

Ramirez, Angelica

Public Comment - Public Safety

From: Sara Miller McCune <Sara.McCune@sagepub.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 6, 2021 2:55 PM
To: sbcob
Cc: Sara Miller McCune; Jade Ramsey
Subject: FW: Cannabis Compliance Team

Categories: Public Comment

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

The Clerk of the Board,

Please find below an email which I sent to the County Supervisors about the Cannabis Compliance Team. Would you please attach this email to the June 8 public hearing: Budget – Sheriff’s Department – Cannabis Compliance Team.

Thank you.

Sara Miller McCune

From: Sara Miller McCune
Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 10:17 AM
To: 'dwilliams@countyofsb.org'; 'ghart@countyofsb.org'; 'jhartmann@countyofsb.org'; 'steve.lavagnino@countyofsb.org'; 'bob.nelson@countyofsb.org'
Cc: Sara Miller McCune; 'info@sbsheriff.org'; 'Concerned Carpentierians'; Jade Ramsey
Subject: Cannabis Compliance Team

I am writing to you as a County Supervisor to request that you use cannabis tax income revenue paid to the county to fund an effective cannabis compliance team. You appear to have ignored Chief Deputy Bonner’s presentation on YouTube (<https://youtu.be/dRL35AJ0ALl> at mark 5:45-5:49). Perhaps it is time you or your staff had a look at it. It is only five minutes long. You, as Supervisors, have taken, as part of your oath when you were sworn in, to “provide quality public services to the people of Santa Barbara county in response to their need for a healthy, safe and prosperous environment”. But you have failed to note the following points –

- The county is aware and has been advised by The Sheriff’s department that the standard of service of an understaffed Cannabis Compliance Team grossly deviates from the reasonable expectations of the public.
- It was stated during the 4-12 hearing by Chief Deputy Bonner that of the 108 growers 50 percent claimed no Income or did not file at all.
- If the Compliance Team had enough manpower they would be able to monitor applicants growers (whether compliant or not) and with site Inspections they could clamp down on the 50% not filing and not claiming Income.

Since we have money coming in from at least some of the cannabis growers in our county, it seems relatively simple to take the top 5 or 10% of that money as it arrives and give it to the cannabis compliance team so that it operates effectively and gets better and better as the months go by.

I will await your decision since the budget is now in process of being solidified and we will be looking at your response during the June 8 public hearing.

Sara Miller McCune
Founder & Executive Chair
SAGE Publishing
2455 Teller Road
Thousand Oaks, CA 91320

805-410-7202
sara.mccune@sagepub.com

www.sagepublishing.com

Ramirez, Angelica

From: sjashbrook@gmail.com
Sent: Thursday, May 6, 2021 2:54 PM
To: Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Lavagnino, Steve; Nelson, Bob
Cc: sbcob; Frank Vasquez; Miyasato, Mona
Subject: More Funding for Cannabis Enforcement
Attachments: More Money For Cannabis Enforcement dm.docx

Categories: Public Comment

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Please attach my letter to the June 8th public hearing: Budget- Sheriff's Department-Cannabis Compliance Team

Honorable Supervisors,

Cannabis tax revenues will be an illusion if enforcement continues to be as underfunded as the Santa Barbera employee retirement plans.

Three years ago, residents living in Santa Barbara County became aware of the number of legal and non-legal cannabis grows in the area. Many quickly learned the importance of cannabis enforcement. I live in Cebada Canyon where at one time, there were 6+ cannabis operators, many were black market. The importance of these men and women and the dedication it takes to research and prepare for any raid, mindful that numerous departments are involved, is daunting and can take months.

At the recent budget workshop, the Sheriff's Department requested additional team members. Chief Deputy Bonner stated that "the team cannot do both enforcement and licensing". It is hard for me to believe that a small team of officers currently manage the area from Ventura to SLO. Chief Deputy Bonner is requesting additional members comprised of 4 detectives, a supervisor, and an administrative office professional.

If Santa Barbara County wishes to save the retirement plans of its workers, enforcement is the key.

Thank you for your consideration,
Susan Ashbrook

Honorable Supervisors,

Cannabis tax revenues will be an illusion if enforcement continues to be as underfunded as the Santa Barbara employee retirement plans.

Three years ago, residents living in Santa Barbara County became aware of the number of legal and non-legal cannabis grows in the area. Many quickly learned the importance of cannabis enforcement. I live in Cebada Canyon where at one time, there were 6+ cannabis operators, many were black market. The importance of these men and women and the dedication it takes to research and prepare for any raid, mindful that numerous departments are involved, is daunting and can take months.

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Chief Deputy Bonner is requesting additional members comprised of 4 detectives, a supervisor, and an administrative office professional. If Santa Barbara County wishes to save the retirement plans of its workers, enforcement is the key.

