

Diana F. Rigby

Superintendent

Maureen Fitzgerald

Chief Business Officer



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Carpinteria Unified School District

September 10, 2017

TO: County Planning Commission

FROM: Diana F. Rigby, Superintendent

RE: Cannabis Land Use Ordinance and Medical Marijuana Status Determination and Termination of Exemption Ordinance Amendment

I am writing this memo in response to the County Planning Commission meeting on 9/13/17 on behalf of the Carpinteria Unified School District. As the new School Superintendent, I am responsible for student and staff safety in our schools, including Carpinteria High School which is located on 4810 Foothill Road surrounded by cannabis growers and greenhouses. As currently reported by the Carpinteria High School Principal, Gerardo Cornejo, the air quality in the high school classrooms is compromised by the strong objectionable cannabis odors originating from agricultural operations located on properties in the unincorporated County area in close proximity to 4810 Foothill Road. As a high school school, we are considered a "sensitive receptor" and it is proposed in the Code Draft that a 600' radius is sufficient to protect our students and staff from the dangers or nuisance of the cannabis activities. I strongly recommend that you investigate a more effective distance (such as the 1000 ft. proposed in SLO County) to ensure that the cannabis activities are not interfering with nor compromising the safety of our students and staff at Carpinteria High School.

