

Lenzi, Chelsea

From: SB Coalition for Responsible Cannabis <coalition4responsiblecannabis@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2019 2:23 PM
To: Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Adam, Peter; Lavagnino, Steve
Cc: Lenzi, Chelsea; sbcob
Subject: A-2 Cannabis Retail Licensing - set hearing

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Dear Board,

We just became aware that tomorrow, your Board will be setting a Hearing for 12/17/19 on amendments to the Business license process for retail cannabis operations. We are concerned that holding a hearing on such an issue of widespread importance on 12/17/19 during a week when many people are on vacation may limit opportunity for public input. We would urge the widest possible noticing for that Hearing.

In addition, the Board letter on Pg 4 includes the statement “*Focusing cannabis storefront retail into areas covered by community plans allows those plans to set the goals, policies, and standards guiding development*”. It is unclear how *removing* possible sites in some unincorporated areas of the County (Santa Maria, Gaviota, Vandenberg Village)

would be of benefit to those areas that spent years developing Community Plans. However, if the intent of the BOS is to include residents in the choice of locations, we would request that you direct staff to send notifications of the 12/17/19 hearing to all persons who are signed up on the Long Range Planning *Community Plan notification lists* in each identified area- Los Alamos, Santa Ynez, Orcutt, Eastern Goleta Valley, Isla Vista, Summerland and Toro Canyon. Long Range Planning Staff should be in possession of the mailing lists for each planning area.

Finally, we ask that staff or your Board clarify how the process for selection will interface with the Zoning process and intent for certain locations. Currently, the Cannabis Land Use Ordinance requires applicants for cannabis retail in Mixed Use areas to obtain a **Conditional Use Permit (CUP)**. The intent of CUPs is to insure compatibility with the surrounding neighborhoods and is (or should be) a rigorous process, culminating in a public hearing before the Planning Commission. Currently, over two-dozen CUP applications for cannabis cultivation are pending in P&D. How will the Retail Licensing process interface with the CUP process and in what time frame, if applicants apply for businesses in a mixed-use zone?

Sincerely,
SB Coalition for Responsible Planning