Ramirez, Angelica

From: robyn geddes <robyn_geddes@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 9, 2021 3:58 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: June 8th public hearing: Budget- Sheriff's Department- Cannabis Compliance Team

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Due By: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 4:00 PM
Flag Status: Flagged

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear

I support that a Cannabis Compliance team will be enacted by the County. Illegal grows are unfair to the legal growers who pay taxes. In addition, illegal grows also contribute to a "black market" which further deprives the County of tax revenue and possibly fosters crime.

The other benefit of a Cannabis Compliance has to do with odor. The whole concept of not being able to detect which greenhouse has no odor control is nonsense. All this requires is a visual inspection for working odor control and a clear nose!

The Cannabis situation in the County has been managed poorly. Why would the County transition from Cannabis Czar Melekian to Cannabis Analyst Heaton? If the County want this industry to work, make it Legal and Conforming. And if the County wants this industry not to stink, use the Best Odor Control- PERIOD!

Thank you,
Robyn Geddes
Carpinteria

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Susan Chapman <susan.cabosfour@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 9, 2021 10:19 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Fwd: Budget-Sheriff's Dept-Cannabis Compliance Team-June 8 hearing

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Due By: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 4:00 PM
Flag Status: Flagged

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Please attach this letter to the June 8 public hearing-sherif's budget

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Susan Chapman <susan.cabosfour@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, May 9, 2021 at 10:14 PM
Subject: Budget-Sheriff's Dept-Cannabis Compliance Team-June 8 hearing
To: <Steve.lavagnino@countyofsb.org>

As a 35 year resident of Tepusquet Canyon I would urge the budget committee to include extra law enforcement funding for this un-incorporated community, which has in recent years been invaded with cannabis growers.

We personally have experienced dangerous traffic issues on this narrow road and trespassing violations, even though we have posted private property signs and are gated. Our locked mailbox has been broken into numerous times. Cannabis cultivation has definitely threatened our quiet enjoyment of our property and increased law enforcement is needed.

Susan Chapman
175 Tepusquet Rd.
Santa Maria, CA 93454

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Derek McLeish <derekwmcleish@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 10, 2021 9:38 AM
To: Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Lavagnino, Steve; Nelson, Bob
Cc: sbcob; Frank Vasquez; Miyasato, Mona
Subject: Follow the Money
Attachments: Follow the money.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Due By: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 4:00 PM
Flag Status: Flagged

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Please attach my letter to the June 8th public hearing: Budget- Sheriff's Department- Cannabis Compliance Team

Honorable Supervisors,

Since Santa Barbara needs a successful Cannabis revenue program to save the unfunded retirement program crisis, it should focus on the investment needed to collect those revenues.

Legal Cannabis growers are competing with the black-market supply which is 4 times the legal trade. Legal growers have compliance overhead, tax price inflation, environmental costs, and actual payroll costs impacting their viability. Compliance and enforcement need to be matched to the revenue opportunity and the key is to follow the cash.

Lobbyists are being paid with cash, (read the grand jury report to see their influence) and properties are being purchased with cash depressing the real estate tax base. Suppliers are being paid cash for services and goods, (illegal growers will leave a new truck in your driveway with the keys in it), and payroll is cash (no withholding required), no filing costs, no workman's comp, etc., etc.

Al Capone did not go to jail for being a mobster, and illegal growers only get a misdemeanor slap in the hand due to weak penalties for their transgressions.

The cost/benefit ratio is highly favorable to continued illegal grows.

Please add at least 8 more enforcement staff to generate revenue, and hire a forensic accountant to follow the cash, it will make a difference in your retirement.

Derek McLeish

Follow the money,

Honorable Supervisors,

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Please add at least 8 more enforcement staff to generate revenue, and hire a forensic accountant to follow the cash, it will make a difference in your retirement.

Derek McLeish

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Leigh Johnson <rlj.leigh@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 10, 2021 8:40 PM
To: sbcob; Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Lavagnino, Steve; Nelson, Bob
Subject: Budget 2021-2022 sheriff's Cannabis Compliance Team expansion
Attachments: please fund Cannabis Compliance Team expansion.pdf

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

For your review

Please attach to June 8th public hearing-budget funding 2021-2022 Sheriff's Cannabis Compliance Team

Thank you

Ronnie and Leigh Johnson

May 10, 2021

Honorable Supervisors:

We implore you to re-evaluate your thoughts during deliberations at The County workshop hearings April, 12, 14 and 16th with regards to not funding the Sheriff's Cannabis Compliance Team with the request for staff expansion of 4 detectives, a supervisor and an administrative office professional.

Sheriff's Department Chief Deputy Bonner from 4-12 public workshop hearing:

"The single Cannabis Compliance Team that is presently available can not simultaneously do both enforcement and licensing efficiently or effectively." This proposed expansion would create a cannabis compliance team comprised of 4 detectives, a supervisor and an administrative office professional. "This would provide the capability and flexibility for concurrent and balanced enforcement and compliance and licensing functions."

