

Alexander, Jacquelyne

From: Lillian Clary <mzlil2988@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 9:07 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public comment Agenda Item 18-00068
Attachments: CBLO 3 20 18.docx

Attached please find our comments regarding the Cannabis Business License Ordinance. Please share with board members and staff.

Thank you.

Lil Clary

Cannabis Business License Ordinance, March 20, 2018 Board of Supervisors
Public Comment from David and Lil Clary, Tepusquet Canyon

We are very relieved to see that the ordinance provides the county with a means to monitor cannabis operations and to deal with those that are not in compliance. We have been involved since April 4, 2017, attending meetings and providing public testimony. It has been a long haul.

Overall, the draft language addresses many of our concerns especially in relation to the multiple illegal grow sites in Tepusquet. Of particular note are the following:

- Individual growers and business entities must provide proof of a license before beginning operations—and just a bit of editorializing here, we are sure hoping that those who have ignored the moratorium and have been expanding their existing illegal sites will face denial of licenses and bills for estimated taxes on their current crops
- All persons applying for a license must pass background checks
- \$1,000,000 insurance policy so that the county isn't left to clean up the environmental disaster when growers walk away from their sites, as they will
- Involvement of multiple county agencies and more importantly, coordination of their activities in relation to application review and oversight of licenses
- Misdemeanor proceedings against those not in compliance and the determination that each violation is a separate cause
- Site visits as part of the application process and for purposes of ensuring compliance or in answer to complaints
- Complaint hot line operated by the county
- Requirement for a 24/7 contact for public complaints
- Assignment of costs for enforcement to the grower/applicant, e.g. cost of abatement, restoration, investigation etc.

The grounds for denial of a license or revocation are strong and we look forward to the county using these to deal with the illegal operators here in Tepusquet.

Looking back on this entire process, we wish that the county had simply decided to permit and tax a handful of dispensaries and had prohibited all cultivation. Around the state, counties that have experienced the impact of the cannabis 'industry' are backing away from it. The desire to support a healthy, legal cannabis industry (and isn't that a great oxymoron!) has backfired. On the one hand there are growers complaining because legalization will put them out of business, crying that the tax rates are too high. On the other hand, opportunistic corporations are drooling at the chance to use economies of scale to establish themselves. Eventually it will all shake out but in the mean time, Tepusquet residents are tired of dealing with the impact of illegal grow sites.

The county's ordinance gives it the tools to deal with the problems. We look forward to seeing it enacted.

Finally, we want to express our appreciation to all county staff who have worked so hard on this entire process. Thank you for your efforts.