# Attachment C Summary of Public Input & Staff Responses

No.	Name Distr	ct Area	Comment	Main Point of Comment
1	Susan Hamilton	5 Menifee	Illegal cultivation sites have vicious dogs creating hazards. Confine cultivation to non-residential.	Cultivation/ Limit Use
2	Dona Moughan Phillips	3 Terwilliger Valle	Massive illegal grows in community for almost 4 years. Illegal pesticides possibly used for illegal grows, and demand for water and risk of wild fires are high. Foreign insects (Gnats) are being introduced to this area, and foreign soil is being used and water is being trucked in after wells are depleted.	Cultivation/ Limit Use
3	Christian Barrett		Approve all cannabis activities with little restrictions.	Cannabis/ Bo
4	Paula Turner	4 Palm Desert	Create regulation to stop illegal grows, so gray market can pay fair share of taxes. The smell as of result of cultivation is a negative impact. Support cannabis use for medical, not recreational purposes. Coachella Valley should be used for R&D. Cannabis activities should be limited to industrial and agricultural areas. Cluster cannabis activities in master planned communities. Cannabis retailers should have experienced and educated employees. Cannabis planning and zoning should be done on a community scale, not a county-wide scale. Taxes from cannabis may be used as redevelopment funds and educational opportunities, but medical cannabis should not be taxed. Bring government funded R&D to the area.	Cultivation/ Limit Use
5	Judy Bailey-Savage	3 Wine Country	Support ordinance as written. Riverside County not ready for cultivation in R-R zones. Applicants should show evidence that they pay taxes and operate legally, if already have a cannabis business.	Cultivation/ Limit Use
6	Rivers Judson Morrell		Get in compliance with State law. Allow for sale and cultivation of Cannabis. Black market continues due to overregulation and excessive fees.	Cannabis/ B Permissive
7	Morgan Night	3 Idyllwild	Request to allow non-storefront dispensaries to be permitted in the R-3A zoning classification. This will not increase traffic.	Dispensary/ Residential
8	Dana Leigh Cisneros Cannabis Corporate Law Firm  .	~	Letter (attached to email): Allow cultivation in rural residential areas. Providing a pathway to legalization adheres to State law. Allow: retail, distribution, manufacturing, and testing facilities. Establish a practical and fair system of regulation for the industry.  1. Set backs should not be overly burdensome.  2. On-site consumption will promote tourism and a sense of community; cannabis smoke does not linger as does tobacco smoke, and second-hand cannabis smoke is not deadly.  3. Support allowing an existing use to continue if a sensitive use is located within required buffer; this will prevent anti-competitive conduct and strategic abuse by objectors.  4. Distance Requirements should be from door to door, not lot line to lot line.  5. Storage of a manufacturer's own cannabis products should be allowed (§19.523.C)  6. Medium sized cultivation should be allowed; allows businesses to potentially see greater profit and support the local economy. Stacking licenses should also be allowed. Both must dev. standards.  7. Cultivation issues are similar to other agricultural issues on RR zoned properties.  8. Not allowing cultivation in R-R, R-A, and W-2 zoning classifications will have negative impacts.  An potential future ballot initiative may go beyond what you are considering in this ordinance.	Cannabis/ B Permissive
9	Gary Worobec	1 Lake Matthews	Ban commercial cannabis cultivation in R-R and R-A zoning classifications.	Cultivation/ Limit Use
10	N/A		Cultivation is difficult; 70% that try give up. Therefore, oversaturation should not be concern. The County can use revenue from cannabis for other public safety issues. Level the playing field for homeowners.	Cultivation/ Benefits
11	Campaign of 1000 Letters	3 Anza/Aguanga	19 letters from Anza/Aguanga residents (see letters)	Cultivation, Limit Use
12	Iris Grosse	3 Aguanga	Commercial cannabis cultivation does not belong in R-R/R-A zoning classification. Current enforcement process and policies are not working.	Cultivation/ Limit Use