The County of Santa Barbara must adequately provide a safe environment to live, work, and reside in with quality of life. We should have proper enforcement in the rural areas of the county, the urban un-incorporated communities and the contract cities. This is where cannabis activity is abundant and the few compliant, the many non-compliant and the illegal activity is occurring. Not properly funding the Sheriff's Cannabis Team is culpably negligent in this fostered environment of The County. The need is known and the Sheriff's department has conveyed publicly a need for manpower to efficiently and effectively enforce. The current fiscal year as of 4-12 had 21 suspected illegal operations that couldn't be investigated and enforced on. Dozens of illegal delivery services were not investigated or enforced. Consensus of an average individual would also concur with the sheriff's department that this is a need that should be addressed immediately. The lack of enforcement in an effective and efficient manner is in direct opposition to the County's publicly stated mission statement. (from The County web-page) Our Mission: Provide quality public services to the people of Santa Barbara County in response to their need for a healthy, safe, and prosperous environment.

The safety of the understaffed compliance team should be paramount as well as the safety of the public. Within the far reaches of the county and amongst the rural landscapes is a population of remote residents that feels uncomfortably close to an industry that is often seduced by illicit opportunities. Cannabis operations left to their own devices with little to no enforcement will often be met with disastrous consequences. Regulations become nonexistent without constant monitoring and compliance inspections. Law enforcement should be the only county entity allowed to enforce compliance on cannabis applicants or a conflict of Interest exists.

Thank you for your time and consideration

Sincerely

Ronnie and Leigh Johnson

2740 Cebada Canyon - Lompoc

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Renee O'Neill <chasingstar2701@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 13, 2021 10:01 AM
To: sbcob; Nelson, Bob; Hartmann, Joan; Hart, Gregg; Lavagnino, Steve; Williams, Das
Cc: Villalobos, David
Subject: BOS Tax Budget re Sheriffs Cannabis Compliance Team
Attachments: BOS re Funding Cannabis Compliance Team, 5-12-21.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Due By: Monday, May 31, 2021 4:00 PM
Flag Status: Flagged

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Supervisors,

Attached, please find our letter advocating funding for the SBC Sheriffs Cannabis Compliance Team. Please submit the letter to Public Comment, re BOS Tax Budget Hearing on June 8th.

We greatly appreciate your consideration in this matter and request that you support this essential "Team."

Respectfully Yours,

Renée O'Neill

May 12, 2021

To: The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
Cc: The Santa Barbara County Planning Commissioners
Re: Detectives for Sheriff's Cannabis Compliance Team

Dear Supervisors,

In 2019, when the cannabis tax was approved by voters, you promised to 'use the majority of cannabis revenue to fund departments and agencies that oversee regulating and enforcing the cannabis industry.' We are writing to request that you fulfill your promise by providing the necessary funding to adequately staff the Cannabis Compliance Team.

For the past three years, an underfunded and understaffed Cannabis Team, comprised of 1 Lead Detective, 5 Deputy Detectives and 1 Administrative Staff (civilian), have had the prime directive of enforcement for the cannabis industry in SBC. In addition to enforcement on all the growers, throughout the entire County of Santa Barbara, they have recently been assigned the duties of overseeing licensing (without additional funding or staff), which had previously been assigned to the Planning and Development Department. Furthermore, coming down the pipeline, there are multiple, huge cannabis projects that will put even more demands upon the Team.

In April 2021, at the BOS Budget Workshops, Santa Barbara County Sheriff, Chief Deputy Bonner stated, **"The single, Cannabis Compliance Team that is presently available cannot simultaneously do both enforcement and licensing efficiently or effectively."** It was also reported that there are at least 21 suspected, illegal growers and dozens of illegal delivery services operating in our county that the Team was unable to investigate and/or enforce on. Chief Deputy Bonner also stated, **"...that of the 108 growers, 50 percent claimed no income or did not file at all."**

When a sufficiently funded and staffed Team is able to enforce the required tagging of plants then, they will have the data, necessary to compute every growers' income. The tagging of plants provides the number of plants, which along with the going price of cannabis, at time of sale, will provide the income that the grower should report. By continuing to underfund the Team, SBC will never receive the revenue that these growers actually owe because you will never know what they are actually producing..., *unless* that is the intention. We strongly recommend that you provide the necessary funding for the Team to do the job you have asked them to do, which will ensure that growers are paying their full, fair share and therefore, provide the necessary funding to reimburse the county.

For the last three years, both law enforcement and communities throughout our county have asked you to fully fund our essential Cannabis Compliance Team and you have refused. If you refuse to adequately fund them for a *fourth year in a row*, then "We the People" demand to know **WHY** (emphasis added).

The County of Santa Barbara's Mission Statement Declares: **"Provide quality public services to the people of Santa Barbara County in response to their need for a healthy, safe, and prosperous environment."**

Respectfully Submitted,

Renée and Steve O'Neill
Renée O'Neill and Linda Tunnell
Fire Associates/Advocates for the Community of Tepusquet (F.A.C.T.), since 2004

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Debra Eagle <debra@almarosawinery.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 10:51 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Funding of the Sheriffs Dept to combat illegal Cannabis activity in SB County

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Due By: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 4:00 PM
Flag Status: Flagged

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

The below email to Jerry Roberts is from Alma Rosa Winery owner Bob Zorich.

