

Lenzi, Chelsea

From: Cory Black <cory@publicpolicyinc.com>
Sent: Monday, November 13, 2017 3:55 PM
To: Williams, Das; Wolf, Janet; Hartmann, Joan; Adam, Peter; Lavagnino, Steve; sbcob; Fogg, Mindy; Metzger, Jessica
Cc: Brian Touey
Subject: Letter from Touey, Hass & Cape Farms re: Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance

November 13, 2017

Supervisor Joan Hartmann, Chair
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA

RE: Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance

Dear Supervisors:

On behalf of Touey, Hass & Cape Farms, one of the current registered medicinal^[1] cannabis cultivators operating in Santa Barbara County, I am writing you today regarding several issues of concern that have been raised by the Board of Supervisors at recent hearing on the Cannabis regulatory ordinance – the need for an interim business licenses, implementing a low taxation model based on gross receipts, manufacturing on cultivation properties to allow for vertical integration & allowing multiple cultivation licenses on one parcel.

We strongly support the County of Santa Barbara issuing an interim business license to registered cultivators during the current interim period while the County finishes the public process and drafting of the permanent cannabis regulatory ordinance. An interim business license from the County is significant because it will allow local registered cultivators like Touey, Hass & Cape Farms to pursue a state license as soon as possible

We would also like to encourage the Board of Supervisors to explore and implement a low taxation model for cannabis cultivators that is based on gross receipts and not on square footage. At its heart cannabis cultivation is farming. Like with any farm product – some harvests are successful and profitable and some are not. A gross receipts based tax structure allows the County to reap the rewards of a successful harvest without overly burdening a cultivator during the unfortunate unsuccessful seasons.

We would also like to strongly encourage the Board of Supervisors to allow for processing and manufacturing on cultivation sites. As with other ag products it reduces impacts and allows for increased vertical integration to process and manufacture an ag product at the same site where a product is cultivated.

On a similar note we would also encourage the Board to allow for multiple cultivation licenses on one property. This would allow traditional agricultural properties like ours to fully utilize the existing infrastructure on site. Due to the fixed costs of an agriculture operation that are tied to the property size it may not economically viable to continue our operations if limits are put into place that would only allow us to use a small portion of our large property.

If you have questions regarding these comments, please contact me at brian@coasttocoastventures.com.

Sincerely,
Brian Touey