

Katherine Douglas

Public Comment - Group 1

# 3



**From:** Paul Ekstrom <paulekstrom@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 10, 2025 4:43 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Laura Capps; Roy Lee; Joan Hartmann; Bob Nelson  
**Subject:** Jan 14, 2025 File 25-0056, Cannabis Odor Abatement, proposed amendments.

**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 Santa Barbara County Supervisors, I appreciate your hard work on improving the cannabis odor problems in our county, , especially Carpinteria Valley. It is unfortunate that a couple of our supervisors, I will not name, sold out the residents and schools to the cannabis industry. My wife and I have spent a lot of our retirement money and countless hours with groups like Concerned Carpinterians and the Santa Barbara Coalition for Responsible Cannabis only trying to be able to open our windows and enjoy what used to be odorless fresh air. I have traveled to so many Planning Commission and BOS meetings. I have testified at many meetings, many times I felt disrespected by some of our planners and supervisors for speaking out.

Not that long ago the Santa Barbara Coalition for Responsible Cannabis assisted with a class action lawsuit against a nearby grower, it was successful in mandating a carbon filter requirement in the cannabis grow and it makes my immediate area much better. This lawsuit cost thousands of dollars for both the Coalition and the grower. Why you might ask? Because the County did not protect the residents and schools. Instead the benefit of the rules favored the growers. The residents here had to go "outside" to get results. We are on our own.

The community of Gilroy up north is known for the garlic odor and this has been going on for so long that everyone accepts it. Carpinteria Valley and the rest of our county cannot accept cannabis odor (skunk) as the new "norm". I ask you to take action on cannabis odor control and give us back our clean smelling coastal air.

Respectfully,  
Paul Ekstrom  
1489 Manzanita St. Carpinteria 93013

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Anna Carrillo <annacarp@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 11, 2025 1:14 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Laura Capps; Bob Nelson; Roy Lee; Joan Hartmann; Steve Lavagnino  
**Subject:** Cannabis Odor Abatement and Proposed Amendment to Chapter 50 and Chapter 35, Article II of the County Code

**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: Board of Supervisors  
From: Anna Carrillo  
January 11, 2025

I would like to make some comments about your proposals.

1. I wholeheartedly support the recommendation before you about requiring all cannabis mixed-light greenhouses in the Carpinteria Valley to install carbon scrubbers.
2. I support the amendment to Chapter 50 to integrate mandatory multiple technology carbon filtration odor control measures such as carbon scrubbers or equivalent effective technology in mixed light cannabis cultivation operations.
3. Since there is only one company that actually has undertaken tests to measure their effectiveness, the amendment needs to include some sort of evaluation required to attest to their effectiveness.
4. I understand that the number of units should be site-specific but, as has been recently demonstrated at the operation at 6030 Casitas Pass, the brand of scrubbers and the number of scrubbers installed didn't work and now need to be replaced. Not only are there different kind of scrubbers there are also different engineers writing the OAPs.
5. **The enforcement needs to be tied to the renewal of annual business licenses. The affidavit committing to properly use and maintain their Multi-Technology Carbon Filtration system needs to be signed annually after the annual inspection and before the annual business license is renewed.**
6. Residents, schools, businesses located within 1000' need to be notified when an annual business license is being reviewed for renewal and local feedback should be encouraged.
7. When renewals of the annual business licenses have been given, there needs to be public notification. In the past I've spent months trying to follow-up on an operator's cultivation site that has been renewed annually since 11/3/2022 but continues to smell to this day.
8. I understand that an amendment to chapter 50 can take effect within 30 days. Will this occur?
9. I understand the need to give operators a 12 Month Implementation Timeline but this should be shortened to 6 months. Carpinteria Valley residents have been dealing with the odor for the last 7 years and the operators now know what the Best Available Technology is.
10. I support the Board having oversight as the decision-maker for extension requests. Please limit and adhere strictly to items that would make one eligible for an extension.

11. There must be zero odor detection beyond the property line.

Thank you,  
Anna Carrillo

**Katherine Douglas**

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**From:** TURNER's <mt0923@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 11, 2025 4:07 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Carbon Scrubbers/clear compliance standards/timely implementation

**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 Board of Supervisors,

We are writing to voice our support for mandating carbon scrubbers for odor control for cannabis. In addition, a **clear** compliance standard and implementation timeline are key requirements to ensure that both the community and the industry know in concrete terms what is required, when it is required and how to measure success.

If you want people to follow the rules, you need to make the rules easy to follow.

This is a crucial step towards ensuring a balanced approach to cannabis regulation that respects both community well being and industry viability.

Sincerely,

Mike and Lynn Turner  
6965 Shepard Mesa Road  
Carpinteria, Ca 93013



## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Valerie Bentz <valeriebentz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 11, 2025 4:52 PM  
**To:** Roy Lee; Joan Hartmann; Steve Lavagnino; Villalobos, David; sbcob; Laura Capps; Bob Nelson  
**Cc:** Stephen Figler; albardach@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Please support Carpinteria citizens who suffer from Cannabis growers

**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,

I live in Carpinteria not far from Foothill and Casitas Pass. My husband and I have been suffering from severe allergies ever since the Cannabis industry started up here more than six years ago. We have air purifiers in our house to help, but still our eyes run at times of morning and night when the plants open up their windows.

Please support the regulations below, and more.

I don't think the term "odor" applies as for us it is the chemicals within the cannabis as well as the gallons of Byers and other sprays used to counteract the skunk like smell of the cannabis. I would rather smell the odor then suffer from the chemicals in the odor reducers that are harmful.

We have stopped formally complaining years ago because it seemed so futile as well could do it twice every single day.

We who live and work nearby have been like experimental subjects for years.

Thank you for finally taking some more meaningful action.

Sincerely,  
Valerie Bentz and Stephen Figler of  
5367 Ogan Rd., Carpinteria, CA 93013

**P.S. We support the  
regulations below and  
more:**

**1. Board must REQUIRE  
and ENFORCE carbon  
scrubbers to be installed at  
all existing and new  
cannabis  
greenhouses. *Experts say  
we need 10 Carbon***

***Scrubbers per acre of cultivation.***

2. Require cannabis operators to sign an annual affidavit of commitment to effectively use and maintain their Multi-Technology Carbon Filtration systems in order to receive their renewal of their annual Cannabis Business License.

3. No extension for cannabis growers: they have known about the odor problem for seven years.

***4. Zero odor beyond the property line!***

5. Notification to residents, schools, businesses within 1000 feet when the annual review of a cannabis growers' business license is being reviewed and solicit community feedback.

6. Publicly verify when annual business license has been renewed.

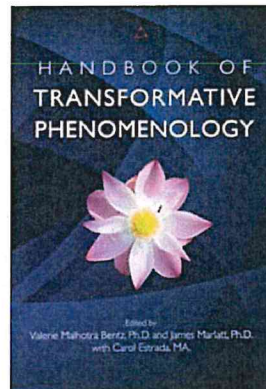
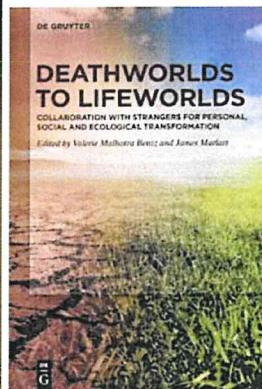
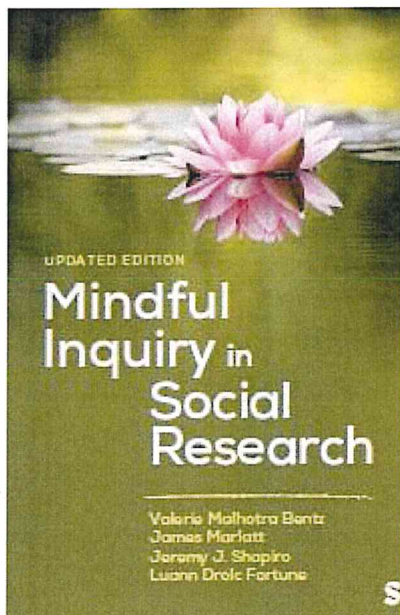
**7. No more Cannabis licenses** and no more renewals. The County has maxed out on cannabis, reaping only

adverse impacts and  
virtually no tax revenue.  
Weed Growers should  
consider Cuyama: they  
want you there.



CHANGE THE WORLD. START WITH YOURS.

Valerie Malhotra Bentz, PhD, MSSW  
Professor | School of Leadership Studies  
Fielding Graduate University  
5367 Ogan Rd. | Carpinteria, CA 93013  
office 805-395-0709  
vbentz@fielding.edu



Link to webpage:

<https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.1515/9783110691818/html>

Link to FUP webpage:

<https://www.fielding.edu/Fielding-Portfolio/handbook-of-transformative-phenomenology/>

See more at [valeriebentz.com](http://valeriebentz.com)

Transforming Consciousness for a Livable World

New book release!

Link to webpage:

<https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.1515/9783110691818/html>

Fielding folks access Valerie's Research Center here:

<https://learning.fielding.edu/course/view.php?id=4731>

See more at [valeriebentz.com](http://valeriebentz.com)

Transforming Consciousness for a Livable World



## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Theresa Reilly <tree101@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 11, 2025 5:08 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** BOS 1/14/2025, D3) Cannabis Odor Abatement Comments

**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.**

January 11, 2025

Attn: [sbcob@countyofsb.org](mailto:sbcob@countyofsb.org)

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors  
123 E. Anapamu St.  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: D3) Cannabis Odor Abatement, BOS Agenda for January 14, 2025

Dear Santa Barbara County Supervisors,

As the County revisits cannabis abatement policies, I wish to remind you that cannabis odor control is not just a Carpinteria greenhouse concern. While sensitive populations in the Santa Ynez Valley experience a reprieve during the winter months, the promise of green hills and wildflowers in spring is offset by the threat of skunky cannabis buds releasing their irritating terpenes upwind, fouling the air.

From May through November, residents and visitors in the Santa Ynez Valley, Los Alamos, and Nojoqui experience increasing irritation and health concerns during the open-air cultivation of acres of cannabis. The terpenes do not simply evaporate into the ether; they travel up the Santa Ynez Valley to Buellton and beyond with the westerly winds and settle into our low-lying neighborhoods and foothills overnight with the fog. Many among us suffer from headaches, burning eyes, irritated respiratory systems, and the frustration of not being able to open our windows or spend quality time outdoors without discomfort.

I can offer no solutions as to how to limit odor to property lines for outdoor grows when it travels readily from two miles upwind. Vapor-phase remedies only seem to add more and different odors and chemicals into the air. Perhaps there are ways to limit odors generated by harvesting, processing and transporting products to reduce the odor impact. A reliable means of measuring terpenes and pinpointing their sources is needed – some kind of outdoor monitor with sensors to monitor 24/7 rather than sending someone around with nasal meters during working hours when odors are least noticeable.