We are requesting that this letter be attached to the hearing on June 8 for the Budget-Sheriff's Department-Cannabis Compliance Team.

Thank you.

Debra

Debra Eagle
General Manager
Alma Rosa Winery
Cell: 707-227-8503
www.almarosawinery.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Bob Zorich <BZorich@encapinvestments.com>
Date: Mon, May 17, 2021 at 9:08 AM
Subject: Funding of the Sheriffs Dept to combat illegal Cannabis activity in SB County
To: newsmakerswithjr@gmail.com <newsmakerswithjr@gmail.com>
Cc: debra eagle (debra@almarosawinery.com) <debra@almarosawinery.com>

Jerry: I understand that you are in the process of receiving letters from concerned business, property owners and citizens regarding the funding of the Sheriff's Cannabis Compliance activity. As a property owner on Santa Rosa Road in Buellton and the owner of Alma Rosa Winery and Vineyards, let me state my strong support for the funding of the Sheriff's Cannabis Compliance activity. The existing Board of Supervisors have been negligent in their oversight of this nascent industry to the detriment of all of the citizens in the County. The pop up of eyesore chemical spewing factories in the middle of our beautiful countryside is a crime to those who bought their property in those locations as well as those who enjoy communing with nature as they enjoy driving through those areas. Since 1969 Santa Barbara County has arguably been the Nation's model for managing growth and the employment of best environmental practices. The blind eye turned by the Board of Supervisors toward everything cannabis is a travesty and must be controlled via the Sherriff's Department oversight of illegal activities. The proper permitting and usage of these sites as well as the legality

of the related revenue streams must be regulated by someone. I strongly urge all in the County to support the funding of the Sheriff's Cannabis Compliance activity. Yours Sincerely, Bob Zorich

May 18, 2021

To: The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors

Cc: The Santa Barbara County Planning Commissioners

I have been following the comments and hearings on the decision to cut back on the Sheriff's Cannabis Compliance Team. I believe the County of Santa Barbara is responsible to provide a safe environment to live, work, and reside in with quality of life. The County has approved huge Cannabis grows in the rural areas of the county, the urban un-incorporated communities and the contract cities. These are the areas that the many non-compliant and the illegal activity is occurring. The county approved these grows in our district, our neighborhoods, the areas we travel, live, and now we get to see and smell on a daily-basis. BOS continues to approve massive projects, without funding additional support for the Sheriff's Cannabis Compliance Team. Do you think it is right to cut back on Law Enforcement from the very task of overseeing the cannabis industry that the county approved? To me this is like dismantling "Planning and Development" during a booming construction phase! No inspections and not enough man power to oversee projects. Who is going to answer the call when there are complaints? We are not dealing with the "garden variety plant". They have electric fences, armed guards and now allowed to grow in big open fields.

As I understood it, the taxes from Cannabis revenue were to assist in funding the Cannabis Compliance Team?

Coming down the pipeline are multiple, huge cannabis projects that will put even more demands upon the Team. Who is going to oversee tagging these plants? Do you truly believe that each plant will adequately be tagged so the county will profit from the taxes of these plants? This industry already started off on the wrong foot, the growers themselves showed the public that they were not in compliance, shady deals going down at midnight, U-Haul vans loading up product before inspections. I can go on and on. We filed complaints and even then the system was too overwhelmed to respond.

I ask you as a citizen of Santa Barbara County to reconsider your decision to support and fund the Sheriff's Cannabis Compliance Team. In the words of several of the "cannabis team in the beginning" we want to make Santa Barbara #1 in Cannabis production. If this is the case then lets support it the right way with an adequate Sheriff's Cannabis Compliance Team.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Denise and Tom Peterson

Santa Rita Hills

Lompoc, CA

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Denise Ranch <denise@canyonspringranch.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 7:04 PM
To: Villalobos, David; Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Nelson, Bob; michael@igsb.com; Dan Blough; jparke@aklaw.net; Lbridley2nddistpc@gmail.com; larryf@lagunafarms.com; sbcob
Subject: Sheriff's Budget Hearing June 8th
Attachments: Sheriff Cannabis Team 5-18-21.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Due By: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 4:00 PM
Flag Status: Flagged

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Please add my letter attached to the June 8th public hearing: Budget- Sheriff's Department Respectfully, Denise Peterson Santa Rita Hills Estates

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Susan Powell <suepow@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2021 12:57 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Improve racial justice and prioritize humane treatment for justice-involved people in our County.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Due By: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 12:30 PM
Flag Status: Flagged

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear County Supervisor,

I write to express my strong support to improve racial justice and prioritize humane treatment for justice-involved people in our County. I respectfully but firmly call on you to reallocate our criminal justice budget to advance transformational changes:

Permanently reduce Sheriff's Department funding to support a long term average jail population of approximately 550.