No.	Name	District	Area	Comment	Main Point of Comment
13	Jackie Hare	3	Anza	(Illegal) Commercial cannabis cultivation are negatively impacting community. Violations of illegal cultivation include: water theft/pollution/depletion, electrical theft, local/state/federal laws, criminal laws, existing Anza law suit. Impacts include: drug abuse, criminal activity, loss of personal freedom, negative impact on local economy, community identity/image, light restriction, and possible fleeing residents (increased home sales/decreased sale prices). Use of Pacific Crest Trail is being negatively impacted, and residents are afraid of criminal element associated to cannabis cultivation. The word "cannabis" should not be included in the zoning ordinance. And EIR should be prepared for each cannabis project.	Cultivation/ Limit Use
14	L. A. Bush	3	Anza	Opposition to allowing commercial cannabis cultivation in the R-A and R-R zones. Cannabis cultivation is a nuisance and has several effects on the community (e.g. odor, noise, etc.)	Cultivation/ Limit Use
15	Kelly A. Jordan	3	Anza	Opposition to allowing commercial cannabis cultivation in the R-A and R-R zones. Cannabis cultivation is a nuisance and has several effects on the community (e.g. odor, noise, etc.)	Cultivation/ Limit Use
16	Bill Donahue	3	Sage	Commercial cannabis is not appropriate for any residential lots/areas, including lots zoned A-1. Indoor cultivation (in a building, not a green house) can be properly secured from criminal activity and should be allowed in commercial areas only; focus on commercial areas that are struggling to improve the economy. Clustering of cannabis businesses could reduce costs for monitoring/inspections and law enforcement. Home cannabis businesses are a security risk for neighborhoods.	Cultivation/ Limit Use
17	Oscar Valent	3	Aguanga	Do not allow large-scale commercial cannabis cultivation in rural areas.  The impacts will destroy the area and its ecosystem.	Cultivation/ Limit Use
18	Lyndi Dana	3	Sage	Cannabis regulation on cultivation may be too accommodating and impact rural areas. Zoning for cannabis cultivation should be treated like a pharmaceutical endeavor due to its resource consumption and security concerns and not be treated as an agricultural use; therefore, cannabis cultivation should be located in commercially zoned areas. The ordinance fails to mandate security protocols to reduce crime and violence. Law enforcement in rural areas is scarce. Agricultural zones are vital to production of locally sourced produce and meat. Cannabis cultivation rely on pesticides and poisons to deter pests and vermin, which can be detrimental to wildlife and sensitive habitats.	
19	Sky Valley Community Council	4	Sky Valley	Opposition to any and all commercial cannabis activities in the residential community of Sky Valley. Commercial cannabis activities are incompatible to residential communities. Unique concerns about commercial cannabis activities include odor, demand on utilities, increase of criminal activity, and lack of adequate law enforcement. Support prohibition of commercial cannabis activities in residential zoning classification, including the W-2 zoning classification. Opposed to any commercial cannabis activities in the Scenic Highway Commercial (C-P-S) zoning classification or require a discretionary permit, or CUP, that require a public hearing. Support the prohibition of commercial cannabis activities in the W-1 zoning classification.	Cannabis/ Limit uses
20	Emily Heebner and Eric N. Young	3	ldyllwild	Object to marijuana shops in Idyllwild. Existing shops have brought disruptive, criminal activity to small town.	Dispensary/ Limit use
21	Robert Mayo	5	Cabazon	Allow commercial cannabis cultivation of 5 acres or greater in R-R, R-A, and W-2 zoning classifications.	Cultivation/ Be permissive
22	Armond Wilkerson			Growing cannabis plants indoors with a shorter period of time will cause problems. Cannabis needs a full season to produce the medicinal values that it possesses. Growing the plant too quick for profit will make people sick. Cannabis will make existing farm operations profitable, and the small farmers are being impacted by the lack of action by the County.	Cultivation
23	Kim Barker	3	Garner Valley	Cannabis businesses in the mountain areas have impacted air quality, odor, and traffic activity in all hours. Support developing ordinance to control the cannabis problem. Enforcement needs to fine growers appropriately.	Cannabis/ Limit uses

October 15, 2018 Page 2 of 3

No.	Name	District	Area	Comment	Main Point of Comment
24	Chuck Bailey			Opposed to any regulations or ordinance that will put commercial grows above the interest of local people. The people should be priority with any consideration. Do not need and want commercial growing in area, only small locally owned grows.	Cultivation/ Limit Use
25	Charles Bailey	3	Aguanga	Create regulation that allows local citizens to grow cannabis as a cottage industry. Opposed to any bill that would put local cottage grows at a disadvantage to large commercial grows. Illegal grows use chemicals that are detrimental to the water supply and leave trash for locals to pick up. We need better enforcement. Cannabis should be regulated similar to liquor in regards to schools and parks.	

