

Ramirez, Angelica

From: fnemerson <fnemerson@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 9:37 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Letter for hearing on Cannabis Ordinance Amendments, June 2, 2020
Attachments: WEWBOSCannabis52920.docx



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Good morning,

Please add the following letter to the record and forward to the Supervisors for their meeting on June 2 when amendments to the Cannabis Ordinances will be on the agenda.

To help with length of hearing, will your staff please read the letter into the record rather than me calling in to read it?

Thank you.

Nancy Emerson
WE Watch

WE Watch, P.O Box 830, Solvang CA93464

May 29, 2020

TO: Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
FROM: WE Watch, Nancy Emerson, President
RE: Cannabis Ordinance Amendements



WE Watch's position when evaluating individual cannabis projects in the Santa Ynez Valley is to support coexistence if projects are compatible with existing land uses. This requires that all interested parties study and comment on most projects' details.

WE Watch first asked for your help with cannabis regulation in December 2018. Your decisions such as not allowing cannabis cultivation on 20 acres or less, placing a cap on cannabis acreage countywide and changing to merit based selection of retail projects have been valuable.

However, the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors still do not have the tools needed to protect nearby residences, communities, tasting rooms, vineyards and other legacy agricultural crops. We risk losing existing agriculture and tourism if CUPs and Odor Abatement Plans for all cannabis cultivation and processing activities are not adopted by you.

CUPs will assure that, when each project is evaluated, the public can be involved. In areas with multiple projects, measures dealing with cumulative impacts will be fairly distributed among the applicants. Needed revisions will be required and denial will occur when impacts cannot be successfully mitigated. Odor abatement plans will eliminate the problem most frequently reported by the public.

Hopefully, these tools will enable mutually satisfactory coexistence, income for cannabis and the County, plus reduction or elimination of appeals and lawsuits. Time, coupled with experience, may open up new ways to evaluate cannabis projects.