Reduce general funding for our Sheriff's Department by up to \$26.7 million and 165 FTEs to bring our Sheriff Department budget in line with comparable counties.

Reduce Sheriff's Department funding for traditional policing that doesn't reduce recidivism. Reallocate funds to community-based diversion and alternatives to jail, including more funds for the Behavioral Wellness Department to provide non-jail alternatives for mental health and addiction needs. Reallocate funds to support transition planning for jail residents returning to our community.

Increase funding for the Public Defender Department to expand holistic advocacy and culturally competent staff to improve advocacy across the racial/ethnic spectrum.

Reallocate funds to County CEO to expand and centralize data collection and analytics. Require Departments to provide evidence-based data for programs to reduce recidivism.

Offer a grant to the Sheriff's Department to expand jail internet and volunteer access - - including the award winning Freedom to Choose program that reduces recidivism.

Rethink plans for \$28M to refurbish the South County Jail. Reduce footprint to about 200 jail beds. Repurpose funds to build transitional housing to help stabilize eligible jail residents' re-entry into our community. Build a separate assessment center to screen and divert those who are appropriate for community-based alternatives.

Fund seed money to study a possible Civilian Oversight Commission to help assure Sheriff Department transparency and accountability, and deter police misconduct.

Transformational change requires courage. I will watch for you to vote for big change now. The commissioned KPMG studies and we, the people, will support you in this.

Sincerely,
Susan Powell

Date: May 19, 2021

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Kelly Rangel <cebadakelly@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 23, 2021 7:38 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Sheriff Department Budget Hearing Request for Six Additional Cannabis Compliance Team Members

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Due By: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 4:00 PM
Flag Status: Flagged

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Regarding the Cannabis Compliance Team Budget:

It is extremely important to me as a tax payer, voting resident that adequate funding be a priority to fund at least six additional members if not more.

My home is located in an EDRN, where cannabis isn't allowed to be cultivated. However, many applicants are in the pipeline immediately adjacent to the EDRN. Some have been "busted" by the sheriff (Herbal Angels) for illegal activity. Some of these applicants are still in the pipeline despite their criminal activities, which were causing great concern to the residents all around the grow. Traffic in and out at all hours, strange cars and people, apparent drug deals right in plain sight. Only the Enforcement Team put a stop to it.

Now, new cannabis Permit applicants are coming before the board, also of dubious character. Hopefully, the BOS will not approve them, as these permits "run with the land" in perpetuity. That means forevermore, the residents will have to be vigilant and be wary. Without adequate enforcement, illegal activity and general noncompliance will be rampant, endangering public safety.

A moratorium on new permits should be issued until such time an adequate Cannabis Enforcement Team can be funded. Tax revenue from existing "grows", if such a good source of revenue for the County Tax Collector, should more than cover the expense.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this dilemma. Please attach this letter to the June 08 public hearing:
Budget- Sheriff's Department-Cannabis Compliance Team. K.Rangel, Cebada Canyon

Sent from my iPhone

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Mary Watkins <watkinsmarym@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 9:16 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Reallocation of some of the funds dedicated to policing

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Due By: Wednesday, June 2, 2021 4:00 PM
Flag Status: Flagged

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear County Board of Supervisors,

As a community psychologist, I write to request allocation of some of the police budget to be used to fund social workers and domestic violence specialists to respond to 911 calls that concern mental illness and child and spousal violence. Further, some of the police budget should be reallocated to community groups that can support youth BEFORE policing becomes necessary. Policing is now held responsible to deal with all that we have failed to address at a much earlier stage. We need to invest more earlier so that community members have the resources they need.

Sincerely,

Mary Watkins

*Chair, M.A./Ph.D. Depth Psychology Program
Co-Chair and Professor, Community, Liberation, Indigenous, and Eco-Psychologies Specialization
Coordinator, Community & Ecological Fieldwork and Research
Pacifica Graduate Institute
www.mary-watkins.net*

Download



The Community, Liberation, Indigenous, and Eco-Psychologies M.A./Ph.D. Specialization Newsletter, Hearing Voices, 2020

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Barak Moffitt <filmosound@me.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 2:39 PM
To: sbcob; Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Lavagnino, Steve; Nelson, Bob
Subject: Fully Fund Cannabis Enforcement

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Due By: Wednesday, June 2, 2021 4:00 PM
Flag Status: Flagged

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Honorable Supervisors,

We are writing to encourage you to fully fund and support Sherriff Brown's Cannabis Compliance proposal without hesitation. Without adequate enforcement and security there is no legitimacy to the legal program, and without absolute integrity to enforcement and security, the question of the program and its architects' true intention is laid bare.

We are making this request in the spotlight of the unique and unparalleled compromises the Santa Barbara BOS has exclusively and unilaterally (even if not unanimously) invited to our county as the home of the largest cannabis farms on the planet Earth. All controversy aside, the fact remains that cannabis is a crop that is, despite all the Board's best intentions, currently and for the foreseeable future globally dominated by black market economics and illicit players. Recent enforcement actions including environmental crimes in our neighborhood alone only serve to reinforce the severity of the problem and the need for fully funding enforcement.

