

Public Comment

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Ramirez, Angelica

From: Herb Cantu <hcantu308@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 12:38 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: HEARING - Consider recommendations regarding Storefront Retail Cannabis Selection 8-18-2020
Attachments: Attachment 2 Comments.pdf
Categories: Public Comment

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Good afternoon,

I am an Orcutt resident and would like to comment on Attachment 2 (Cannabis Storefront Retail Criteria-based Scoresheet - Neighborhood Compatibility Proposal) of the storefront retail cannabis selection process.

I would like the Maximum Weight for Ranking Process to be modified to the recommendations attached. I believe Criteria #1 (Site Visit) should have a greater Maximum Weight for Ranking Process than currently presented. The proximity of cannabis storefronts to schools, residences, day care and other youth facilities shall be heavily considered when reviewing an application. I recommend the Maximum Weight to Ranking Process value change from 20% to 45%. I am deeply concerned with the message we are sending our children if cannabis storefronts are near schools, residences, day care and other youth facilities. I am also concerned with the impact to property values when near a Cannabis facility. This should also be considered in the Site Visit criteria.

I believe the Site Visit criteria should have more importance than the Community Involvement Plan criteria. It would behoove a Cannabis business to be involved with its community. This would allow them to market their business to increase revenues and users. I recommend the Community Involvement Plan criteria change from 35% to 5%. I also recommend the Odor Control Plan criteria change from 10% to 30%. I would like the Odor Control Plan to require best management practices to eliminate odors. The submitted plans should describe in detail the solutions to be utilized to mitigate odors and provide references where such systems are operational and performing as described. It is well known that Cannabis odors can be overwhelming and impact the quality of life for neighbors. I can be reached at the phone number provided below for any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Herb Cantu
(559) 907-9780

Cannabis Storefront Retail Criteria-based Scoresheet – Neighborhood Compatibility Proposal

This scoresheet is to only be used to review applications submitted and have been determined to be accepted consistent with County Code Section 50-7.d.3.v and d.3.vi.A.3.

Criteria #	Criteria Definition	Maximum Weight for Ranking Process
1	Site visit – Site visits will include the proposed retail business location. The site visit will evaluate various components of the proposed retail site’s compatibility with the neighborhood, including the characteristics of the surrounding neighborhood, ingress & egress to the site (both vehicular and pedestrian), proximity to other cannabis operations, residences, schools, day care, and youth center, etc.	45% 20%
2	Customer education plan - A plan for educating customers regarding cannabis products, including the potency and effects of products, as well as variety. Aspects of such a plan should consider signage within the facility, informational marking on packages, health warnings, etc.	5%
3	Community education plan – A plan describing the type of cannabis education and outreach efforts that the business will provide to the community. The ideal plan will make reference to ongoing efforts for outreach and education.	5%
4	Community involvement plan – A plan that demonstrates that the retail operation will be consistent with community plan standards, articulates specific community benefits, as well as the ability of the community to communicate concerns (e.g. an appointed community liaison) to the retail operation and the operations proposed response plan.	5% 35%
5	Neighborhood design compatibility plan – A plan demonstrating the quality and detail of design which reflects the best of the County's architectural traditions, the use of quality materials, landscaping, signage, lighting, entry experience, parking, etc. which fit within the community plan area. A description and examples of how the business would enhance the exterior of the building is encouraged.	5% 15%
6	Odor control plan - A plan demonstrating implementation of ventilation and air purification system, including demonstrated effectiveness (may include examples of where a similar system has worked effectively).	30% 10%
7	Onsite parking plan - A plan that demonstrates, in addition to compliance with the zoning ordinance parking standards, that the site will have adequate parking to accommodate employees and visitors and will not disrupt the neighborhood.	5% 10%
Total		100%