I appreciate the attention that is gathering around modifying policies to reduce the impacts of cannabis odors on our community. Now if only I could experience passage of an odor abatement plan which truly *recognizes the realities of cannabis operations* (which stink!) and *provides clear implementation guidelines* so that I can breathe freely in my own home and community.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Reilly

Buellton resident

Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Robert Lesser <bobbyless@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 11, 2025 6:00 PM  
**To:** Mona Miyasato  
**Cc:** Villalobos, David; Bob Nelson; sbcob; Roy Lee  
**Subject:** Yes to Cannabis carbon Odor scrubbers & more

**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,*

Yes to carbon scrubbers! thank you!

but we also need muscular Enforcement of 10 carbon scrubbers per acre. That is what the experts tell us is required to stop the stench of cannabis. Also [No extension for cannabis growers: they have known the problem for seven years.](#) There should be **Zero odor beyond the property line!** Notification to residents, schools, businesses within 1000 feet is needed when the annual review of a cannabis growers' business license is being reviewed to solicit community feedback, then Publicly verify when annual business license has been renewed. Please no [more Cannabis licenses sand no more renewals in SB.](#) The County long ago maxed out on cannabis.

Weed Growers, can we suggest you Consider Cuyama: they want you.  
We're done.

Sincerely  
Robert Lesser  
Carpinteria

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** John Culbertson <jnculbertson01@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 11, 2025 9:46 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Letter to Supervisors

**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.**

Santa Barbara Supervisors,

Air pollution from Cannabis operations and Byers spray systems are a health hazard.

Please require carbon scrubbers on all cannabis greenhouses and processing facilities in Carpinteria Valley. Those operators that don't comply should be shut down immediately. Please shut down all unlicensed facilities immediately. Please grant no more permits to operate cannabis facilities of any kind in the Carpinteria Valley.

People are having their health impacted by the failure of County Policy and corruption of government purpose. People are rightfully angry with County Government. The County Administrator, Board of Supervisors, Planning Department and contractors have failed in their duty to do no harm. Now, you must take the first step to reduce the public health hazard. Any thought about money should be of no importance. Your cannabis program is a failure. Take action now before the Federal Government gets involved.

john culbertson  
4516 La Tierra Ln.  
Carpinteria Ca 93013  
805-280-8267



## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Trish Reynales <treynales9@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 11, 2025 10:30 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Laura Capps; Bob Nelson; Roy Lee; Joan Hartmann; Steve Lavagnino; Villalobos, David  
**Subject:** Regarding the Cannabis Ordinance | January 14th Meeting

**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 Board of Supervisors,

Please consider the following critical requirements in your upcoming meeting:

1. The board must REQUIRE and ENFORCE carbon scrubbers to be installed at all existing and new cannabis greenhouses. Experts say we need 10 Carbon Scrubbers per acre of cultivation.
2. Require cannabis operators to sign an annual affidavit of commitment to effectively use and maintain their multi-technology carbon filtration systems in order to receive their renewal of their annual Cannabis Business License.
3. No extension extended for cannabis growers: they have known about the odor problem for seven years.
4. Zero odor standard beyond the property line.
5. Notification to residents, schools, businesses within 1,000 feet when the annual review of a cannabis growers' business license is being reviewed and solicit community feedback.
6. Publicly verify when annual business license has been renewed.
7. NO MORE CANNABIS LICENSES and NO MORE RENEWALS. The County has maxed out on cannabis, reaping only adverse impacts and virtually no tax revenue.

Sincerely,

Trish Reynales  
Santa Barbara, California



## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Shaun Neff <shaun@smn-inc.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 12, 2025 7:59 AM  
**To:** sbcob; Laura Capps; Bob Nelson; Roy Lee; Joan Hartmann; Steve Lavagnino; Villalobos, David  
**Subject:** Cannabis smell

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.

I'm emailing as a resident on Padaro Lane and a member of the incredible community of Carpinteria We have 3 children who live to be outside and enjoy the surroundings and we constantly smell the odor and it's something that affects our family Every time we drive in from LA as soon as we hit middle of carpinteria we are hit with this odor and it's bad and can't believe this is allowed on our lil beach community There needs to be required carbon scrubbers 10 of them installed per acre and we should lay down the signal that we are not renewing or letting any new business like this come again Thanks and we appreciate your support Sent from da phone

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Lillian Clary <mzlil2988@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 12, 2025 8:11 AM  
**To:** sbcob; Villalobos, David  
**Cc:** Lil Clary  
**Subject:** Public Comment Cannabis

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.

I would appreciate it if you would share this as public comment for both the Board of Supervisors and the Planning Commission. Thank you!

\*\*\*\*\*

It is time to STOP THE STINK.

I urge you to require effective carbon scrubbers for all Carpinteria cannabis operations.

Lil Clary

Message delivered to you via mule

**Katherine Douglas**

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**From:** robyn geddes <robyn\_geddes@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 12, 2025 11:11 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Cannabis Odor Control (Tuesday, Jan 14th)

**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 Board of Supervisors,

It is great that the subject of cannabis odor will finally be addressed. The excuse of not being able to pin-point where unregulated cannabis odor is coming from is weak. All one has to do is visit the sites and look at what technology has been implemented for odor control.

There is plenty of money to be made in cannabis, so requesting odor control should not be a financial burden. The growers and the public have been aware of the odor problem for several years. Changes with enforcement are due.

Sincerely,  
Robyn Geddes  
Polo Condos

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Jana Zimmer <zimmerccc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 12, 2025 11:57 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Cc:** Bob Nelson; Laura Capps; Joan Hartmann; Steve Lavagnino; roy.lee@countyofsb.org  
**Subject:** Cannabis Hearing 1.14.2025 re: Odor  
**Attachments:** Proposed Ordinance re Odor 7.14.2019.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.**

Please forward this e mail and the atached e mail which was submitted to the Board from July 14, 2019.

Dear Chair Capps and Board Members:

I am attaching here an e mail from me to the County, and a draft ordinance dated July 14, 2019, where I proposed draft language for an ordinance under Chapter 50, to consider for inclusion now, of whatever may still be pertinent. I submit them now because Supervisor Nelson and Supervisor Lee may not have seen them previously.

The staff report does not disclose which amendments are proposed to be included in an LCP amendment, but as I have previously suggested, the substance can be included in Chapter 50, which is NOT subject to Coastal Commission review, and which can go into effect 30 days from adoption.

I hope this information helps to facilitate the process of ordinance drafting, and to implement an ordinance without further delay.

--

Jana Zimmer

(805)705-3784

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Jana Zimmer &lt;zimmerccc@gmail.com&gt;

## Cannabis hearing- July 16

34 messages

Jana Zimmer &lt;zimmerccc@gmail.com&gt;

Sun, Jul 14, 2019 at 12:34 PM

To: Das Williams &lt;das\_williams@hotmail.com&gt;

Cc: dwilliams@countyofsb.org, "Hartmann, Joan" &lt;jhartmann@countyofsb.org&gt;, ghart@countyofsb.org, steve.lavagnino@countyofsb.org, "Cc:" &lt;mmyiasato@countyofsb.org&gt;, sbcob@co.santa-barbara.ca.us, peter.adam@countyofsb.org, "Ghizzoni, Michael" &lt;Mghizzoni@co.santa-barbara.ca.us&gt;

Bcc:

Das:

I am writing to you as a resident of the First District and as a lawyer with considerable experience as a former Chief Deputy County Counsel for land use, as a former Coastal Commissioner, and as your constituent. I have counted a dozen old friends- at least one member of my old book club, colleagues and my own teachers from the arts community, and former clients who live in Carpinteria who I care for and respect, and who I know have been involved in trying to get real relief, specifically from the odor impacts of nonconforming, unpermitted cannabis operations. I know their life experience is real, and it should not be denied or discounted, by anyone. I also believe that if the Board does not act to significantly ameliorate the conditions under which they are living, and soon, this controversy will continue to damage the Board's credibility as the policy makers in this County.

Because of these relationships, and while neither the coalition nor Concerned Carpinterians is my client, I have agreed to try to help find a path to addressing the ongoing nuisance impacts of cannabis cultivation which continues in Carpinteria without benefit of permit, and without compliance with the County's mitigation program. I spoke with your County Counsel last week prior to the July 9 hearing on amendments, about his advice on the availability of an urgency ordinance to address ongoing nuisance impacts. He listened to me but would not engage in discussion, because the Board had not yet given direction. He then made statements on the record about the legality of a second urgency ordinance in response to questions from you that I strongly disagree with as a matter of law, and as a matter of policy. However, I believe he also stated in public that "some" of the proposed provisions of the urgency ordinance could be dealt with through the licensing ordinance amendments which are on your agenda this week.

Thus, you should know that I suggested the substance of the proposed amendments to the licensing ordinance, specifically the amendments to Section 50-5, which have been submitted by the Coalition and the Concerned Carpinterians. I believe it should be straightforward for you to agree with the substance of these proposed amendments. They represent exactly what you have been saying you want: to require those operators with ongoing nonconforming operations to mitigate odor impacts as soon as possible, and they are consistent with Mr. Bozanich's stated intention in his Board letter for July 9. **The Coalition and Concerned Carpinterians have asked that you indicate in your deliberations your agreement with the substance of these amendments, and that the Board include in its direction to staff to have County Counsel and staff review and include them in the language that comes back for adoption in August.** I understand that the Carpinteria Growers- who have indicated that they have installed odor controls- have repeatedly and publicly supported efforts to require other nonconforming operators to install them as well, and promptly. There is no good reason to continue to allow the noncompliant growers to continue to benefit from their "legal" nonconforming status. Indeed, immediate installation of odor controls should be a condition of allowing that status to continue, legal or not. Alternatively, I believe the only appropriate alternative for the Board is to systematically investigate the 'affidavits' that the County previously accepted, to revoke licenses, and promptly set hearings to terminate these nonconforming uses under the zoning code.

For your convenience, the key substantive language is as follows:

**Delete: 50-5(a)(3) exemptions from Business License:**

~~Legal nonconforming medical marijuana cultivation sites established by County Code Section 35-1003, until they are terminated, pursuant to County Code Section 35-1003.C, as may be amended.~~

**ADD new 50-5(a)(3)**

(i) All owners and operators of legal, nonconforming cultivation sites shall apply for a business license under this ordinance within 30 days of the effective date of this section 50-5(a)(3), regardless of whether a final zoning or land use entitlement has been approved or issued.

(ii) In addition to any other requirement, for indoor cultivation, the application shall include evidence of purchase and installation of odor control, and verification by an independent third party, under penalty of perjury, that best available odor control technology has been installed and is operational as of the date of the application.

(iii) For outdoor cultivation, the applicant shall submit evidence that the boundary of the parcel on which cultivation is occurring is at least 1500 feet from the parcel boundary of a residential use, a school, or a pre-existing agricultural operation, including but not limited to avocado and viticulture.

(iv) The County Planning and Development Department shall inspect the cultivation site within 14 days of submittal the license application, to verify that odor controls have been installed, are operational, and that odor cannot be detected beyond the property line. For any site where odor controls are not operational and effective, the application for business license shall be summarily denied, and the State licensing authorities notified.

(v) Installation of a particular method of odor control under this section shall not vest a right to continue to implement that method of odor control if, upon permit approval or compliance review, the County determines that another method of odor control is more effective.

(vi) The County shall post and maintain a list of legal nonconforming operators for which odor controls have been installed and verified on its website.

(vii) For any site which the Planning and Development Department determines is an illegal nonconforming site by reason of illegal initiation or expansion of cultivation since January 16, 2016, the Board of Supervisors shall set a termination hearing as authorized under the zoning code.