We ask for the Supervisors' grace in reminding you of your own mission statement which commences as follows: "Provide quality public services to the people of Santa Barbara County in response to their need for a healthy, safe, and prosperous environment . . .".

We make no judgement on the legal growing or consumption of cannabis, but seek to remind the Supervisors that, as a result of your board's own actions, Santa Barbara is at the razor's edge between black market forces and experimental legalization, charting territory on a scale never before explored by any other community in our country or, perhaps, the world. As a result, our Sherriff's requests for enforcement to effectively manage the unprecedented dynamic the Board has introduced is not only chartered by your own existential purpose as a governing body, but also required by your individual moral and ethical obligations as citizens and as elected civil servants who chose public service as a calling.

Please fund enforcement completely.

With respect,
The Moffitt Family

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Katherine Baviera <kgeorgalos@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2021 7:09 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: I support reallocating \$26.7m to community-based organizations

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear County Clerk,

I am a long-term Santa Barbara resident and I care about the future of this County which is why I continue to send emails and express my concerns.

Given the following facts:

- 1.
2. Trauma and poverty are the
3. two largest influences on "criminal" behavior
- 4.
- 5.
6. Incarceration is a traumatic
7. experience that is accompanied by socio-economic marginalization
- 8.
- 9.
10. SB County disproportionately
11. incarcerates Black and Brown community members, who are already socio-economically marginalized through interconnected racist systems in our county related to housing, education, employment, healthcare, etc.
- 12.
- 13.
14. There is conclusive evidence
15. that shows traditional policing methods and incarceration do **not**
16. reduce recidivism
- 17.
- 18.
19. More than \$255million (68.3%)
20. of the County's current public safety budget is invested into the supervision (Probation), prosecution (District Attorney), and policing and incarceration (Sheriff) of community members, all of which create additional trauma and reinforce cycles of poverty,
21. thereby decreasing public safety
- 22.

I urge the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to make the following changes this for the 2021-2022 fiscal year:

- 1.
2. Reduce Sheriff's Office
3. funding by a *minimum*
4. of \$26.7million and 165 FTE's this year in order to support a consistent decline of average
5. daily jail population and bring their office's budget in line with or below comparable counties.
- 6.

Invest the \$26.7million in:

- 2.
3. Community-based organizations
4. and initiatives led by folks who have similar identities and life experiences to those who are most impacted by the criminal legal system in order to utilize alternatives to incarceration, true community-based diversion programs that are not affiliated with
5. law enforcement or criminal legal institutions, and more practical and effective transitional services for individuals in custody. Examples of appropriate community-based allocations include funding for:
- 6.

-
- Healing Justice Santa Barbara's
- partnership with the Healing Center at UCSB's Hosford Clinic which provides Black community members with free culturally competent and trauma informed professional mental health services.
-
-
- Note: Changes to Sheriff
- practices such as being in plain clothes while on duty, as demonstrated by SBPD, are far from adequate when it comes to increasing mental health support for community members that are marginalized.
-
-
- Local organizations such
- as Healing Justice Santa Barbara, El Centro, Freedom 4 Youth, CAUSE, Ethnic Studies Now!, and many others who have been doing this work for many years while severely underfunded. These organizations provide services in the fields of mental health, education,
- employment, leadership, housing, clothing, food access, violence prevention, immigration, environmental protection, self-esteem and efficacy, arts & culture, etc...
-
-
- Success Stories Program
- which utilizes a dialogic approach to addressing the implications of patriarchy and toxic masculinity, as they repeatedly manifest in the objectification of womxn, the perceived need to show physical dominance or violence over others in order to be "more of
- a man", and the prioritization of money over healthy relationships. Local nonprofit Freedom 4 Youth has trained facilitators of this program.
-
-
- Freedom to Choose which
- supports individuals in the development of skills related to communication and relationships, fosters emotional intelligence, and dives into the root causes of impulsive, anger-driven, trauma-reactionary behaviors.
-

- 3.
4. Affordable housing initiatives
5. in order to accelerate the currently tenuous and sometimes impossible process of finding housing, which can take several years or force local residents to relocate due to cost of living. The lack of affordable and accessible housing for low-income residents
6. disproportionately impacts Black and Brown community members, which increases the likelihood of involvement in the criminal legal system.
- 7.

I would also like to support the implementation of the demands made by CLUE SB as stated below:

- 4.
5. Increase funding for the
6. Public Defender's Office to expand holistic advocacy and culturally competent staff to improve advocacy across the racial/ethnic spectrum.
- 7.

- 5.
6. Fund seed money to study
7. a possible Civilian Oversight Commission to help assure transparency and accountability from the Sheriff's Office, alter the policing practices and procedures that reinforce trauma, and deter police misconduct.
- 8.

