**Marijuana aroma a reason for search?**

Illinois Supreme Court to decide after decisions on vehicles

By Robert McCoppin

An issue that has stirred lower courts in Illinois—whether the odor of cannabis alone is grounds for police to search a vehicle—is now before the Illinois Supreme Court. Appellate courts have split over the question, forcing the high court to make the call. At issue are efforts to prevent the spread of the pandemic by keeping police from making a constitutional right to search without evidence.

Before legislation, courts had long held that the smell of marijuana was grounds for a search, despite attorney general’s claims conceded during arguments before the Supreme Court earlier this month that courts argued that once possession of small amounts of the drug is legal under state law in 2020, smell no longer tipped or supported the search.

“The odor of cannabis now is an area of legality,” Mertes said at the high court.

Proponents contended that state law makes it illegal to transport cannabis and, therefore, searches should be allowed. Under current law, the court concluded that two cases with analogous appeals rulings on the issue.

In 2020, a state trooper testified Ryan Redmond did not show the signs of marijuana use having a dangling license plate and driving 3 mph over the speed limit on I-80 in western Illinois. The trooper testified that if it is a “loomis boarder” consisting knowledge of criminal activity in Des Moines, Iowa, and Chicago. The trooper testified that he smelled a strong odor of burnt cannabis coming from the vehicle. When he searched it, he found about a gram of pot—enough for a couple of joints. Redmond was charged with misdemeanor and his case was continued, but Mertes said the odors to be searched.

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Todays

**City ordinance could curb natural gas use**

Council to weigh limits that would effectively ban it in new buildings

By Nara Schoenberg

An ordinance that would fight climate change by effectively banning the use of natural gas in most new buildings is headed to the Chicago City Council.

The Clean and Affordable Building Ordinance would be introduced Wednesday, according to Ald. Ross Hansen, a sponsor of the measure.

The ordinance sets an emissions limit for new developments and opens the way for the electric: building and appliance upgrades they play a key role in making green buildings gas emissions and start the

"It’s a matter of real survival and the future of our city—and especially our economic future," said Alderman. "We’re being faced in this direction by nature, but also by policy and by human need. The time to make decisions because it’s economical, it’s healthy, it’s wise."