRS cannot meet.

* For example, Industry members cannot see what they have reported in CCRS;
* And. delays in data entry of an event occurring at a licensed business causes a delay in any necessary enforcement actions.

Further, LCB IT staff say that CCRS can reasonably be expected to function for approximately one year. However, with ongoing maintenance it can continue for additional years.

In early-July, the agency issued an RFI or Request for Information to learn more about what services are available that could potentially replace CCRS for long-term use. RFI submissions were due back to the LCB Aug. 3, 2023 and we received responses from seven vendors.

**Continuing to Solicit Input**

The information we receive from the RFI will be valuable as we work toward the future so we can determine a scope and propose a decision package for a new traceability system.

We will use the RFI information to help inform our team as we plan for what steps we should take to prepare for the 25/27 biennium. We will solicit input from stakeholders including licensees, labs, integrators, other state agencies, LCB staff, our Board, and lawmakers.

In addition, we will consider the information gathered from the prior cannabis workgroup and determine the needs of traceability for Washington State prior to issuing the RFP. We may also hire consultants, if necessary, to support this process.

The key reason we are not pursuing CCRS’s replacement now is because the agency cannot build a new traceability system while we are also building phase three of SMP --which is the Enforcement and Education phase. We anticipate building phase three in late-spring or summer of 2024. The systems will need to work with each other.

**Future Stakeholder Input**
The LCB is committed to communicating with licensees, labs and integrators when we build the scope, pursue the decision package, and later the RFP. As CCRS was developed and deployed, licensees and commercial integrators were valuable in testing and providing feedback. We will continue to keep you informed as we move forward with planning.

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