



# Public Comment

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## City of Buellton

LATE  
DIST

TO: Chair Lavagnino and Honorable Board Members

RE: **Planning Items and Public Hearings Agenda Item No. 1 (19-00652)**  
Chapter 50 – Licensing of Commercial Cannabis Operations Ordinance Amendments &  
Cannabis Business Licensing Fee Ordinance Amendments

This letter is respectfully submitted to the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors on behalf of the Buellton City Council. The position of the Buellton City Council regarding outdoor cannabis cultivation was previously conveyed to the County of Santa Barbara Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors. While they are not opposed to the cultivation of cannabis as an allowed use in the County, they do have concerns with the excessive odor impacts of outdoor cannabis cultivation which are in too near proximity, and in too high a concentration in areas surrounding Buellton.

Buellton residents and businesses are currently impacted by this significant nuisance and are likely to be more impacted as additional cultivation operations are established. Further, strong odors from cannabis terpenes are incompatible with winemaking and wine tasting operations, and if not controlled, pose a potential risk to the viability of the existing wine industry that is prominent throughout the Santa Ynez Valley. Careful consideration must be given to this matter to minimize the odor impacts of these types of operations near urbanized areas.

While the City appreciates the desire of the Board of Supervisors to further refine and improve upon the cannabis cultivation policy, the amendment being considered today to place a cap of 1,575 acres of cannabis cultivation in unincorporated areas of the County does not adequately address the issue of over-concentration in particular unincorporated areas, including the areas west of Buellton.

To address the existing and future odors impacts in Buellton, the City of Buellton previously asked the Board of Supervisors to impose requirements for increased buffers from urbanized areas, as well as for state-of-the-art odor control technology to be required.

The City of Buellton requests that the Board of Supervisors consider a reduced cap and an alternative control measure that takes into consideration over-concentration in particular areas of the County that are most impacted. Special regulations for the Santa Ynez Valley and Santa Rita Hills areas of the County would be appropriate given the level of over-concentration that will occur if the proposed amendments are approved as is, and potential impacts to the world-renowned wine industry of the Santa Ynez Valley and surrounding area that could result.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

Respectfully,

*Scott Wolfe*

Scott Wolfe, City Manager, City of Buellton