I would be pleased to discuss this language, or any equivalent alternative that staff and County Counsel would support, with them. If you would care to discuss this with me prior to the hearing, you are welcome to call me.

Jana Zimmer, Attorney/  
Government Relations Consulting  
(805)705-3794

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**Katherine Douglas**

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**From:** Adam Peck <theadampeck@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 12, 2025 12:58 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Laura Capps; Bob Nelson; Roy Lee; Joan Hartmann; Steve Lavagnino; Villalobos, David  
**Subject:** Cannabis Odors On Padaro Lane

**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 Board of Supervisors,

Thanks so much for all your continued hard work looking out for our safety and welfare here in Carp. We are especially grateful for you to hear and consider our concerns about the proliferation of cannabis growers destroying our environment; it's outrageous. The odors are ruining our property and it's values and I specifically came here from LA for my asthma.

We beg you to finally REQUIRE and ENFORCE carbon scrubbers to be installed at all existing and new cannabis greenhouses. The experts say **we need 10 Carbon Scrubbers per acre** of cultivation.

**There should be ZERO odor detection measured beyond the property line.**

Accordingly we hope you will then *require* cannabis operators to sign an annual affidavit of commitment to effectively use and maintain their Multi-Technology Carbon Filtration systems in order to receive their renewal of their annual Cannabis Business License.

There should be NO extension for cannabis growers on this issue: they have known the problem **for seven years and done nothing.**

I also think it is appropriate that there be notification to residents, schools, businesses within 1000 feet of the cannabis growers when the annual review of their business license is being reviewed to solicit community feedback. You should then publicly verify when the annual business license has been renewed.

Lastly, no more cannabis licenses should be issued and there should be no more renewals. The County has maxed out on cannabis. Weed growers should consider Cuyama: they want you there.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Adam Peck & Jenny Bicks  
3236 Beach Club Road

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** William Hahn <wv.hahn45@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 12, 2025 2:46 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Scrubbers

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.

This letter is being written in support of the proposed amendments requiring carbon scrubbers for cannabis odor control. I live in the Carpinteria Valley near several of the cannabis grow houses, and during the past several years have been frequently irritated, inconvenienced and have been negatively impacted personally, socially, and financially by the cannabis odors.

I think there were many mistakes made in the permitting process by which cannabis was allowed to become a fixture here in the Valley, particularly in the immediate vicinity of schools, families, and homes. This has created an ongoing nuisance for the individuals living near the grow houses and has resulted in a very significant financial impact on many of their businesses, and on their property values.

The attempts to remedy the virtual daily odor irritants have been unsuccessful.

Carbon scrubbers have been proven to be successful, and I would push for their implementation as soon as possible. Attempts to actually measure odor, and assign specific blame to individual growers have been unsuccessful, and I think will continue to be unsuccessful due to the complexities of odor detection. Taking proactive steps to actually eliminate the odor across the industry is obviously the appropriate step, and hopefully can be implemented as soon as possible.

William Hahn  
MD  
5950 Casitas Pass Road  
Carpinteria  
Sent from my iPhone



## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Ann Matson <anncmatson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 12, 2025 3:26 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Laura Capps; Bob Nelson; Roy Lee; Joan Hartmann; Steve Lavagnino  
**Subject:** CANNABIS REGULATIONS

**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 County Supervisors,

I am a resident of Carpinteria and I support amendments to the cannabis regulations.

Experts have determined that there needs to be 10 carbon scrubbers per acre of cultivation. That requirements should be mandated and enforced.

No more cannabis licenses should be issued in Santa Barbara County. In Carpinteria, cannabis cultivation has taken over around the perimeters of our town, resulting in an abundance of "skunk stink". There should be zero odor detection beyond the property lines of the operations. The quality of the air we breathe is of utmost importance to the health and well being of our residents and visitors.

Cannabis operators would be required to sign an affidavit of commitment to properly use and maintain their MTCT as part of the Cannabis Business License. Once the Board adopts this amendment to Chapter 50, Chapter 35 and Article 11, cannabis operators would have a 12-month period to comply with the new requirements. It should be a 90 day period as growers have known for 7 years about the stench overlaying Carpinteria and adjacent. An extension process would be established with the Board having direct control of approval of any extensions.

Please make and enforce strict, common sense changes to the regulations that were so unwisely made by the past Board.

We are depending on you,

Ann Matson  
436 Arbol Verde St  
Carpinteria, CA

**Katherine Douglas**

---

**From:** billkrawetz@comcast.net  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 12, 2025 3:57 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Proposed amendment requiring carbon scrubbers for all cannabis grows= In favor of, please pass

**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 Board of Supervisors,

Please vote in favor of the amendment to the cannabis ordinance that will require carbon scrubbers for all commercial cannabis cultivation.

The commercial cannabis industry has a right to grow pot but not to pollute the air of other people and onto their properties. The public has the right to clean, un-encumbered air. This is necessary for the community's overall quality of life, to protect property values and will go along in making the commercial growers both responsible and good members of the community.

Thanks  
Bill Krawetz

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** sjashbrook@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 12, 2025 4:56 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Laura Capps; Bob Nelson; Roy Lee; Joan Hartmann; Steve Lavagnino; Villalobos, David  
**Subject:** No More Carpinteria Cannabis Odor  
**Attachments:** No More Carpinteria Cannabis Odor.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.

Honorable Supervisors for the County of Santa Barbara,  
At least a few times a month I drive to Los Angeles to visit friends and take care of business. It is hard for me to believe that cannabis odor persists in beautiful Carpinteria. I can smell "weed" before I hit the Carpinteria city limits. Those poor residents! I attended early cannabis meetings when growers tried to tell Supervisors that cannabis smelled like broccoli. I join Concerned Carpinterians who are asking for:

- Enforcement and requirement of carbon scrubbers at ALL existing and new cannabis facilities.
- Require cannabis operators receiving an annual Cannabis Business License, to maintain the highest standard of carbon filtration. With NO extension – the same as any other business in the County of Santa Barbara. Require notification to residents, schools and businesses within 1000 feet to ensure community feedback.

It is time to be tough!  
Thank you, Susan Ashbrook

At least a few times a month I drive to Los Angeles to visit friends and take care of business. It is hard for me to believe that cannabis odor persists in beautiful Carpinteria. I can smell "weed" before I hit the Carpinteria city limits. Those poor residents! I attended early cannabis meetings when growers tried to tell Supervisors that cannabis smelled like broccoli. I join Concerned Carpinterians who are asking for:

- Enforcement and requirement of carbon scrubbers at ALL existing and new cannabis facilities.
- Require cannabis operators receiving an annual Cannabis Business License, to maintain the highest standard of carbon filtration. With NO extension – the same as any other business in the County of Santa Barbara. Require notification to residents, schools and businesses within 1000 feet to ensure community feedback.

It is time to be tough!

Thank you, Susan Ashbrook

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Abigail Turin <at@kallosturin.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 12, 2025 7:23 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Laura Capps; Bob Nelson; Roy Lee; Joan Hartmann; Steve Lavagnino; Villalobos, David  
**Subject:** Tuesday, Jan 14th, Cannabis - Item #3

**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 Members of the Board of Supervisors,

We are residents of Padaro Lane and have been subjected to the regular and offensive odors coming from the nearby cannabis operations for years. From the outset of this problem, we have written letters, sent emails, met with supervisors, filled out online forms, spoken at hearings, and hired lawyers and yet the odors not only persist, but have worsened. We, and our neighbors, have grown increasingly frustrated with the local cannabis industry's repeated failure to live up to its promise to control these odors.

We respectfully ask the Board to take action to address this persistent public and private nuisance.

1. Board must REQUIRE and ENFORCE carbon scrubbers to be installed at all existing and new cannabis greenhouses. ***Experts say we need 10 Carbon Scrubbers per acre of cultivation. It is also critical that existing greenhouses are effectively sealed for this technology to work.***
2. Require cannabis operators to sign an annual affidavit of commitment to effectively use and maintain their Multi-Technology Carbon Filtration systems in order to receive their renewal of their annual Cannabis Business License.
3. No extension for cannabis growers: they have known the problem for seven years.
4. **Zero odor detection measured beyond the property line!**
5. Notification to residents, schools, businesses within 1000 feet when the annual review of a cannabis growers' business license is being reviewed and solicit community feedback.
6. Publicly verify when the annual business license has been renewed.
7. No more Cannabis licenses to be issued and no more renewals. The County has maxed out on cannabis.

With Thanks,

Abigail Turin and Jonathan Gans

3357 Padaro Lane

3359 Padaro Lane

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Dianne Pence <diannedpence@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 12, 2025 10:37 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Villalobos, David  
**Subject:** Request to require carbon scrubbers for cannabis growers

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 Board of Supervisors,

This technology has been demonstrated to reduce the noxious and unhealthy odors generated by the multitude of cannabis grows, particularly in Carpinteria. Your constituents have suffered these insults for too many years to count and quite a few have health conditions as a result.

Additionally, the insult is also being suffered by those driving through Carp on the 101 - not good messaging to encourage tourism which provides jobs for our people.

It is time to require use of this technology for all grows in our county, starting with the city of Carpinteria.

Thank you .

With best regards,  
Dianne  
Dianne Pence



## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Jacquelyne Alexander  
**Sent:** Monday, January 13, 2025 8:31 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** FW: Sept 14 Hearing/Cannabis Agenda Item  
**Attachments:** CannabisOrdinanceRMap.docx

Good morning COB,

Please add this online and in today's late distribution for Departmental Item No. 3 on tomorrow's agenda regarding Cannabis odor.

Kind regards,



one COUNTY | one FUTURE

Jacquelyne Alexander  
Chief Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
County of Santa Barbara  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407, Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
t: 805.568.2245 f: 805.568.2249  
[jalexander@countyofsb.org](mailto:jalexander@countyofsb.org)

Sign up for news and announcements from the County at [www.countyofsb.org](http://www.countyofsb.org).

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**From:** Jeff Giordano <[jeffg@ir-holdings.com](mailto:jeffg@ir-holdings.com)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 11, 2025 10:15 AM  
**To:** Laura Capps <[lcapps@countyofsb.org](mailto:lcapps@countyofsb.org)>; Bob Nelson <[bnelson@countyofsb.org](mailto:bnelson@countyofsb.org)>; Daisy Weber <[daweber@countyofsb.org](mailto:daweber@countyofsb.org)>  
**Cc:** Brittany Odermann <[bodermann@countyofsb.org](mailto:bodermann@countyofsb.org)>; Mona Miyasato <[mmiyasato@countyofsb.org](mailto:mmiyasato@countyofsb.org)>; Wade Cowper <[wcowper@countyofsb.org](mailto:wcowper@countyofsb.org)>; Chris Henson <[chenson@countyofsb.org](mailto:chenson@countyofsb.org)>  
**Subject:** Sept 14 Hearing/Cannabis Agenda Item

**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 specific language/amendments for your upcoming Chapter 50 Board meeting on Tuesday. Also, included are suggested "thought starters" re: Chapter 35. I also wanted to briefly comment on certain ideas that I believe the Board might be considering.