-
- Possible results of this
- include the immediate stop to the Sheriff's cooperation with Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE), deputy trainings on language justice best practices, and regularly required cultural competency and anti-racism trainings.
-

- 6.
7. Reallocate more funds for
8. the Behavioral Wellness Department to provide non-jail alternatives for mental health and addiction needs.
- 9.

Sincerely,
 Katherine Baviera
 Santa Barbara Resident

Ramirez, Angelica

From: jstassinosaol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2021 2:44 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Please attach this letter to the June 8th public hearing: Budget- Sheriff's Department- Cannabis Compliance Team

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

To the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to you in the hopes that you will ensure that residents living in the unincorporated and rural areas of Santa Barbara County are provided with a safe environment in which to live, work and recreate. We need proper enforcement of cannabis cultivation and processing plants located in our urban, un-incorporated communities, and contract cities. Permitting previously un-permitted greenhouses really does set a bad precedent which doesn't make sense to residents who do obtain the proper necessary permits.

The need to monitor and enforce the collection of taxes from the cannabis growers is critical to our local economy. Also, the regulation of the increased traffic to and from the cannabis processing plants needs to be monitored and regulated. Recently, on May 5th, while I was driving to the Carpinteria Post Office on Foothill Rd. a big rig stopped immediately in front of me and started to back up. Despite my continuously honking my car's horn the big rig continued to back up and almost backed into my car on Foothill Rd. The big rig blocked both lanes of Foothill Rd. near a blind curve. Later, I realized the big rig was backing into a cannabis processing plant on Foothill Rd. to load up. At the time I was scared and believed I was going to die because the big rig driver appeared to be ignoring the sound emitted from my car's horn. Not only was my safety at risk but the safety of the cars behind me and the cars coming towards us on the other side of Foothill Rd. It is imperative as more cannabis permits are issued that proper enforcement of the increase in big rig traffic on Foothill Rd. becomes a priority. This situation is an accident waiting to happen.

Therefore, I implore you to provide additional funding for additional staff in the sheriff's dept. to enforce the existing rules and regulations placed upon the cannabis growers and their processing plants.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Jill Stassinosa
Carpinteria, Ca.

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Kerry Lane <klane@ucsb.edu>
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2021 11:29 AM
To: sbcob; Nelson, Bob
Subject: Sheriff's Budget Hearing Demands

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Supervisor Nelson,

I am Kerry Lane, a graduate student and 4-year resident of Santa Barbara.

Given the following facts:

1. Trauma and poverty are the two largest influences on "criminal" behavior
2. Incarceration is a traumatic experience that is accompanied by socio-economic marginalization
3. SB County disproportionately incarcerates Black and Brown community members, who are already socio-economically marginalized through interconnected racist systems in our county related to housing, education, employment, healthcare, etc.
4. There is conclusive evidence that shows traditional policing methods and incarceration do **not** reduce recidivism
5. More than \$255million (68.3%) of the County's current public safety budget is invested into the supervision (Probation), prosecution (District Attorney), and policing and incarceration (Sheriff) of community members, all of which create additional trauma and reinforce cycles of poverty, thereby decreasing public safety

I urge the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to make the following changes this for the 2021-2022 fiscal year:

1. Reduce Sheriff's Office funding by a *minimum* of \$26.7million and 165 FTE's this year in order to support a consistent decline of average daily jail population and bring their office's budget in line with or below comparable counties.

Invest the \$26.7million in:

2. Community-based organizations and initiatives led by folks who have similar identities and life experiences to those who are most impacted by the criminal legal system in order to utilize alternatives to incarceration, true community-based diversion programs that are not affiliated with law enforcement or criminal legal institutions, and more practical and effective transitional services for individuals in custody. Examples of appropriate community-based allocations include funding for:
 - Healing Justice Santa Barbara's partnership with the Healing Center at UCSB's Hosford Clinic which provides Black community members with free culturally competent and trauma informed professional mental health services.
 - Note: Changes to Sheriff practices such as being in plain clothes while on duty, as demonstrated by SBPD, are far from adequate when it comes to increasing mental health support for community members that are marginalized.
 - Local organizations such as Healing Justice Santa Barbara, El Centro, Freedom 4 Youth, CAUSE, Ethnic Studies Now!, and many others who have been doing this work for many years while severely underfunded. These organizations provide services in the fields of mental health,

education, employment, leadership, housing, clothing, food access, violence prevention, immigration, environmental protection, self-esteem and efficacy, arts & culture, etc...

- Success Stories Program which utilizes a dialogic approach to addressing the implications of patriarchy and toxic masculinity, as they repeatedly manifest in the objectification of womxn, the perceived need to show physical dominance or violence over others in order to be “more of a man”, and the prioritization of money over healthy relationships. Local nonprofit Freedom 4 Youth has trained facilitators of this program.
- Freedom to Choose which supports individuals in the development of skills related to communication and relationships, fosters emotional intelligence, and dives into the root causes of impulsive, anger-driven, trauma-reactionary behaviors.