<sup>\*</sup>Comments received on or after 7.12.2018

October 15, 2018 Page 3 of 3



## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

**DATE:** October 23, 2018

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Charissa Leach, TLMA Assistant Director

RE: Public Comments and Responses for Ordinance No. 348.4898

#### Below are responses to public comments prepared by Staff.

Attached are comments received from the public between July 12, 2018 and October 15, 2018.

Comment	Staff Response				
Susan Hamilton					
1. The commenter states that cannabis cultivation should be confined to non-residential areas.	Staff recommends that no cannabis activity be allowed in any residential zoné.				
Dona Moughan Phillips					
2. The commenter states that due to cultivation illegal pesticides are being used, demand for water and risk for wild fires are high, and foreign insects and soils are being introduced.	All cannabis entitlements will be subject to CEQA, which assesses the significant impacts of the activity on the environment.				
Christian Barrett					
3. The commenter states that all cannabis activities should be approved with little restrictions.	The purpose and intent of Ordinance No. 348.4898 is to establish regulations and development standards to permit commercial cannabis activities in the unincorporated areas of the County of Riverside, pursuant to the Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act ("MAUCRSA"), in a manner which is responsible and protects the County's neighbors, residents, and businesses from negative impacts.				
Paula Turner					
4. The commenter states that the County should create regulation to stop illegal grows and reduce negative impacts. Additionally, the commenter states that cannabis activities should be limited to industrial and agricultural areas for medical purposes only and planning should be done at a community scale.	The purpose and intent of Ordinance No. 348.4898 is to establish regulations and development standards to permit commercial cannabis activities (medicinal and adult-use) in the unincorporated areas of the County of Riverside, pursuant to the MAUCRSA, in a manner which is responsible and protects the County's neighbors, residents, and businesses from negative impacts. Current planning activities (processing) relating to any proposed entitlement will be done on a site-specific and community scale.				



## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Comment	Staff Response
Judy Bailey-Savage	
5. The commenter states that cultivation should not be permitted in the R-R zone and applicants should be required that they pay taxes and operate legally.  Rivers Judson Morrell	Staff recommends that no cannabis activity be allowed in any residential zone. Any existing cannabis operation within the unincorporated areas of the County of Riverside is illegal and does not pay taxes at this time.
6. The commenter states that the County needs to get into compliance with State law and allow sale and cultivation of cannabis.	The purpose and intent of Ordinance No. 348.4898 is to establish regulations and development standards to permit commercial cannabis activities in the unincorporated areas of the County of Riverside, pursuant to the MAUCRSA, in a manner which is responsible and protects the County's neighbors, residents, and businesses from negative impacts.
Morgan Night	
7. The commenter states that the County should allow non-storefront dispensaries in the R-3A zoning classification, which will not increase traffic.	Staff recommends that no cannabis activity be allowed in any residential zone.
Dana Leigh Cisneros – Cannabis Corp. Law Fir	m
8. The commenter requested that cultivation be allowed in rural residential areas and regulation be fair and practical. A list of direction for an appropriate regulatory system was provided.	The purpose and intent of Ordinance No. 348.4898 is to establish regulations and development standards to permit commercial cannabis activities in the unincorporated areas of the County of Riverside, pursuant to the MAUCRSA, in a manner which is responsible and protects the County's neighbors, residents, and businesses from negative impacts. Staff recommends that no cannabis activity be allowed in any residential zone.
Gary Worobec	
9. The commenter requested that cannabis cultivation is banned from R-R and R-A zoning classifications.	Staff recommends that no cannabis activity be allowed in any residential zone.
Campaign of 1000 Letters	
10. The commenters requested that cannabis cultivation of any type be prohibited in all residential zones, as staff recommends.	Staff recommends that no cannabis activity be allowed in any residential zone.
Iris Grosse	8
11. The commenter stated that commercial cannabis cultivation does not belong in the R-R and R-A zoning classifications.	Staff recommends that no cannabis activity be allowed in any residential zone.
Jackie Hare	The purpose and intent of Ordinance No. 348.4898 is to
12. The commenter stated that commercial	