**Using Affidavits Re: Carbon Scrubber Installation:**

It's my understanding that the Board may consider using Grower Affidavits to mandate—in accordance with Manufacturer Specifications—Carbon Scrubber installation. This is a solid quick/band aide type idea, but the devil continues to be in the details:

- I cringe when I hear the words affidavit/cannabis in the same sentence. Given the history, let's be sure the system is not again "gamed". To do this, only **County Approved Manufacturers** should be eligible for such a program. *Many folks say they have working scrubber systems, but none are tested and the ones that have been tested, have failed.* Presently, **only the Envinity System** has passed the rigorous testing that County approved SCS performed. This was done at a cost of \$950k and completed in November of 2022. At least initially, only an Affidavit supported by the Envinity System should be allowed.
- Yes, the County should be manufacturer neutral but like all other BACT ordinances (wells, hot water heaters, etc.) the future of such a program requires an Approved Vendor Program (supported by SCS or Mark Kram/Groundswell Tech) and paid for by the Manufacturer) and/or deep technical specs (supported/drafted by SCS or Mark Kram/Groundswell Tech).

I certainly don't want the perfect to get in the way of the good but let's not forget that installation of Scrubbers does **not** guarantee success. What if the never turns them on? What if what the Manufacturer initially believed about the facility (each is different) doesn't hold true in practice? In the end, Chapter 35's Odor Thresholds (2 D/T), Outdoor Cannabis changes, Property Line Testing protocols, and Complaint system will still be necessary to be certain the installed system "WORKS" (remember, without an Odor Threshold/Testing Protocol, "working" will remain open to interpretation).

Anyway, in the attached memo are ideas that completely re-imagine Chapter 35 because just nibbling around the edges—and keeping the same deeply broken Tier/Complaint scheme—could defeat the great work/changes I know you'll get done re: Chapter 50.

Good luck and thank you all for trying to finally put this Countywide problem behind us.

Warm Regards,

Jeff Giordano

## THOUGHT STARTERS

### A CHANGE IN BEST AVAILABLE CONTROL TECH WILL PROVIDE AN IMMEDIATE “FIX”

Responding to **Commissioner Cooney** who is correct that speed should matter.

**Note:** An Ordinance Amendment Only—Two Readings, CEQA Exempted, Done, i.e., it does not require Local Coastal Program (LCP)/Coastal Commission Certification because when the Commission certified Chapter 35 they **excluded** Chapter 50. See, LCPA No. LCP-4-STB-18-0039-1-Part C (Cannabis Regulations) dated 9/27/18

Today, 17 of the 29 Coastal Growers use a defective—SB County only—Vapor Phase system to mask odors. This ineffective and environmentally questionable system (not part of the Program Environmental Impact Report) must immediately be excluded from the definition of BACT

The fact that P&D proposed threshold odor levels and property line testing before suggesting changes to the definition of BACT is **BAFFLING**:

- BACT can be embedded in Chapter 50 and can **quickly become** licensing required.
- If presented under Licensing—and through the CAO and not P&D—adherence to manufacturer specifications will **immediately** begin to make things “better” thereby allowing further study re: thresholds and testing protocols.

#### i. Specific Amendments To Chapter 50: CAO Involvement

For new and existing licenses, we recommend amending Chapter 50-10 and 50-17 to delete reference to Chapter 35 (Remove P&D from the business of odor control, and instead have the CAO make the determination of BACT). For example:

50-10(a)(1) The County Executive Officer will forward applications to the Planning and Development and Community Services departments and request confirmation by Planning and Development and Community Services departments that:

(1) The applicant has the proper land use entitlement and odor control system;

(A) Upon receipt of the final land use entitlement approval, the CAO will determine BACT for odor control as of the date of the approval of a new license, or renewal based on industry standards on the date of application.

(B) Under no circumstances shall the CAO determine that BACT for odor control includes so called vapor phase and/or misting odor masking systems.

Amend Section 50-17(d): A license can be denied by the CAO unless the applicant uses the BACT as determined by the CAO based on industry standards required by County Code Chapter 35 and/or their land use entitlement, and failure to do so is grounds for denial or nonrenewal

**DELETE** the reference to Chapter 35 and land use entitlement and add: Unless the CAO determines that the applicant has proposed to use the Best Available Control Technology as determined based on the evidence submitted to the CAO at the time of licensing or renewal.

**NOTE:** The idea of CAO involvement was taken from other jurisdictions. That said, we do not misunderstand the additional and operational function it brings such that SB County may decide on a specific Licensing Dept (?CC?) or to have a multi-departmental committee to decide on annual licenses depending on the ultimate changes in the code.

## **ii. P&D Has No Expertise In Odor Control**

We should use Chapter 50 to remove P&D from the business of odor control, for which they have **no expertise** and instead have CAO make the BACT determination:

-Amend 50-10 and 50-17 to fully delete references to Chapter 35

-Amend Section 50-17(d): A license can be denied by the CAO unless the Applicant uses the Best Available Control Technology as determined by the CAO based on current industry standards.

## **iii. Cannabis Licenses Are Not Vested Property Rights**

Cannabis Licensees do not enjoy the same “rights” under Chapter 50 to continue nonconforming operations as other uses. Section 5 of the original ordinance is dispositive:

**SECTION 5:** Cannabis activities already are highly regulated by both the state and federal governments, and their regulation of cannabis activities is subject to rapid changes. Even if the Board of Supervisors adopts this Ordinance, **the Board of Supervisors retains all of its statutory authority concerning cannabis activities. For example, even if the Ordinance becomes operative, the Board of Supervisors still may take action(s) later to change the zoning and/or licensing of cannabis activities to being prohibited.** Changing the zoning and/or licensing of cannabis activities to being prohibited, could occur -- for example, **but is not limited to** if: 1) the County Treasurer is not able to deposit cannabis-related funds ... or... the Board of Supervisors submits a proposed County tax on commercial cannabis activity to the voters and the voters do not approve the tax... Cannabis activities are highly regulated by both the state and federal governments and their regulation of cannabis activities is **subject to rapid changes, the Board of Supervisors later may need to change the zoning and/or licensing of cannabis activities to being prohibited and may need to do so without cannabis activities receiving: 1) an amortization period; and/or 2) legal nonconforming use status.”\***

*\*Not repeated in the Code but included in “Statement of Purpose” when adopted, see Staff report 2018.*

## **iv. Manufacturer Neutrality & Approved County Scrubbers**

Like other jurisdictions, SB County needs a manufacturer neutral BACT. That said, because SBC needed to **invent** Scrubber systems for Mixed Light greenhouses, it's important that the system be scientifically tested and County approved. BACT for hot water heaters, boilers, wells, etc. are code-defined, so too should Scrubbers.

To date, there is **just one** Carbon Scrubber system that has been proven effective by SCS which is a recognized County approved odor expert. This Envinity System was installed at two large commercial facilities resulting in an omnibus odor study released on November 14, 2022, entitled "Initial Scrubber Efficacy Assessment & Odor Study". This SCS report is now part of the public record and was sent to the BOS in early 2023.

This report cost **\$950k**, involved five different engineering groups and is the **ONLY** report that verifies the type of Scrubber System that when fitted to spec "works" in a commercial Mixed Light setting and that system is Envinity.

A few statements within the 16-page report are informative:

- **"The odor study presented in this report was a very ambitious undertaking. SCS is not aware of another odor study ever conducted that collected and analyzed this many odor samples in such a short period. This resulted in a robust sample density and thus confidence that the results presented in this report are reflective of the real-world operation of the CFS-3000 Scrubbers provided by Envinity Group..."**
- **"The CFS-3000 scrubbers are capable of reducing odor emissions to a level that would result in no perceivable cannabis odors downwind from the facility."**

Based on the above we recommend the County develop a County pre-tested/approved list of Scrubbers capable of meeting an agreed legislative odor threshold.

**Note:** Dr. Kram served as the Chief Scientist for the DoD National Environmental Technology Test Site (NETTS) and evaluated experimental designs. In our discussions he stressed the need for independent testing. In the end, having private industry stakeholders paying for the testing (fox/henhouse) is problematic and, in the future, we should consider independent testing requirements that are paid for by the County.

**Note:** Carbon Scrubbers alone may ultimately do the trick if we add additional safeguards. For example, developing detailed technological/testing specifications, independent testing and surprise/random inspections may prove dispositive.

### **SBC NEEDS TO "SUNSET" VAPOR PHASE SYSTEMS**

These systems—now being used in both North and South County—have been controversial since they were first introduced in Santa Barbara, where they are uniquely/exclusively used in residential settings for Cannabis odors.



Because they were not envisioned, they were not part of the PEIR. Making matters worse is the APCD Cannabis “crop” exemption that—because of these systems—the City of Carp requested lifted in 2019 (Denver has no such exemption). As **Dr. Judy Dean** presented in her appeal re: 1540 Cravens Ln.: *“The surfactants in the [misted spray] have not been tested as inhalants.”* Further, *“Not known to be toxic is not the same as safe.”*

If Vaping-Associated Pulmonary Illness taught us anything it’s that when vaporized even “healthy” elements (in the case of e-cigarettes, vitamin E) can pose health risks. Until this technology is abolished, Growers will strongly resist the much better Scrubber technology.

**Note:** It has been variously calculated that 10 Vapor Grows would dump more than 150 tons of mist annually into our air and ground water.

**Sunset Period:** We recommend that each of the 17 Coastal Growers currently deploying Vapor Phase systems be given written notice that they have **twelve (12) months** to move to a Carbon Scrubber (BACT) system. Failure to do so should result in license revocation.

### **CANNABIS REQUIRES A COUNTYWIDE SOLUTION**

Nothing in P&D’s proposal spoke to open grows in the Inland Zone which currently permits 1,570 acres of Cannabis cultivation. Indeed, the disparate treatment of Cannabis in AG I and AG II is troubling as it could, if we don’t set consistent odor standards, create a second class of citizenry in North vs. South County.

#### **i. A “Nuisance” is a nuisance, regardless of where one resides**

Per Dr. Kram has scientifically measured noticeable odor (20-40 Parts Per Billion) to approximately 2,500’ making an outdoor Odor Abatement Plan an oxymoron.

For example, West Coast Farm’s 52 acre grow uses a parameter Fog System (six-inch pipe!) that required the BOS to overrule the CPC based not on science/testing but rather on a “trust me” standard. Given the hundreds of complaints surrounding grows with P&D approved OAPs this needs to change.

We recommend:

- Per the above study, a 2,500’ set back **AND** Periodic property line odor testing for annual licensing renewal/same threshold level

### **REPLACE OUR BROKEN COMPLAINT SYSTEM WITH TECHNOLOGY**

Responding to **Commissioner Parke** that a complaint-based system requires prompt response, even at “3AM”.

Responding to **Commissioner Martinez** re: How much does it cost/who pays?

Responding to **Commissioner Reed** re: Are there better technologies?

### **i. Our Complaint System Is Forever Broken**

Supervisors **Capps** and **Nelson** were instrumental in having hearings that PROVED just how broken P&D's scheme really is—after 3,400 complaints **not a single one** has been verified nor has a single Grower been put in even the lowest Tier. Yet, in their most recent proposal P&D actually doubles down (adding another Tier) on the same system.

