

de la Guerra, Sheila

Public Comment-Group 4

#1

From: Gay Infanti <ginfanti@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, August 19, 2019 3:46 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Item 1 Hearing, Amendments Chapter 50, Licensing Commercial Cannabis Operations Ordinance
Attachments: SB Co BoS Letter_19 August 2019.docx



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.

Attached please find my letter regarding the referenced subject. Please make my comments available to the Supervisors for tomorrow's hearing. Thank you.

Gay Infanti

19 August 2019

Santa Barbara County
Board of Supervisors

Re: August 20, 2019 Agenda Item #1, Consider Recommendations regarding Chapter 50 Licensing of Commercial Cannabis

I am writing to urge you to cap the amount of acreage permitted to grow cannabis. Parcels larger than 20 acres within the Santa Ynez Valley and elsewhere in the County still require protection from unbridled cannabis grows.

I am requesting that caps be placed as follows:

- Total number of acres allowed for cannabis grows within Santa Barbara County.
- Total number of acres on a single parcel, on both AG-I parcels greater than 20 acres in size, as well as Ag-II parcels.
- Total number of acres allowed for one property owner to prevent permit stacking. There are several instances within the SYV where permits were issued for adjacent parcels resulting in huge grows.

I am also requesting better odor control measures, on both outdoor cultivation and indoor cultivation. Venting indoor grows causes too much foul and sickening odor to be released, making nearby residential habitation unbearable, not to mention harming property values. In addition, the odors coming from outdoor grows are harming nearby crops – both from odor absorption but also due to restrictions on historical treatment of crops, e.g., treatment of pinot noir vines with fungicides which could harm the new neighboring cannabis crop.

Also, please reconsider issuing permits for cannabis grows on small parcels surrounded by residences. It is my understanding that these permits are being issued if they were applied for prior to the 8/8/19 effective date of the ordinance that now prohibits grows on AG-I parcels smaller than 20 acres. The newly effective restrictions on these grows should have been in effect sooner as these grows will harm residents and significantly reduce their property values. Residents will appeal, as they should, and you might want to consider the cost that the County will incur as a result of the many appeals you can expect.

Lastly, please ensure that Conditional Use Permits are required on all requested cannabis activities on AG-I-20 and AG-II, so that cannabis activities near homes, wineries, wine tasting rooms, restaurants, and other sensitive agriculture can be protected.

Thank you,

Gay Infanti
Solvang Resident

de la Guerra, Sheila

From: Villalobos, David
Sent: Monday, August 19, 2019 5:11 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Fwd: Letter to Board of Supervisors
Attachments: Cannabis Caps.docx

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

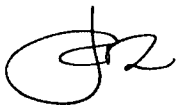
From: "**Jan Davidson**" <winemath@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Aug 19, 2019 at 5:09 PM -0700
Subject: Letter to Board of Supervisors
To: "Villalobos, David" <dvillalo@co.santa-barbara.ca.us>

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 get this to the supervisors for tomorrow's meeting. I've been out of town and just had my first chance to address this!

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Cheers!



Jan Davidson
805-736-3354
Jan@LaughLinesCo.com
Laugh Lines
85 West Highway 246
Buellton, CA 93427

8/18/19

Dear Chair Lavagnino and Honorable Board Members,

It's time for responsible Caps to be established for the Cannabis industry.

Residents and farmers are deeply concerned about the very real threat of **OVERCONCENTRATION** of Cannabis operations in the Santa Ynez Valley, especially the West Valley with so many applications for large grows in the unincorporated Ag ll area. Applications for 556 Acres south of Hwy 246 are currently in the pipeline!

This will have a huge negative impact on our beautiful county, and greatly hurt existing agriculture, and residents who deserve protection!

Why is the Cannabis industry allowed to come in and put such an impossible strain on existing agriculture? According to the Right to Farm Ordinance, cannabis is not agriculture. Why should avocado growers, vintners and other farmers be forced to sacrifice yields and earnings because licensed and insured applicators are refusing to spray effective pesticides for fear of legal action by Cannabis growers!

Overconcentration will eventually put Vintners with tasting rooms in this area out of business because no visitors will choose to return to Tasting Rooms if they smell Cannabis instead of the Wines they are there to smell, taste and savor! This will hurt tourism to the Valley and all of the tax dollars and money they spend in our community.

Lets not forget the visual - acres and acres of plastic hoops changing the bucolic nature of this valley forever, with *nowhere* for it to be disposed of - there needs to be Caps as a percentage of acreage and NO Permit Stacking to limit and spread apart the sea of white that is already a blight on the bucolic rolling terrain that Santa Barbara County is known for.

At most, a cap of 5 acres or 5% of a parcel, whichever is less, would help to reduce this overconcentration.

This industry is promising tax dollars that are not panning out in reality. How is it working so far? More expenses, inevitable lawsuits against the county, our current law enforcement strained and overwhelmed... The security measures involved in the Cannabis Industry is threatening to residents and neighbor already.

