



cityofnovi.org

CITY of NOVI CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Item 1
June 3, 2013

SUBJECT: Consideration of request from Grand Traverse Distillery, LLC for a New Spirit Tasting Room with new Sunday Sales Permit (AM) to be located at 43320 11 Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375.

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: City Clerk *[Signature]*

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL: *[Signature]*

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The applicant, Kent Rabish, currently operates four Grand Traverse Distillery tasting rooms in Michigan. Grand Traverse Distillery produces Vodka, Whiskey and other spirits and holds a Small Distillers License, which was recently created by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission (MLCC) to encourage small business growth in Michigan. MCL 436.1537(9) states the following:

Licensed Small Distillers may apply for a Spirit Tasting Room location approval located off the distillery licensed premises. The Small Distiller may offer free tastings to the consumer and may sell for off premise consumption only, spirit products made by the Small Distiller. Under no circumstances may any other alcoholic beverage products other than those produced by the Small Distiller be sampled in the Tasting Room. Spirit products cannot be sold by the glass for consumption at the tasting room premises. Only samples may be provided.

The Police Department has no objection to the request. The Fire Department has no objections at this time. The Building Division has no objections to the request, pending approval of final inspections. Per the Planning Division, the use is permitted subject to site plan review.

The general licensing policy as stated in Chapter 3 of the City Code states, at Sec 3-13, that an applicant must demonstrate in particular that the proposed facility:

- (a) Will provide a service, product, or function that is not presently available within the city or that would be unique to the city or to an identifiable area within the city.
- (b) Is of a character that will foster or generate economic development or growth within the city, or an identifiable area of the city, in a manner consistent with the city's policies.
- (c) Represents an added financial investment on the part of a long-term business or resident with recognized ties to the city and the local community.

More specific review criteria are set forth at subsection 3-15(g), and in addition to the general information regarding the applicant and the facility or building at issue, they require a review of the benefits to the community of the proposed use:

(3) **Benefits to community:**

- a. The effects that the issuance of a license would have upon the economic development of the city or the surrounding area.
- b. The effects that the issuance of a license would have on the health, welfare, and safety of the general public.
- c. Whether the applicant has demonstrated a public need or convenience for the issuance of the liquor license for the business facility at the location proposed, taking into consideration the following, together with other factors deemed relevant by the council:
 - 1. The total number of licenses for similar establishments and/or operations in the city, considered both in terms of whether such number of similar establishments is needed and whether there may be a need for other types of establishments that could go unmet if the requested license were granted.
 - 2. The proximity of the establishment to other licensed liquor establishments, the type of such establishments, whether such other establishments are similar to that proposed, and the anticipated impact of all such determinations.
 - 3. Whether the proposed location is in an area characterized as developed, redeveloping, or undeveloped, and the anticipated impact of approving the newly proposed establishment in light of such character, taking into consideration the need for any type of additional licensed establishment in the area, and the need the particular type of establishment proposed.
- d. The uniqueness of the proposed facility when contrasted against other existing or proposed facilities, and the compatibility of the proposed facility to surrounding architecture and land use.
- e. The permanence of the establishment in the community, as evidenced by the prior or proposed contributions to the city or community by the applicant or business, and the extent to which the issuance of the license will assist in the further investment of the applicant or business in the city or the community.
- f. The character and extent of investment in improvements to the building, premises, and general area.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Consideration of request from Grand Traverse Distillery, LLC for a New Spirit Tasting Room with new Sunday Sales Permit (AM) to be located at 43320 11 Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375.

	1	2	Y	N
Mayor Gatt				
Mayor Pro Tem Staudt				
Council Member Casey				
Council Member Fischer				

	1	2	Y	N
Council Member Margolis				
Council Member Mutch				
Council Member Wrobel				