While we don't need experts to verify what we already know, **Drs. Kram and Hartman** (*Hartman Environmental Geoscience*) have done so: *"Nasal Ranger is not the right tool [per even the Manufacturer specs] for many reasons (as folks, including County, have acknowledged). Detecting a nuisance requires proper instrument positioning (e.g., downwind of the source) and timing (e.g., when specific processes and conditions are conducive to plume generation and migration). Having folks on-call to respond to complaints makes very little sense, will be labor-intensive and costly, and will not resolve the issues. Conditions will have changed by the time someone arrives."*

**Note:** In spite of what P&D says the Nasal Ranger is not a "system". Instead, it is a cheap (less than \$3k) handheld device and our \$1.7B County has just one.

### **ii. Denver's Complaint-based system is not a viable model**

- Since 2016 the City of Denver has generated **\$450M in tax revenue**, i.e., they have the money for a Complaint-based system and we do not.
- Without a mountain of new FTE's, scores more Nasal Rangers or an expanded consulting contract that guarantees immediate 24/7 response times relying on complaints is **NOT** a path forward.

**NOTE:** It would taxpayer "criminal" to allow P&D's proposal to move forward without an Economic Impact Study.

**NOTE:** The sad irony is that P&D spent taxpayer dollars to fund a completely bogus study ("there is no odor") that is now being used as a defense by Grower-defendants against neighbor-funded Nuisance lawsuits.

### **iii. Defining "Nuisance" & The Proper Threshold [2 D/T]**

In a scheme that defines Nuisance and measures it continuously at the property line, neighbor complaints would be unnecessary/superfluous.

The correct D/T property line threshold—one that was recently argued for by the City of Carp/is being used in the state of Oregon—is **2 D/T**. Denver only uses 7 D/T because grows are not in close proximity to residences.

## **SBC COULD "LEAD THE WAY" WITH 24/7 MONITORING**

### **i. Continuous Monitoring Would Be Innovative/Game Changing**

We believe that in the current \$1.3M Geosyntec contract Dr Kram's company—Groundswell Tech—is listed as an approved vendor partner and that perhaps there are unspent dollars available to test a new paradigm.

We have explored Dr. Kram's VaporSafe 24/7 monitoring system which could be phased in across all 29 Growers (tested first/deployed later) and would continuously monitor VOC odors on a custom dashboard. A final year-end report could then be submitted with re: Licensing renewal. The system may be licensed on a SaaS-basis.

Unfortunately, not solving Cannabis has led to a cottage industry of sorts both inside the County and outside. While we would hope that those involved are "honest brokers" we strongly suspect that, unfortunately, many are not.

**Note:** There may be competitive systems, and greater diligence would be required to determine if VaporSafe is viable or even necessary but it deserves exploration and could be **game changing**.

**Note:** There may be technological reasons for testing/measuring odor at the "vent" vs. the property line. This too needs to be explored and would require a different odor threshold.

**Note:** This also requires an Economic Impact Statement with the costs borne by the industry itself. The industry resisted a tax increase Referendum, so SB County has every right to demand "more" from them and less from the community/taxpayers.

**Note:** There are many costs to administer our \$6M Cannabis program, some obvious (40 FTE's at \$170k each) and some not so obvious including DCC fees, audit fees, and consulting fees. We conservatively estimate it costs \$8M+ to administer the program.

### **WE NEED A "PROCESS"**

Responding to Commissioner **Bridely** that "yes" the public needs to be involved.

Responding to Commissioner **Parke's** idea of Workshops and that we need to do this correctly, rather than swiftly.

While we believe Work Shops are a good idea, we think "more" is required as Cannabis is complex, implicating various County departments. Indeed, much deeper diligence will be required on a variety of fronts including legal, legislative, technological, and economic.

Therefore, we hope the CPC will join us in recommending to our CEO and Supervisors the idea of a Cannabis consultant. Optimally, this person would have legal, legislative and consulting experience and would do the necessary due diligence that is still required to suggest definitive solutions. This person would report directly to the CEO who can then pass findings and suggestions along to CC, P&D, Licensing, and the Board for comment and direction. Of course, if there is interest, we have someone in mind.

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Dodd and Beth Geiger <doddbeth@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 13, 2025 10:12 AM  
**To:** sbcob; Laura Capps; Bob Nelson; RoyLee@countyofsb.rog; Joan Hartmann; Steve Lavagnino; Villalobos, David  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance

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 Board of Supervisors,

We implore you to require and enforce the use of carbon scrubbers in all existing and new cannabis greenhouses. It seems reasonable after so many years of struggle with this issue, that cannabis operators commit to the effective use of carbon filtration annually in order to receive renewal of license to operate. There should be NO odor detection measured beyond the property line of cannabis greenhouse operations. Solicitation of community feedback can ensure neighbors that their voices are being recognized. And finally, is there a limit on cannabis licenses for this county and if so, have we not attained that by now? If not, what is the limit?

We thank you for your consideration of your constituents' desires to live in this beautiful community and safely breathe the air.

Sincerely,  
Beth and Dodd Geiger  
Padaro Lane

**Katherine Douglas**

---

**From:** jstassinosaol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, January 13, 2025 10:37 AM  
**To:** sbcob; Laura Capps; Bob Nelson; Roy Lee; Joan Hartmann; Steve Lavagnino; Villalobos, David  
**Subject:** 1/14/25 SB County BOS Mtg. Agenda item #3

**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,

Please support the following amendments to the current cannabis ordinance:

1. REQUIRE Mandatory Multi-Technology Regenerative Carbon Filtration Scrubbers in new and existing cannabis operations. This requirement would ensure a consistent standard throughout the cannabis industry
2. REQUIRE and ENFORCE that regenerative carbon filter scrubbers be installed in All existing and new cannabis greenhouses according to the manufacturers specifications ie. 10 Carbon Scrubbers per acre of cannabis cultivation.
3. REQUIRE cannabis operators sign an ANNUAL Affidavit of Commitment to use and maintain their Multi-Technology Regenerative Carbon Filtration systems in order to receive a renewal of their annual Cannabis Business License.
4. REVOKE cannabis growers business licenses and don't issue a renewal IF malodors are detected and measured beyond the grower's property line. No extensions or second chances for growers who fail to comply with the new regulations.
5. NOTIFY residents, schools, and businesses within 1000 feet, of a cannabis grow, when the growers' business license is being reviewed And solicit community feedback.
6. VERIFY Publicly when a cannabis growers annual business license has been renewed.

Thank you for your time and consideration regarding this extremely important issue.

Jill Stassinosa  
Concerned Carpenterian



## Katherine Douglas

---

**From:** Pat French <pat@santafe.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 13, 2025 12:04 PM  
**To:** Roy Lee  
**Subject:** Cannibus

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, Please add our names to the Concerned Carpinterians who ask that you enforce existing growers maintain adequate scrubbers for all greenhouses. We also ask that no new cannibus licenses be granted. Our valley has been plagued with this noxious odor issue since 2016 and we so hope that in 2025, under your stewardship, a healthy valley will at last be returned.

Patricia and Michael French  
3265 Padaro Lane  
Carpinteria 93013

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Wendy Davis <wendywiltondavis@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 13, 2025 1:44 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Laura Capps; Bob Nelson; Roy Lee; Joan Hartmann; Steve Lavagnino; Villalobos, David  
**Subject:** control of the cannabis order in the Carpinteria Valley

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 vote appropriately to control the odor of cannabis in the Carpinteria Valley.

Thank you for your consideration.

Wendy Davis

**Katherine Douglas**

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**From:** merrily peebles <merpeebles@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 13, 2025 2:45 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Laura Capps; Bob Nelson; Roy Lee; Joan Hartmann; Steve Lavagnino; Villalobos, David  
**Subject:** Jan 14th BOS meeting, item #3

**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 Supervisors,

I am happy to learn your Board will finally be addressing and updating the Cannabis Ordinance in a meaningful way. As a resident of Carpinteria I have been putting up with cannabis odor on a daily basis for seven years. If you can smell cannabis at the property line you can smell it a mile away. The wind carries the smell. That is why the air must be cleaned/scrubbed within the cannabis buildings.

I applaud your consideration of Mandatory Multi-Technology Mandatory Multi-Technology Carbon Filtration (MTCF) in new and existing operations. We need a consistent standard in Carpinteria.

Growers have been dragging their feet, unless sued, for seven years. They have happily used excuses for why they won't upgrade. No money, no electricity, etc. The time has come to weed out the players that think they can continue to pollute our air. They have had seven years to do the right thing and obviously won't install scrubbers until forced.

The smell is actually getting worse on the 3561-3615 corridor of Foothill where Autumn Brand and G and K operate. Daily the residents of La Mirada must drive through a veil of cannabis and then put up with it as it emanates in and out of the neighborhood, sometimes waking our family up at 3 or 4 in the morning.

Please mandate carbon scrubbers for all existing and new cannabis operations, including tying the annual business license renewal to proper use of their equipment so that no odor is detected beyond their property. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Merrily Peebles  
La Mirada, Carpinteria

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Jeana Trout <jeana.trout@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 13, 2025 3:04 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Laura Capps; Bob Nelson; Roy Lee; Joan Hartmann; Steve Lavagnino; Villalobos, David  
**Cc:** Jeana Trout  
**Subject:** Fw: Cannabis Odor Abatement

**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 Board of Supervisors.

I am Michael Wehrle, the sole owner of Guston's Properties, LLC, which is located on Padaro Lane in Carpinteria.

It's my understanding that you are having a hearing tomorrow to discuss possible ordinance changes to the existing Cannabis Odor Abatement Rules including amendments to Chapter 50, Chapter 35 and Article 11, which places the responsibility for controlling odor on the cannabis operators.

Due to the studies associated with the impact of cannabis growth on the community's health and environment (sited below), please know I respectfully urge you to make the recommended changes in an effort to protect myself and fellow Carpinterians.

1. [Odor Control in the Cannabis Industry: Lessons from the New Kid on the Block - PMC](#)

2. [Cannabis Cultivation Facilities: A Review of Their Air Quality Impacts from the Occupational to Community Scale | Environmental Science &](#)

Specifically, I stand with my fellow Carpinterians in requesting the following:

1. Board must REQUIRE and ENFORCE carbon scrubbers to be installed at all existing and new cannabis greenhouses. ***Experts say we need 10 Carbon Scrubbers per acre of cultivation.***
2. Require cannabis operators to sign an annual affidavit of commitment to effectively use and maintain their Multi-Technology Carbon Filtration systems in order to receive their renewal of their annual Cannabis Business License.
3. No extensions for cannabis growers beyond the time frame stated in the amendments. While the amendment gives them a year to comply, we would prefer 90 days. They have known about the issue for seven years.
4. Require **zero odor detection measured beyond the property line!**

5. Notification to residents, schools, businesses within 1000 feet when the annual review of a cannabis growers' business license is being reviewed and solicit community feedback.
6. Publicly verify when annual business license has been renewed.
7. No more new Cannabis licenses to be issued and no renewals unless the operator complies with the odor control amendments. The County has maxed out on cannabis.

We appreciate your consideration of the above proposed amendments.

