

Public Comment - CARP GROWERS #5



Brianda Negrete

From: Whitney Collie <whitney@coastalbloomsnursery.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 5:05 PM
To: sbcob; Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Nelson, Bob; Lavagnino, Steve
Subject: Roots Dispensary Appeal - Public Comment Letter
Attachments: Roots Dispensary Support Letter BOS Nov 1.pdf

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Good Evening,

Please see attached public comment letter for the Roots Dispensary appeal scheduled to be heard on November 1st.

Thank you,
Whitney Collie



October 24, 2022

Re: November 1 Appeal Hearing for The Roots cannabis retail dispensary on Santa Claus Lane

Madam Chair and Supervisors,

CARP Growers is an association of 9 members operating 20 greenhouse cannabis farms in Carpinteria Valley. We ask that you please reject the appeal and approve of The Roots dispensary on Santa Claus Lane. Our members model best practices in greenhouse farming for a statewide cannabis market. Despite every effort to distinguish our farms as compliant, transparent and cooperative, the unregulated market still dominates cannabis sales. This is partly due to lack of access to dispensaries throughout the state which provide the only outlet for selling responsibly farmed cannabis from the Santa Barbara Coast.

As an association of responsible producers, we guard against operators who have not earned reputations for being best in class in this once stigmatized industry. The Roots applicants Mary and Pat Raidis live in Carpinteria Valley and own the location on Santa Claus Lane. They are as invested in the future of the community and Santa Claus Lane as anyone.

We find that cannabis shoppers come from a diverse and inclusive spectrum of individuals, and this location can serve residents from Carpinteria through Montecito, who will in turn also gain new opportunities to window shop on Santa Claus Lane. The ample parking on site sets The Roots location apart from all other businesses on the street. Cannabis dispensaries and shoppers are not scary, and claims of crime or other negative impacts associated with this project have been disproven.

Please support this excellent project and help to fix a broken cannabis market by awarding the best applicants permission to operate dispensaries in Santa Barbara County.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Whitney Collie", written over a horizontal line.

Whitney Collie, President
CARP Growers