3. Affordable housing initiatives in order to accelerate the currently tenuous and sometimes impossible process of finding housing, which can take several years or force local residents to relocate due to cost of living. The lack of affordable and accessible housing for low-income residents disproportionately impacts Black and Brown community members, which increases the likelihood of involvement in the criminal legal system.

I would also like to support the implementation of the demands made by CLUE SB as stated below:

4. Increase funding for the Public Defender's Office to expand holistic advocacy and culturally competent staff to improve advocacy across the racial/ethnic spectrum.

5. Fund seed money to study a possible Civilian Oversight Commission to help assure transparency and accountability from the Sheriff's Office, alter the policing practices and procedures that reinforce trauma, and deter police misconduct.

- Possible results of this include the immediate stop to the Sheriff's cooperation with Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE), deputy trainings on language justice best practices, and regularly required cultural competency and anti-racism trainings.

6. Reallocate more funds for the Behavioral Wellness Department to provide non-jail alternatives for mental health and addiction needs.

Sincerely,

Kerry Lane (*she/her/hers*)
PhD Candidate, Pruitt Lab
Mechanical Engineering Department
University of California, Santa Barbara

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Rebecca Tucker <becca.tannebring@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 9:39 AM
To: sbcob
Cc: becca. tannebring
Subject: County of Santa Barbara - Public Safety Budget - comment

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Clerk of the Board,

Please document and record this as a public comment regarding the County's public safety budget. I am a longtime resident of Santa Barbara County since 2008, work in downtown Santa Barbara and am a mother of two young children.

I am writing to support the demand brought forth by a collective of community members and organizations that calls for \$26.7M in funding to be diverted from the Sheriff's Office and invested into the following 4 areas:

- 1.
2. Community-based
3. initiatives that support alternatives to incarceration, diversion programs that are independent of law enforcement, and practical and effective transitional services for individuals in custody
- 4.
- 5.
6. Affordable
7. housing initiatives
- 8.
- 9.
10. Public Defender's
11. Office
- 12.
- 13.
14. Behavioral
15. Wellness
- 16.

Almost 70% of the County's public safety budget is invested into the supervision (Probation), prosecution (District Attorney), and policing and incarceration (Sheriff) of community members, which reinforce cycles of poverty, and do not promote long term sustainable solutions nor improvement to public safety and wellness.

SB County disproportionately incarcerates Black and Brown community members, and there is conclusive evidence that traditional policing methods and incarceration do **not** reduce recidivism or crime.

-
- 94%

- of youth on Probation supervision and currently in custody throughout
- SB County are Black, Brown, or Asian
-
-
- 0
- white youth that are currently incarcerated in SB County
-
-
- SB
- consistently
- wields one of the highest
- rates of poverty in California
-
-
- SB's
- rates
- of arrest are above the CA avg. The
- reported
- crime rate is well below the CA avg.
-
-
- 81% of youth in the local system have
- open
- mental health cases compared to the 48% CA avg.
-

The County urgently needs to rethink its approach that doesn't involve increasing the budgets of the status quo.

Thank you,
Rebecca Tucker

--
Becca Tucker
becca.tannebring@gmail.com
978.697.7508

Ramirez, Angelica

From: E Thornton Caris <eileenthorntoncaris@mac.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 11:37 AM
To: sbcob
Cc: Eileen Caris
Subject: Fwd: Outdoor Cannabis Cultivation Concerns

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: E Thornton Caris <eileenthorntoncaris@mac.com>
Date: June 1, 2021 at 11:28:30 AM PDT
To: sbcob@co.santa-barbara
Cc: Eileen Caris <eileenthorntoncaris@mac.com>
Subject: Outdoor Cannabis Cultivation Concerns

To: Board of Supervisors

Hello,

I am writing to express serious concerns regarding the proliferation of outdoor cannabis cultivation projects in Santa Barbara County as well as illegal cannabis grows in the County. Adequate funding and having additional staff to handle the cannabis industry's impact on the County are needed.

Specifically, we need:

1. Long Range Planning for reports on:

- ***How to limit the concentration of cannabis cultivation operations in the Santa Rita Hills area
- ***How to deal with applicants left without permits when the 1,575A inland acreage cap on cannabis cultivation is reached. Carpinteria Valley cap - 186 acres. Total for county is 1,761 A.
- ***How to regulate the emerging hemp industry.

2. A new cannabis enforcement team in the Sheriff's budget so it can deal with the backlog of illegal operations.

3. We ask that cannabis items (not hemp) be funded from cannabis fees.

Due to the number of unregulated AG-II sites, we will soon reach an odor tipping point yet outdoor cannabis cultivation projects west of Buellton continue to be approved on appeal by the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors.

Thank you for addressing the concerns listed above. Let's work to seriously limit the concentration of cannabis cultivation in beautiful Santa Barbara County.

Sincerely,

Eileen Thornton Caris
Santa Ynez Valley resident

Sent from my iPad

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Rebecca Tucker <becca.tannebring@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 9:39 AM
To: sbcob
Cc: becca.tannebring
Subject: County of Santa Barbara - Public Safety Budget - comment

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Rebecca Tucker

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