Sincerely,

Michael H. Wehrle  
Guston's Properties, LLC



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Environ Health Perspect. 2022 Jun 27;130(6):062001. doi: [10.1289/EHP11449](https://doi.org/10.1289/EHP11449)

## Odor Control in the Cannabis Industry: Lessons from the New Kid on the Block

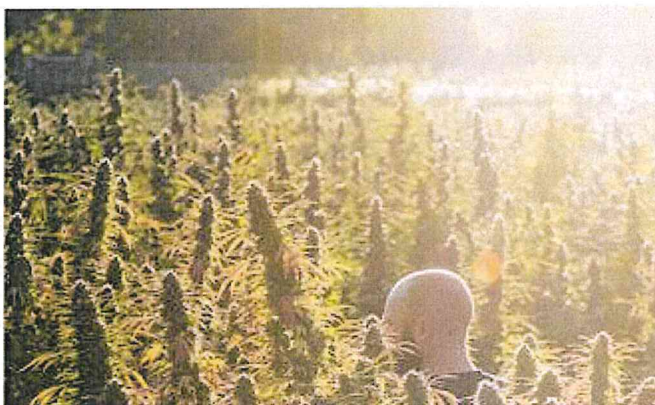
[Nate Seltenrich](#) 

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### Abstract

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For centuries before germ theory became widely accepted, people believed that foul odors caused devastating diseases such as bubonic plague, cholera, and malaria (whose name literally means “bad air.”)<sup>1,2</sup> Now bad odors are recognized as affecting human health through psychological pathways, including stress-mediated headaches and sleep disruption.<sup>3-9</sup> These effects may occur along with the more direct physiological harms of air pollution, which include cancer, heart disease, and respiratory disease.<sup>10</sup>

The brunt of bad odors is frequently borne by lower-income communities already struggling with other exposure and health disparities.<sup>11-18</sup> Odor is an underappreciated driver of environmental injustice within communities near industrial facilities, landfills, wastewater treatment plants, asphalt plants, and concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), where bad odors can occur daily. In addition to the unpleasantness of the odors themselves, residents may worry about the environmental conditions that give rise to the smells,<sup>13</sup> adding to their distress.

Although the U.S. Clean Air Act sets emissions standards for a handful of air pollutants,<sup>19</sup> the federal government does not regulate environmental odors. Some states and cities do have odor regulations, although short-term exposures can be difficult to document, and exemptions may be allowed for major sources, such as manufacturing and CAFOs.<sup>20</sup>

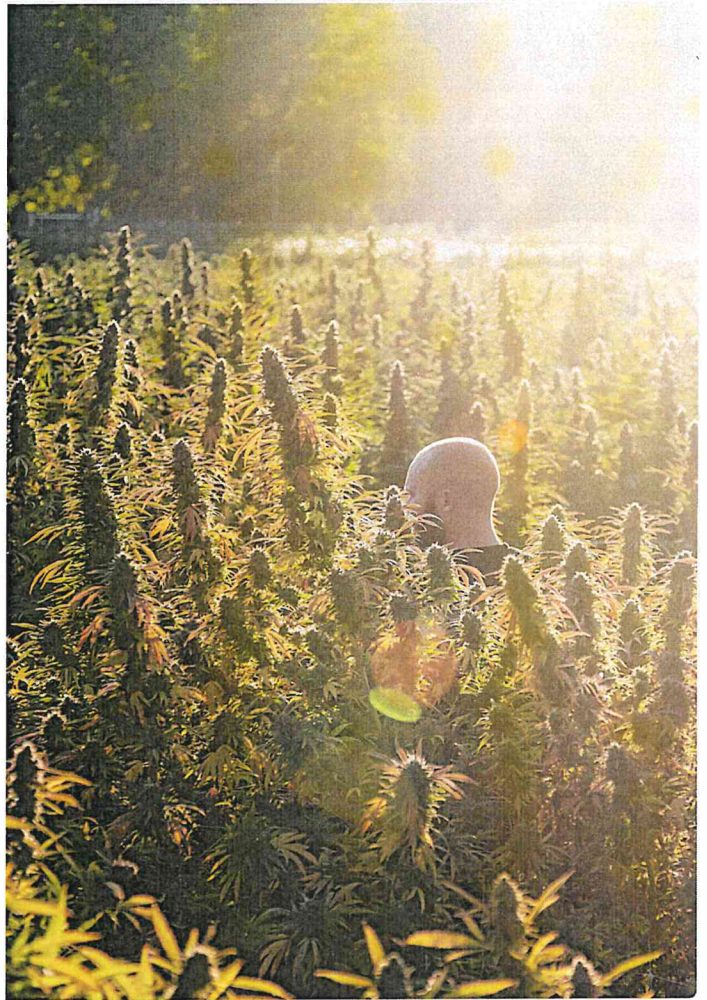
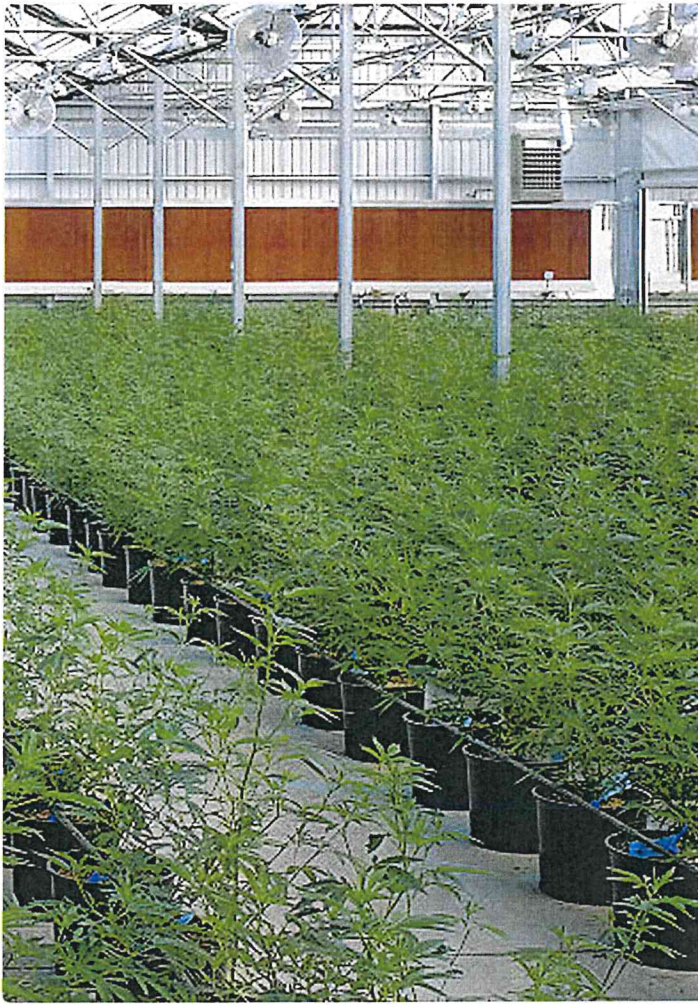
Now, however, a more precautionary perspective is being advanced by an unexpected source: the cannabis cultivation industry. Perhaps in a bid to gain acceptance for this newly legalized and sometimes controversial crop, growers and regulators are embracing new attitudes and contributing new insights into how unwelcome or offensive odors may cause harm, including to some of our most vulnerable citizens.

## Cannabis: The New Neighbor

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The cannabis industry is expanding rapidly around the world, and every year new jurisdictions allow its recreational or medical use.<sup>21</sup> But increased cultivation of this long-banned crop is giving rise to concerns among some neighbors about the pungent odors it can produce. The smells are especially strong during flowering, which typically lasts 4–5 weeks before harvest, and subsequent processing, which can take another 3–4 weeks.<sup>22</sup> These smells are distinct from those produced by burning cannabis; they are the aromas of the plants themselves, which vary depending on cultivar or strain.





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Cannabis, grown both indoors and outdoors, releases odors throughout its growing cycle, especially just prior to harvest. These odors can be overpowering or offensive to some, and the resulting annoyance may impact mental or physical health. Images, left to right: © Bloomberg, Matthew Staver/Getty Images; © Sean Horton, Stocksy/stock.adobe.com.

Brittany Heaton, principal cannabis analyst with the Southern California county of Santa Barbara, says odors have been a significant concern across the region for years, ever since cannabis cultivation facilities were first proposed and permitted following California's legalization of recreational use in 2016. "A lot of the appeals in the beginning were around odor," she says. "Someone would come in for a land-use entitlement to try and cultivate cannabis, and a lot of the complaints [from the public] started out as 'This is an area where the smell is going to affect people.'"

Depending on the type of grow—outdoors in open air, indoors under light emitting diode (LED) lights, or inside vented greenhouses—cannabis cultivation facilities can be sited in a wide range of settings, from rich to poor, urban to rural, industrial to pastoral. Odor can be issue in any of them. According to one study, nuisance legal actions may pose a greater financial threat to the cannabis industry in the United States than regulation.<sup>23</sup>

Santa Barbara’s many cannabis grows—including some of the nation’s largest<sup>24</sup>—are predominately outdoors or in greenhouses, allowing for easy escape of nuisance odors when conditions are right. Heaton acknowledges that the scents can carry far and that some individuals appear to be acutely sensitive to them, even in passing. “There are areas of the county that you drive through during different parts of the year when the plants are mature,” she says, “and some people can be bothered by that smell.”

In the southern part of the county, where many residents are accustomed to leaving their windows open day and night, unwelcome cannabis odors can waft in with the ocean breeze. The smell can be particularly prominent around the City of Carpinteria, which is ringed by former flower greenhouses that local officials have embraced as cannabis grow sites.<sup>24,25</sup> Located just east of the wealthier City of Santa Barbara, the population of this small beach town is predominantly Latino.

The county has yet to deny or withdraw a permit based on odor impacts, Heaton says. But her office has received occasional complaints suggesting that some residents consider odors more than a mere nuisance, and potentially a health threat. “I have heard from individuals that it’s irritating, that they have headaches, or maybe irritated lungs or sore throats. But to date, it hasn’t been substantiated,” she says. “I believe them, I believe that they’re experiencing something. It’s just been anecdotal.”

## Volatile Organics and Ozone

More than 1,000 miles up the Pacific Coast, Vancouver, Canada, is another center of cannabis cultivation. And where goes cannabis, so goes its scent. In a 2021 analysis of the “urban smellscape” of metro Vancouver, cannabis cultivation facilities were associated with nearly a quarter of the 261 odor reports made by residents to a web-based application during the 20-week study period.<sup>26</sup> That was twice as many as reported for the next most odorous source: wastewater treatment plants. To learn more about how neighbors of cannabis grows may be affected by odors, many of the same researchers who worked on that study authored a March 2022 review of the literature related to the air-quality impacts of these facilities.<sup>27</sup>



Cannabis odors are largely attributable to a class of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) called terpenes.<sup>28</sup> More than 150 distinct terpenes have been identified in different cannabis strains,<sup>29</sup> from among approximately 30,000 expressed across the plant world.<sup>30</sup> In their review, the authors identified a few key terpenes often detected at high levels in and around grows: myrcene (earthy, musky), limonene (citrusy), terpinolene (woody, floral), and pinene (piney, grassy).<sup>31</sup> The “skunky” odor emanating from mature flowers of some strains was once thought to also be produced by terpenes, but recent research suggests that sulfurous compounds are responsible, in particular one called 3-methyl-2-butene-1-thiol.<sup>32-35</sup>

Although the scents of these chemicals may be overpowering or offensive to some, and the resulting annoyance may impact mental or physical health, a key question remains: Can they cause direct physiological harm?

