Marijuana is now effectively legal to possess in Brooklyn – at least for most people.

The district attorney, Kenneth P. Thompson, announced Tuesday that his office would not prosecute adults carrying up to two ounces of the drug unless there were aggravating factors.

Among them: having a significant criminal record or smoking in some public places or around children.

That is the will of the district attorney, over police objections. But what is the will of the people?

We unscientifically surveyed a dozen passers-by in front of the D.A.’s office and a police station.

A large majority backed the policy.

“I approve of it, as long as it’s not paraded in the streets, because of the little children,” said Irvin Diggs, 63, a handyman walking by the 79th Precinct station house in Bedford-Stuyvesant.
Sylvia Morse, 27, an urban planning graduate walking by the prosecutor’s office downtown, said that while the measure did not eliminate discriminatory police enforcement, “it provides a check and balance.”

(There will be a protest against arrest disparities outside City Hall today.)

Only two of the 12 people we talked to expressed reservations.

A 52-year-old named Ivette said the threshold was too lax. “Smaller quantities, maybe,” she said.

T. Salik, a former corrections officer, said, “You can’t walk down the street with an open container of alcohol. Why should you be able to smoke marijuana openly?”