### RIVERSIDE COUNTY

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

#### Comment Staff Response cannabis cultivation are negatively establish regulations and development standards to permit impacting communities, cannabis should commercial cannabis activities in the unincorporated areas not be included in the zoning ordinance, of the County of Riverside, pursuant to the MAUCRSA, in a and an EIR should be prepared. manner which is responsible and protects the County's neighbors, residents, and businesses from negative impacts. Staff recommends that no cannabis activity be allowed in any residential zone. All cannabis entitlements will be subject to CEQA, which assesses the significant impacts of the activity on the environment. L. A. Bush and Kelly A. Jordan 13. The commenters stated that cultivation is a nuisance with several effects on the Staff recommends that no cannabis activity be allowed in any community and is opposed to allowing residential zone. cultivation in the R-A and R-R zones. Bill Donahue 14. The commenters stated that commercial cannabis is not appropriate for Staff recommends that no cannabis activity be allowed in any any residential lots, including A-1, and residential zone. The only cannabis activities proposed to be commercial cannabis should only be permitted in the A-1 zone are wholesale nurseries, limited permitted in an enclosed building, in indoor cultivation, and mixed light cultivation. The only commercial areas lacking economic outdoor cultivation that are proposed is wholesale nurseries development, and in clusters to reduce in agricultural zones (i.e. A-1, A-P, A-2, and A-D). costs. Oscar Valent 15. The commenter stated that large-scale The purpose and intent of Ordinance No. 348.4898 is to commercial cannabis cultivation should not establish regulations and development standards to permit be allowed in rural areas. commercial cannabis activities in the unincorporated areas of the County of Riverside, pursuant to the MAUCRSA, in a manner which is responsible and protects the County's neighbors, residents, and businesses from negative impacts. Staff recommends that no cannabis activity be allowed in any residential zone. Lyndi Dana 16. Cannabis cultivation should be located The purpose and intent of Ordinance No. 348.4898 is to

in commercially zoned areas. The ordinance fails to mandate security protocols.

Cannabis cultivation rely on pesticides and poisons, which can be detrimental to wildlife and sensitive habitats.

The purpose and intent of Ordinance No. 348.4898 is to establish regulations and development standards to permit commercial cannabis activities in the unincorporated areas of the County of Riverside, pursuant to the MAUCRSA, in a manner which is responsible and protects the County's neighbors, residents, and businesses from negative impacts. All cannabis entitlements will be subject to CEQA, which assesses the significant impacts of the activity on the environment.



## RIVERSIDE COUNTY

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Comment	Staff Response				
Sky Valley Community Council					
17. Commercial cannabis activities are incompatible to residential communities. Opposed to any commercial cannabis activities in the C-P-S zoning classification or require a CUP and public hearing.	Staff recommends that no cannabis activity be allowed in any residential zone. The proposed ordinance requires a conditional use permit for all commercial cannabis activity.				
Emily Heebner and Eric N. Young					
18. Object to any marijuana shops in Idyllwild.	The purpose and intent of Ordinance No. 348.4898 is to establish regulations and development standards to permit commercial cannabis activities in the unincorporated areas of the County of Riverside, pursuant to the MAUCRSA, in a manner which is responsible and protects the County's neighbors, residents, and businesses from negative impacts. All cannabis entitlements will be subject to CEQA, which assesses the significant impacts of the activity on the environment.				
Robert Mayo					
19. Allow commercial cannabis cultivation of 5 acres and greater in the R-R, R-A, and W-2 zones.	Staff recommends that no cannabis activity be allowed in any residential zone.				
Kim Barker					
20. Existing cannabis businesses in the mountain areas have impacted air quality, odor, and traffic activity.	All cannabis entitlements will be subject to CEQA, which assesses the significant impacts of the activity on the environment.				
Chuck (Charles) Bailey					
21. Create regulation that allows local citizen to grow cannabis as a cottage industry. Illegal grows use chemicals that are detrimental to the water supply.	The proposed regulations allow for specialty cottage indoor cultivation in several commercial, industrial and agricultural zones. All cannabis entitlements will be subject to CEQA, which assesses the significant impacts of the activity on the environment.				