The increase traffic in on unmaintained country roads is another factor. Air Quality is a huge concern as well. The single grow near Pence can be smelled while driving down Hwy 246!

Imagine the stench with an overconcentration of grows!

There needs to be a sane way for farmers, neighbors, and Cannabis growers to co-exist without destroying the quality of life that Santa Barbara County is known for.

Please do the right thing and require responsible Caps.

Otherwise grows should be contained inside where many of these concerns would be mitigated.

Thank you,

Jan Davidson
Valley Resident

de la Guerra, Sheila

From: Courtney Taylor <me@courtneyetaylor.com>
Sent: Monday, August 19, 2019 10:13 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: BOS 2019-08-19 Ltr RE Cannabis Ordinance Amendments.pdf
Attachments: BOS 2019-08-19 Ltr RE Cannabis Ordinance Amendments.pdf; ATT00001.htm

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 accept this one-page letter regarding Departmental Agenda Item #1 of tomorrow's hearing on proposed amendments to the cannabis business license ordinance. Thank you in advance.

Best,
Courtney Taylor

VIA EMAIL

sbcob@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

August 19, 2019

Clerk of the Board
County Santa Barbara, Board of Supervisors
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

**RE: August 20, 2019 Hearing // Departmental Agenda Item #1
Proposed Amendments to the Cannabis Business License Ordinance**

Dear Honorable Supervisors:

We are a group of winery and vineyard owners on Drum Canyon Road in the Santa Rita Hills, an area of AG-II zoned parcels. While we are not a designated EDRN, we are a small cluster of homes that will be impacted by the large cultivation projects proposed along Drum Canyon Road. Out-of-area interests have made it clear that in order to maximize their investments, they must entitle the entirety of the larger AG-II parcels for cultivation.

As of this date of this letter, existing agricultural operations along Drum Canyon Road near Highway 246 are surrounded on all sides by 6 pending cannabis cultivation operations totaling **240 acres** (one project is pending for 147 acres, and another for 70 acres). The cultivation sites occupy the majority of the parcel and are not adequately set back, if at all, from the property lines. The large-scale canopies close to adjacent properties, which in many cases are residential, will undoubtedly result in significant impacts to neighbors.

Based on the foregoing, we continue to have serious concerns regarding the inadequacy of the proposed amendments to address (1) the compatibility of cannabis cultivation with existing neighboring uses in AG-II zones and (2) the over-concentration of cultivation in discrete areas. The recommendations provided are insufficient to address these known issues, particularly in light of the numerous AG-II parcels that are less than 25 acres (in fact, one cultivation site is proposed on an AG-II parcel that is only 5.66 acres).

We urge the Board to immediately address these significant issues in the AG-II zones by implementing a **per-parcel acreage cap, setbacks, and mandatory buffer zones around wineries and tasting rooms**. AG-II parcels and its residents cannot be prejudiced and excluded from protection merely due to their larger parcel size. These measures are the simplest solution to mitigate the impacts of these large projects on existing agriculture and to reduce the likelihood that projects in direct contradiction to County policies will be approved in AG-II zones. All neighboring counties have implemented acreage caps that range from 10,000 square feet to 2 acres per parcel, regardless of parcel size.

We implore the Board to acknowledge this issue and adopt the following additional amendments to the Cannabis Business License Ordinance:

1. **Setbacks** from the property line of the cultivation site of 1,500 feet.
2. **Buffer zones** of 3,000 feet from the outer development envelope of wineries or tasting rooms, unless variance is consented to by all wineries and tasting rooms within the buffer zone.
3. **Maximum per-parcel acreage** for outdoor cultivation in AG-II zones at: ½ acre on AG-II-40 parcels; 1 acre on AG-II-100 parcels less than 320 acres; and 1-acre on AG-II-100 parcels 320 acres or more, plus an additional 1 acre for every 100 additional acres with a maximum of 8 acres.

Sincerely,

Bubba Hines

Brian Strange

James Dierberg

de la Guerra, Sheila

From: Jonathan Roylance <jonathan.roylance@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 19, 2019 11:33 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Opposition to cannabis grows

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.

My name is Jonathan Roylance, and I'm a resident of Buellton, CA. My family (wife, and 3 small children) lives on the west end of Buellton near the elementary school.

I'm very upset about the cannabis grows that are in place, and additional ones seeking permits in the Santa Ynez Valley, especially those west of Buellton.

The smell coming from these grows is extremely noxious. It reeks. My neighborhood, the schoolyard, the surrounding area smells like a skunk, consistently. It's offensive.

I hope the county will do everything possible to not only limit further grows, but to also enforce odor abatement at any current sites. Whatever these growers are doing, if anything, to limit the smell is not working. The wind blows every night from Lompoc, and brings with it the horrid skunky smell from these operations.

I'm concerned about some of the other negative things that cannabis grows could potentially bring, but mostly about the SMELL. Please make it stop.

Thank you,
Jonathan Roylance
331 Alder Ln, Buellton CA 93427
801-436-7721