

Cannabis Business License Ordinance, April 10, 2018

Board of Supervisors

Public Comment 4/9/18 Item 18-00260

Lil Clary  
Tepusquet Canyon

The newly revised Cannabis Business License Ordinance addresses issues raised at the Board of Supervisor's March 20 meeting.

The revision that is of most interest to me, the creation of the Hearing Officer and the process for hearings, seems well defined. I look forward to the point in time when this individual is able to begin hearings as I expect that many of the illegal operations in Tepusquet Canyon will be dealt with.

As to other issues covered in this agenda item, I want to express support for the list of staff positions identified to deal with cannabis licensing, permitting, and enforcement.

I do have a concern about the length of time illegal operators will be able to continue in business before having to submit to the new licensing and permitting processes. The options shown in the Board Letter are all too generous. Growers who have established operations while the emergency ordinance has been in effect have gambled that they will get in several crops before being shut down. Based on observations here in Tepusquet Canyon, these operators are making millions, tax free while destroying the environment, peace and quiet of our neighborhood.

The Business License Ordinance requires that applications be submitted prior to engaging in a commercial cannabis activity. To my mind, this is the key phrase. It should be the principal determinant. The illegal operators in Tepusquet have already flouted the requirements of the emergency ordinance; now they will have the opportunity to continue their lucrative operations while avoiding the rules of the new ordinance until the very last possible moment.