From:

sueatrockytop@aol.com

Sent:

Thursday, July 12, 2018 6:00 PM

To:

Cann Planning

Subject:

New Form Content Email Subject By DNNSmart Super Form

#### **Planning Department Cannabis Comments**

Name

Susan Hamilton

Address

23776 Gunther Rd.

**Email** 

sueatrockytop@aol.com

Phone

Comment

I live in a rural residential area in Riverside County. Illegal marijuana grows are rampant in my neighborhood. Many of these growers have vicious dogs which are endangering people, pets and livestock. I myself have had my pet dog attacked by some of these dogs necessitating an expensive surgery to save my pets life. I also had a pet donkey attacked by these dogs. There is now a criminal element present in our once peaceful neighborhood. If this activity has to be make legal, it should be confined to nonresidential areas. The unincorporated areas of Riverside County need to be free of this illegal activity, so those of us who live here can live without fear of criminal activity brought to our neighborhoods by these marijuana grows.

From:

Flores, Robert

Sent:

Tuesday, July 24, 2018 1:48 PM

To:

**Enviornmental Programs Department** 

Cc:

Cann Planning; Leach, Charissa

**Subject:** 

RE: EPD Web Site

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Robert Flores | Urban and Regional Planner III Riverside County Planning Department | 4080 Lemon Street, 12th Floor, Riverside, CA 92501 Direct (951) 955-1195 | Main (951) 955-3200 | Fax (951) 955-1811 RFlores@RivCo.org | www.rctlma.org | http://planning.rctlma.org/



### PLANNING DEPARTMENT

#### How are we doing? (Click the link and tell us)

From: Enviornmental Programs Department Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 12:54 PM To: Flores, Robert <rflores@RIVCO.ORG> Cc: Leach, Charissa <cleach@rivco.org>

Subject: FW: EPD Web Site

Robert,

Please see email below.

Thank you, Teresa Harness, Office Assistant III



County of Riverside

Planning Department 4080 Lemon Street, 12th Floor

Riverside, CA 92501 Telephone: (951) 955-6892 Fax: (951) 955-1811

Email: tharness@rivco.org

Planning Department Website: http://planning.rctlma.org/

How are we doing? Click the Link and tell us

Confidentiality Disclaimer: This email is confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) to whom it is addressed. The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure.

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From: epd@rctlma.org [mailto:epd@rctlma.org]

Sent: Sunday, July 22, 2018 8:18 AM

To: Enviornmental Programs Department < EPD@RIVCO.ORG>

Subject: EPD Web Site

Your E-mail Address:

flvqo51@qmail.com

Subject:

Pollution from illegal marijuana grows.

Hi Charissa, I'm a 42 yr resident of Terwilliger Valley, south east of Anza. My family owns 2 parcels on Rimrock/ Terwilliger S. We unfortunately have more massive illegal grows than anywhere else in Riverside county. The sheriff cannot help us because there are to many of them...hard to believe, but going into yr 4 of the takeover of my neighborhood, its sadly apparent and true. We on Rimrock/ Terwilliger are part of the Pacific Crest Trail. We are bordered on the east by the Anza Borrego state park, and on the west by the Beauty Mtn Wilderness area. I tell you this so that you can get a feel for this incredible, fragile area we're so blessed to live in. We've been told by Sheriff Pervis that illegal pesticides have been found on grows they

**Enter Text:** 

have busted (2 yrs ago) out here. Our valley has NEVER in her history had such a high demand for water, never been so threated by wildfires from their indoor grow lights, never experienced the assault from all the chemicals they use to grow. I'll continue to fight for this once pristine area, but after 4 yrs my heart and head are weary from all the talk talk talk...no action... I'm writing you to encourage you to defend us when and if you can. Charissa, there are hardly any bees this summer!!! There's a knat I've never seen here before. They bring in foreign soil, they spray there plants with pesticides, they truck in water when they run their wells dry. Its beyond sad. The poor easterners that are smoking this junk. They have no clue its poison. Help Us,

help Her S. Thank You for listening Dona Moughan Phillips

From:

tlmawebmaster@rctlma.org

Sent:

Monday, July 30, 2018 5:57 PM

To:

Cann Planning

Subject:

New Form Content Email Subject By DNNSmart Super Form

#### **Planning Department Cannabis Comments**

Name

Christian Barrett

Address

1624 S St

**Email** 

christian@calicc.com

**Phone** 

707-880-4356

Comment

Dear Riverside County,

Please approve of all types of cannabis permitting, that the state of California allows, with little

restrictions.