Research published in 2002<sup>36</sup> showed that mice exposed to oxidation products of limonene and pinene experienced transient adverse effects to the upper and lower airways. However, these effects occurred at concentrations higher than are likely to be found anywhere outdoors. More relevant to the real world, emitting terpene VOCs in a “VOC-limited” region—one with a low ratio of VOCs to nitrogen oxides, as is common in cities—may favor the formation of ground-level ozone,<sup>31</sup> a pollutant associated with respiratory and cardiovascular diseases and related deaths in humans.<sup>37,38</sup>

“Current studies suggest that cannabis cultivation facilities might already be changing the ozone concentration where they are located,” the Vancouver researchers wrote in their review.<sup>27</sup> For example, a 2019 study in Denver, Colorado, found that VOC emissions from local cannabis cultivation facilities could increase hourly ozone concentrations by up to 0.34 ppb in the morning and 0.67 ppb at night.<sup>39</sup> Review coauthor Naomi Zimmerman, an assistant professor of mechanical engineering at the University of British Columbia, says the significance of such changes depends on how close a region is to exceeding the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for ozone. “For some areas that are exceeding or close to exceeding ambient air-quality standards, this can be a concern,” she explains. “If ozone levels are well below thresholds, it’s less of a concern.”

The authors concluded that health effects from cannabis cultivation facility emissions are mostly driven by odor annoyance. “There’s a subjective experience of how offensive odors are, in particular from cannabis cultivation facilities,” says coauthor Amanda Giang, an assistant professor in the Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability at the University of British Columbia. “But the degree of offensiveness that someone perceives or feels, research has indicated, can have an effect on the stress response that they experience.”

## Pinpointing a Culprit

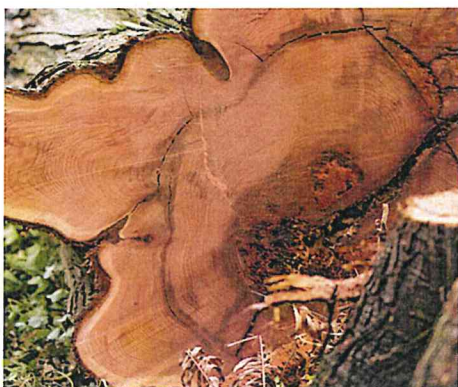
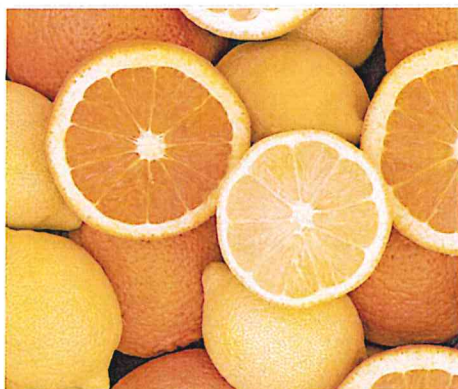
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Back in Santa Barbara County, odor remains a subject of considerable interest—and occasional strife—among local officials, residents, and cultivators. Although odor has yet to derail any cannabis cultivation plans, the county does typically require odor control at grow sites, Heaton says, and the current grace period for compliance at many recently permitted facilities is set to expire soon.

“We’re confident that once we get everybody into the fully licensed space we’ll be able to better enforce,” she says. “Our compliance team is going to be doing regular reviews, and we’re looking at technologies to measure and monitor odor.”

In the meantime, a local industry group known as the Cannabis Association for Responsible Producers (CARP) Growers is taking action on odor abatement. CARP Growers president Autumn Shelton, who also runs her own cannabis farm, says that years ago local greenhouse growers began installing a dry vapor-producing technology to neutralize airborne odors.





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A few key terpenes are often detected at high levels in and around cannabis grows, yielding scents that may be piney, grassy, citrusy, woody, floral, or earthy. The skunky odor commonly reported to emanate from mature cannabis plants is attributable to sulfurous compounds. Images, clockwise from top left: © Svt/stock.adobe.com; © iStock.com/luca gavagna; © Geoffrey Kuchera/Shutterstock.com; © iStock.com/Leslie Lauren; © iStock.com/phet phu.

It worked—to a point. “The odor got significantly better here once more farms came on with that technology, but it still existed,” Shelton says. “We still were getting complaints about the skunky smell. And that was really hard to understand, because if you walk into somebody’s greenhouse, it doesn’t smell like a skunk. It smells like terpenes, like different varieties that they’re growing, sometimes more fruity, sometimes a little more pungent, but certainly never the skunky smell.”

This mystery sent CARP Growers and its consultants down a road that eventually led to thiols, volatile sulfur compounds that also produce odors found in garlic, rotten eggs, and skunk musk—and that were only recently widely recognized as components of cannabis odors.<sup>[32](#),[34](#),[35](#)</sup> The issue,

it turned out, is that although terpenes are the dominant odor source up close, cannabis thiols avoiding neutralization by dry vapor were dispersing across significant distances under some weather conditions, says CARP Growers executive director Peter Dugré. These odors were being detected by neighbors at very low concentrations.<sup>40</sup> Now that CARP Growers has its culprit, the association is testing a new air-filtration device that uses carbon scrubbing in combination with other odor-abatement technologies to more effectively remove thiols at the source.

## From Cannabis to CAFOs

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The evolving drama around cannabis odors in Santa Barbara offers a valuable lesson: Identifying the specific chemical constitutions of problematic odors may be a key to monitoring, mitigating, and regulating them.

Don Wright agrees—in fact, it is a message the Texas-based odor specialist and consultant has repeated for years in an effort to improve upon the traditional approach of viewing humans as the ideal sensors of environmental odors. Often, he explains, it is assumed that odor makeup and perception is so complex and inherently “squishy” that the best way to assess its character and impact is through a trained odor inspector.<sup>20,41</sup>

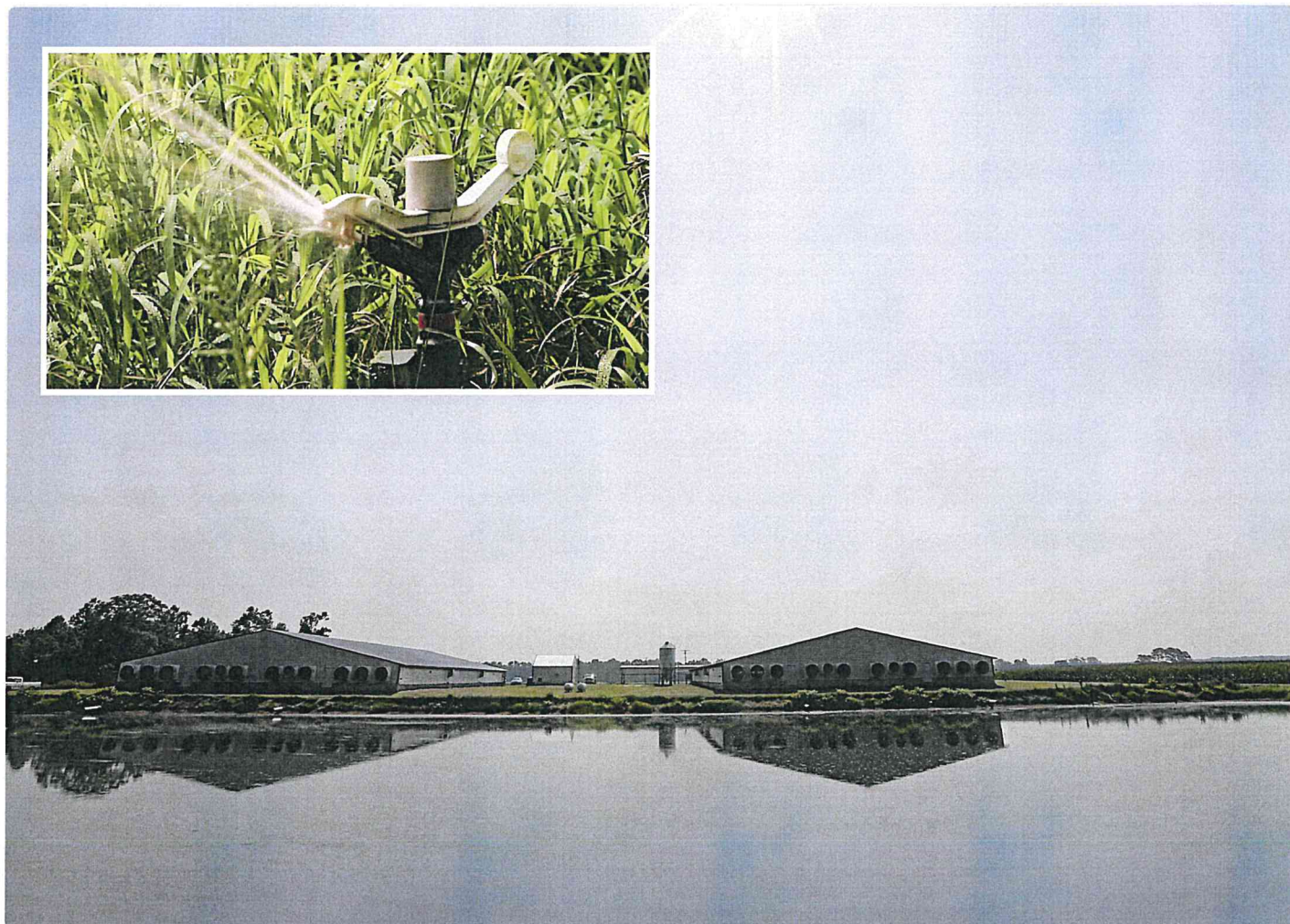
Wright, however, advocates for an instrument-based approach. “I have always argued that an analytical approach to environmental odor assessment stands a much better chance of encouraging primary odor-source operators to take ownership of significant environmental odor impacts originating from their operations,” he says. His method, developed over the past three decades and applied to cases from CAFOs to breweries, involves using multidimensional gas chromatography–mass spectrometry to parse complex odors down to their constituent parts. With that information, authorities and operators can prioritize key compounds for management.<sup>42</sup>

“If you look at it from the perspective of the downwind citizen and can define what it is that they are primarily responding to, very often that’s not a hundred or a thousand compounds that are being emitted from the source,” Wright says. “There’s typically just a handful of compounds, in some cases one or two, that people are actually perceiving.”

The far-reaching skunky smell of cannabis grow operations is a perfect illustration, he says. In fact, he and his collaborators recently used this approach to investigate the role of thiols in skunky odors produced at a large cultivation facility in Texas.<sup>43</sup> He also used it to demonstrate that a



“barnyard”-scented compound called *p*-cresol is a dominant signature odorant far downwind of large cattle feedlots and swine CAFOs.<sup>44</sup>



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The animal waste produced by CAFOs is stored in lagoons and frequently sprayed on agricultural fields as a fertilizer. The emissions from CAFOs are notoriously foul smelling and have been implicated in physical and mental health effects among neighboring residents.<sup>53,54</sup> Images: lagoon © Gerry Broome/AP Photo; inset © Allen G. Breed/AP Photo.

