

Ramirez, Angelica

Public Comment

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**From:** Deanne Beer <dbeer@towerindustries.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 25, 2020 3:00 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** letters LUDC Cannabis  
**Attachments:** Deanne\_06252020143400.pdf

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Aspen Westerly Properties, LP  
1890 Westerly Rd  
Santa Ynez, CA 93460  
805 686 9072

June 2, 2020

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara, California 93101  
By email to [sbcob@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:sbcob@co.santa-barbara.ca.us)

**RE: Amendments to LUDC Regarding Commercial Cannabis Activities  
Departmental Item #7**

Chair Hart and Honorable Supervisors,

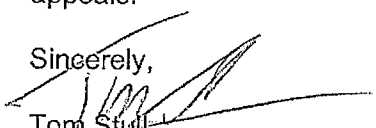
We are writing to urge your support of the Planning Commission's recommendations to require both a CUP for cannabis cultivation and on-site processing on AG-II parcels, and odor control in AG-II zones. We support all cannabis cultivation being permitted with a CUP as this step gives the County the necessary authority and discretion to tailor cannabis projects, while affording interested parties access to project documents and a written staff analysis of the key issues to learn about the project, and raise questions and concerns to staff and the Planning Commission *before* project approval.

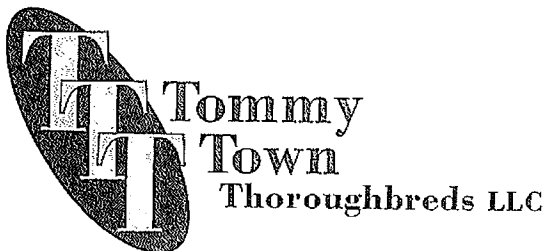
Public participation is welcomed and neighbor input is recognized as critical in almost any other context – particularly for new industries. This is not the case with cannabis permits where the public cannot comment on a draft permit or have their concerns addressed before projects are approved. The current permitting process forces applicants to work through complicated regulatory issues with County staff without any public input. Without community input before project approval, the community is left in the dark and is thus appealing almost every project – this ultimately takes even more time. If there were more robust public participation and engagement through a CUP and hearing process, better projects would come forth and they would move forward more quickly. Further, if all parties can plan for projects to go before the Planning Commission at the outset, projects will move through the County's process in a more orderly fashion and applicants will have more certainty about that process.

The CUP will also give the oversight and control it needs to integrate this new industry into our community without negatively impacting other industries. It is clear the current process for permitting cannabis operations has resulted in cannabis threatening our existing industries, rather than integrating into our community. The County's current "one size fits all" land use permitting structure has unfortunately facilitated this imbalance. A CUP for all cannabis projects will return the balance by promoting fairness and accountability in the permitting and approval process for all community members.

Thank you for your time and consideration of your community's concerns. Please give us a voice in the County's process to integrate this new industry into our communities and prevent these endless appeals.

Sincerely,

  
Tom Stull  
President



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