Public Comment #5

LATE DIST

WE Watch, P.O Box 830, Solvang CA93463

November 4, 2019

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: WE Watch, Nancy Emerson, President
RE: Retail Selection Process; Higher Than Anticipated Cannabis Revenue

Retail Selection Process

Thank you for requesting a review of the retail selection process and for the staff's thorough research of retail selection processes, development of multiple options and recommendations regarding these options.

For roles in a criteria-based application review, ranking and selection process, we support using Options 2 and 3, where a third-party consultant is used for reviewing the business plan components while a staff committee is utilized for reviewing neighborhood compatibility issues.
Since parties unhappy with the above process can evidently appeal to your Board, we agree that it is best for you to help develop the selection process and criteria but not involve yourselves in the actual selection.

> "• **Noticed hearings to receive public comment on the top three applicants for each community plan area. Hearings will be held in each community plan area.**"
> This is a very important part of making this process as transparent as possible. Thank you for including it.

For Criteria and Scoring Options for Cannabis Storefront Retail, we support the staff recommendation that Options 1 and 2 be combined to form Option 3. We really appreciate inclusion of the Neighborhood Compatibility criteria.

For Application format and Submittal Guidelines, we support the staff recommendation that Options #1, #2 and #3 be combined to form Option 5.

2. Higher Than Anticipated Cannabis Revenue

Generally, we agree with the recommendation that allocation of higher than anticipated revenue be decided as part of the annual budget process. We continue to advise that the first priority be making sure the departments involved in regulating the cannabis industry receive the funds needed to do the job right. The goal is to allow legal cannabis where it can coexist satisfactorily with those living in the areas of the County where its activities are located. We think only the expenditure of $54,000 for Handheld THC Analyzers for the Sheriff's Department should be approved at this time as it falls under our priority advice.