From:

tlmawebmaster@rctlma.org

Sent:

Monday, July 30, 2018 10:17 PM

To:

Cann Planning

Subject:

General Concerns about Cannabis Regulation

#### **General Concerns about Cannabis Regulation**

The County currently prohibits all cannabis businesses within the unincorporated areas of the County. Should the County continue the ban cannabis businesses or create regulations to allow businesses to locate in the unincorporated areas of the County?

create regulations and stop the illegal grow. The grey market needs to start paying their fair share of taxes.

What is your biggest concern about the legalization of cannabis in California? What do you think the County could do to address that concern?

The grey market will continue. You need to have everyone be legal and shut them down. Everyone needs to pay their fair share of taxes.

Have you experienced negative impacts from illegal cannabis operations near your residence or business? The only negative impact I see is the smell when you drive by a cannabis business.

Are there aspects of cannabis legalization that you are passionate about that you are not being asked in the following worksheets? What would you like the County to know about these aspects of cannabis legalization?

I am in favor of the medical side of cannabis and not recreational. Coachella Valley should be the center for reasearch and development.

If the County regulates cannabis Businesses should the County prohibit cannabis businesses from locating near certain places or "sensitive" land uses, such as schools? If so, what are your specific concerns about cannabis businesses locating near those places or land uses?

They should be located in the industrial areas like any other industrial busines. Ok to grow hemp in the agricultural area.

Do you think cannabis businesses should be located away from other cannabis businesses? If so, what are your specific concerns about cannabis They need to be located together. Master planned communities like Coachillin are amazing projects.

businesses locating near each other?

Which type of cannabis business (retailer, cultivator, manufacturer, distributer, testing laboratory) most concerns you, if any? Retailer needs to have experienced and educated bud tenders that can help their costumers. .

Is there anything else you would like to tell the County about the location of cannabis businesses?

Each community should decide if they want it in their area. Riverside County is a very large area to zone cannabis.

If the County imposes a tax on cannabis businesses and commercial cannabis activity, what should be the purpose of the tax?

Riverside County no longer has redevelop funds. This tax could be the new redevelop tax.

What programs or activities would you like to see funded by cannabis tax revenue? Education about cannabis, it is just a drug like other doctor prescriptions. You can abuse it just like other drugs.

Do you think the County should tax medical cannabis differently than nonmedical (or "recreational") cannabis? Medical cannabis should be in a form a a prescription by a medical doctor. If a medical doctor gives a prescription it should not be taxed. The problem is a medical doctor cannot write a prescription and be covered by their e & o. Hopefully in the future that will change

Is there anything else you would like to tell the County about cannabis taxation and revenue?

Move forward before it is too late. Other cities are very aggressive.

What most concerns you about cannabis legalization and the potential impact on young people, if anything?

Very concern. Should educate our youth about the dangers.

What regulations or restrictions would you like to see for cannabis advertising and marketing, if any? Should follow the same rules as prescription drugs and alcohol.

What regulations or restrictions would you like to see regarding publicly visible signage at a cannabis business, if any? no billboards. sign ordinance.

What rules can the County put in place to ensure people under 21 are not able to obtain cannabis or cannabis products? How can retailers partner with the County and local communities to achieve that goal?

follow the same as alcohol

Is there anything else you would like to tell the County about youth access and exposure to cannabis?

Keep it away from the kids and educate the doctors

What concerns, if any, do you have about people growing cannabis plants in their homes or in their yards? What rules could the County implement to address those concerns?

Allow a limited amount.