“In all these cases, these character-defining compounds are emerging from extremely complex emission backgrounds,” Wright says. “When I first studied the swine CAFO industry back in the late 1990s, the count was up to several hundred compounds.<sup>45</sup> Seemingly, from an analytical standpoint, the odor was being chased by seeing how many compounds we could define.”

However, with respect to problem solving, it can be more effective to determine the smallest subset of impactful compounds. The work by Wright and colleagues<sup>44</sup> on *p*-cresol informed subsequent research into reducing odor from CAFO waste lagoons by adding hydrogen peroxide and an enzyme called horseradish peroxidase. These compounds react with *p*-cresol to form an odorless compound called Pummerer's ketone.<sup>46</sup>

## Crowdsourcing Odor Data

In another strategy to corral odor data—and perhaps lead to solutions for affected communities—researchers and web developers are increasingly turning to crowdsourcing. The Vancouver researchers' "urban smellscape" project, now dubbed Smell Vancouver, continues to collect odor reports via a website as part of a larger ongoing research project.<sup>47</sup> And they are far from alone.

The greater Pittsburgh area has its own share of cannabis grows, but the city is more notorious for other sources of odors.<sup>48</sup> Although Pittsburgh has improved its air quality remarkably in recent decades, the city is still prone to frequent atmospheric inversions that trap emissions from the steel and power plants surrounding the city.<sup>49</sup> In March 2022, the city suffered under a pall of particularly bad air for 4 days. The sulfuric stench drove a huge spike in odor reports to Smell Pittsburgh, a smartphone app that since 2016 has tracked residents' subjective experience of local air quality.<sup>50</sup>

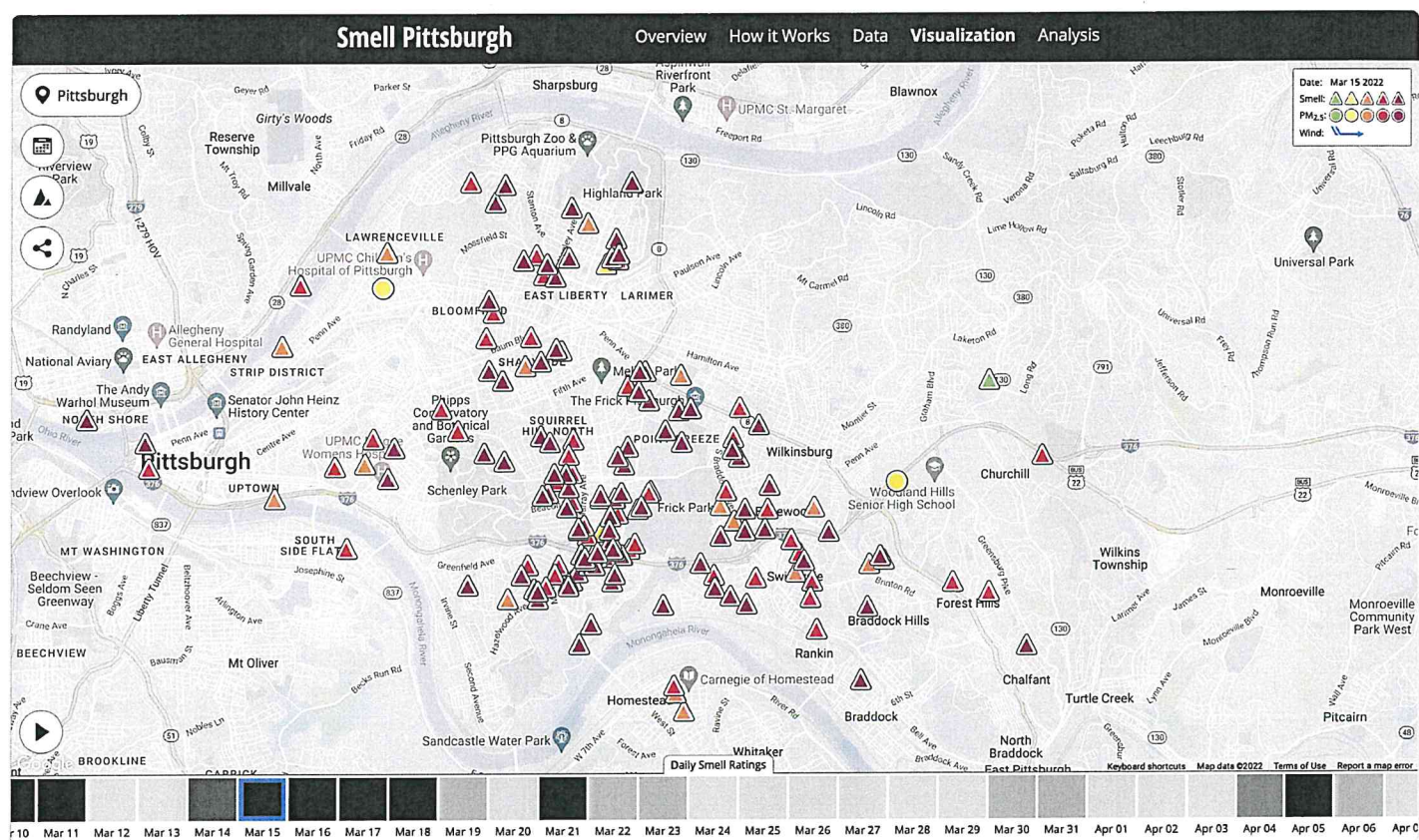
"This is the worst it's smelled all year," read one March 15 report to the app. "Dry burning sulfur, completely unacceptable, why is this still allowed?" Another user wrote, "This horrible sulfur smell seeps into my house even with windows and doors closed. It's sickening some days, like today."

Smell Pittsburgh registered 185 reports of malodorous air that day, with an average "smell value" of 4.36 on a scale of 1 to 5. March 16 was even worse, registering 193 reports. Many respondents noted not only what the air smelled like, but also how it made them feel. "Rotten eggs. Migraine, nausea, throat irritation, and general irritation that I can't even open my windows for fresh air. This is absurd. We can't keep dealing with days like this," one resident lamented.

Another reported an "exhaust industrial" odor that left them with a headache and nausea: "Cannot sleep, cannot live in this place."<sup>51</sup>



Although not all harmful chemicals have off-putting smells, unwelcome odors can serve as a sentinel of the presence of harmful pollutants. To further explore these relationships, the developers of Smell Pittsburgh created a second app for a nationwide audience called Smell MyCity, which launched in 2019. The app's intended users are local residents, organizations, and regulators, who can use smell report data to help track down potential sources of pollution in neighborhoods.



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Residents of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, can submit odor reports to a smartphone app called Smell Pittsburgh. This screenshot from 15 March 2022 reflects a spike in reports resulting from a 4-day odor-trapping inversion. Crowdsourcing platforms like this can help produce a fuller picture of how environmental odors and air pollution are experienced by those exposed. Image: Courtesy Smell Pittsburgh.

Although the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) does not regulate odors, it is getting in on the crowdsourced smell-tracking game too. A new app called Odor Explore is being developed

and tested in Louisville, Kentucky. If rolled out nationwide, it will allow members of the public to report odors in their community and view reports submitted by others.<sup>52</sup>

The goal is for state and local agencies to use data from the app to facilitate responses to odor complaints, says U.S. EPA project lead Rachelle Duvall. “By gathering detailed information on odors with the help of community scientists,” she says, “we hope that ultimately this app will engage and empower communities and help state, local, and Tribal governments, as well as industry, in evaluating air pollution and odor-control strategies.”

Compiling such reports on a national scale and comparing them with air-quality data could also provide valuable new insights into the full impacts of air pollution on public health and well-being. And it could advance environmental justice by contributing to a more accurate accounting of disparities in harmful exposures, a benefit acknowledged by the U.S. EPA. “Many communities impacted by odors also have environmental justice concerns,” Duvall says, “so this app and data generated could support addressing those issues.”

## Biography

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**Nate Seltenrich** covers science and the environment from the San Francisco Bay Area. His work on subjects including energy, ecology, and environmental health has appeared in a wide variety of regional, national, and international publications.

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## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Gail Herson <devesi@me.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 13, 2025 3:48 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Laura Capps; Bob Nelson; Joan Hartmann; Steve Lavagnino; Villalobos, David; congressmancarbajal@mail.house.gov; monique.limon@senate.ca.gov  
**Subject:** January 14 Board of Supervisors Meeting about amending the Cannabis Ordinance

**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,

Like all Carpinterians, I have been living with the noxious odors of the cannabis industry since they started years ago. It has significantly diminished my quiet enjoyment of my home, neighborhood and town. This nuisance has been literally pushed down our throats year after year, despite our citizen involvement, appeals and suggestions.

The current Cannabis Ordinance is a failure. It failed to bring promised tax revenue. It failed to protect citizens and our experience and reputation of our town. Remember the dark history of our Cannabis Ordinance, and the admonishing Grand Jury report's 12 ethics related recommendations. You have an opportunity to remedy this problematic situation now.

Changes to the Cannabis Ordinance should include:

1. ZERO odor beyond the property line emitted by any cannabis growing operation in the county. We do not want to smell it, ever. No 7 D/T readings, ever. No 4 D/T readings, ever. Using Carbon Scrubbing technology, no odor is necessary or acceptable. Odor measurements must be taken at the property line with meaningful enforcement every time odor is detected. No more Byers or other sprays to be emitted into the air.
2. Require and enforce Mandatory Carbon Scrubbers at all existing and new operations without delay, with optimal functioning enforced by unscheduled biannual inspections at density of at least 10 Carbon Scrubbers per acre of cultivation.
3. Require monthly community notification and outreach regarding odor complaints and property line measurements. Complete transparency.
4. Require annual business licenses to be tied to an absence of odor complaints and presence of carbon scrubbers. Applications for annual business licenses must require notification to residents, schools and businesses within 5,000, not 1,000 feet, and all must be notified of monthly odor incidents so any problems can be addressed before the annual business licenses are renewed. Notification to residents, schools, businesses within 1000 feet when the annual review of a cannabis growers' business license is being reviewed and solicit community feedback.
5. A freeze on ALL cannabis license permits and the termination of cannabis processing plants in the County because of the triply noxious odor they produce.  
No more Cannabis licenses to be issued and no more renewals.
6. A new odor complaint system that puts the responsibility on the Cannabis industry and not the residents.

7. Require cannabis operators to sign an annual affidavit of commitment to effectively use and maintain their Multi-Technology Carbon Filtration systems in order to receive their renewal of their annual Cannabis Business License, with one 6 month period to comply with the new requirements. No extension for cannabis growers who have not installed Carbon Scrubbers as they have had the opportunity to eliminate the odor problem for 7 years.

8. No extension for cannabis growers who have had the opportunity to eliminate the odor problem for 7 years.

9. Specify the use of Mandatory Multi-technology Carbon Filtration MTCF in new and existing operations, ensuring a consistent standard throughout the industry.

I deeply appreciate your changing the Cannabis Ordinance so we can again enjoy our homes and community in good health and happiness.

Thank you,  
Gail Herson, Carpinteria