Do you agree that outdoor personal cultivation should be prohibited near schools, parks, libraries, day cares, and youth centers? Should outdoor personal cultivation be prohibited near other places? Should not be allowed if you do not allow commercial use to grow outdoors.

Are you concerned that regulations for personal cultivation might make it harder for a medical cannabis patient to grow cannabis to treat a serious illness, such as cancer?

no.

Is there anything else you would like to tell the County about personal cannabis cultivation?

allow it.

How can the County appropriately expand economic opportunities in the cannabis industry while preventing the negative impacts potentially associated with an overconcentration of cannabis businesses? Bring government funded research and development to the area.

Should cannabis businesses engage with local communities to foster economic development and prevent negative impacts, such as loitering and crime? How so?

What programs do you think the County should offer to advance economic development in communities where cannabis businesses locate?

Is there anything else you would like to tell the

County about equity and economic development as it relates to the cannabis industry?

Name \*

paula turner

Email \*

paula@dppllc.com

Street Mailing Address \*

77933 LAS MONTANAS, #101

City PALM DESERT

State CA

**Zip** 92211

District \* perez

From:

tlmawebmaster@rctlma.org

Sent:

Tuesday, July 31, 2018 5:13 AM

To:

Cann Planning

Subject:

New Form Content Email Subject By DNNSmart Super Form

#### **Planning Department Cannabis Comments**

Name

judy bailey-savage

**Address** 

39100 air park drive

**Email** 

greenoaksranch@gmail.com

Phone

9512168862

Comment

i support the planning departments bill as written. I have alot to lose by this because my property is RR-5. I don't think Riverside County is ready to put weed farms all over the county on the RR farms. I have had a collective since 2013 and paid my taxes. I had a delivery service out of Rancho Mirage. If i want to continue to operate i will need to buy an agricultural property. That is the way of progress. I think this bill is well written as is and to avoid so many people applying for licenses they need to make a requirement that they can show proof they have been paying taxes and operating legally. There should be this requirement that the collective was formed before 2016 per the State requirement. But if you leave the bill alone and follow the Planning Commissions recommendations

it is a very good bill.

Good Job ....

From:

tlmawebmaster@rctlma.org

Sent:

Tuesday, July 31, 2018 5:45 AM

To:

Cann Planning

Subject:

New Form Content Email Subject By DNNSmart Super Form

#### **Planning Department Cannabis Comments**

Name

Rivers Judson Morrell

Address

27201 Puerta Real, Suite 470

**Email** 

RJM@RJMLawFirm.com

Phone

9496894400

Comment

I have been seeing this comment section for a few months, and you keep requesting comments. How long will this continue. The County and the State citizens already spoke when passed the law a while back. Please get in compliance with the State Law, and allow for the sale and growth of Cannabis. It sure seems like someone is dragging their feet. And don't make it so difficult such that the black

market continues due to over regulation, and excessive fees.

From:

tlmawebmaster@rctlma.org

Sent:

Tuesday, July 31, 2018 9:40 AM

To:

Cann Planning

Subject:

New Form Content Email Subject By DNNSmart Super Form

#### **Planning Department Cannabis Comments**

Name

Morgan Night

**Address** 

23481 Hwy 243, Idyllwild

Email

morgannight@gmail.com

Phone

310-433-1734

Comment

I would like to request non-storefront dispensaries be allowed in the R3A zone. This zone already allows several types of businesses. It would not increase traffic and the neighbors wouldn't even know we're there. It's seeming the state is going to allow deliveries from anywhere so wouldn't it be

better to have the deliveries coming from me so I can give you my tax dollars??

thanks morgan night

From:

Flores, Robert

Sent:

Wednesday, August 22, 2018 2:23 PM

To: Cc: Sarabia, Elizabeth

CC:

Cann Planning

Subject:

**Attachments:** 

FW: cannabis email Comments in Advance of Public Hearing tomorrow; July 18th meeting; Re: Pictures say a

1000 words; Take Back Anza; Marijuana discussion; Comments Cannabis Ord after

071818.pdf

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Robert Flores | Urban and Regional Planner III
Riverside County Planning Department | 4080 Lemon Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Riverside, CA 92501
Direct (951) 955-1195 | Main (951) 955-3200 | Fax (951) 955-1811
RFlores@RivCo.org | www.rctlma.org | http://planning.rctlma.org/



From: Sarabia, Elizabeth

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 22, 2018 1:40 PM **To:** Flores, Robert <rflores@RIVCO.ORG>

How are we doing? (Click the link and tell us)

Subject: RE: cannabis email

Thank you.

Attached are the emails I received reg. the cannabis ordinance. I converted the emails and docs into 1 pdf. Please let me know if you need anything else.

From: Flores, Robert

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 22, 2018 1:29 PM **To:** Sarabia, Elizabeth < <u>ESarabia@RIVCO.ORG</u>>

Subject: cannabis email

cannplanning@rivco.org

Kind regards,

Robert Flores | Urban and Regional Planner III Riverside County Planning Department | 4080 Lemon Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Riverside, CA 92501 Direct (951) 955-1195 | Main (951) 955-3200 | Fax (951) 955-1811

RFlores@RivCo.org | www.rctlma.org | http://planning.rctlma.org/



How are we doing? (Click the link and tell us)

From:

Dana Cisneros <dana@cannabiscorplaw.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, July 17, 2018 5:17 PM

To:

Sarabia, Elizabeth; Victorian-White, Rosalee

Subject:

Comments in Advance of Public Hearing tomorrow

**Attachments:** 

comments to riverside county planning commission.pdf

#### **Dear Planning Commission:**

Attached please find our public comments responsive to the staff report to be presented at tomorrow's public hearing on proposed cannabis regulations.

#### Sincerely,

Dana Leigh Cisneros, Esq.

Cannabis Corporate Law Firm
8175 E. Kaiser Blvd., Suite 209
Anaheim Hills, CA 92808
Phone: (714) 660-9045

Cell: (949) 500-3240 eFax: (949) 258-9332

dana@cannabiscorplaw.com www.cannabiscorplaw.com

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July 17, 2018

Planning Commission County of Riverside

<u>Via Email</u> rvictoria@rivco.org esarabia@rivco.org

RE: Public Comments on Draft Ordinance and Options for July 18, 2018 public hearing

#### Dear Planning Commissioners:

The Cannabis Corporate Law Firm represents a variety of commercial cannabis stakeholders in furtherance of California's goal in legalizing and regulating commercial cannabis activity in the state of California. We are delighted to have had the opportunity to participate in many of the hearings and public comment opportunities presented by the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors. We are encouraged that you have heard the collective voices of industry participants and encourage you to allow cultivation in the rural residential areas of unincorporated Riverside County. Providing a pathway to legalization adheres to the spirit and the letter of California law as mandated by the voters in the state of California and the County of Riverside. We also encourage you to allow for retail, distribution, manufacturing and testing facilities. As California cities and counties move forward with commercial cannabis activities, we are encouraged by the County of Riverside's important steps toward supporting the industry.

To that end, please know that the goal of The Cannabis Corporate Law Firm in submitting these comments is to further the legitimate business interests of industry stakeholders, and to aid in establishing a practical and fair system of regulation for the industry.

Accordingly, please find our comments below.

- Set back requirements schools, parks, day care centers, businesses that cater
  to kids. Care should be taken to ensure that these setbacks and distance
  between requirements are not overly burdensome. Great care should be taken
  to adhere to the policy of encouraging legal operation, not continued black and
  grey market activity.
- 2. On site consumption is rare, but this is exactly why the County should consider this use. It is akin to tasting rooms in the wine industry. It promotes tourism, consumer education and a sense of community. Moreover, allowing tobacco, cigar and hookah smoke and banning cannabis consumption is nonsensical. First, tobacco smoke is much thicker and lingers; cannabis smoke does not. Second, tobacco kills hundreds of thousands of people each year, cannabis kills exactly zero and in fact research continues to reveal its protective effects on the human body.
- 3. We support the staff recommendation to allow continued use for approved commercial cannabis activities if a sensitive use is locate within a set radius of the cannabis activity. This builds stability and will encourage operators to continue to work with the county. Moreover, it will prevent anti-competitive conduct and strategic abuse by potential cannabis objectors to place sensitive uses near cannabis businesses to disrupt the cannabis practices.
- 4. We suggest that the distance between requirements for retailers be from door to door. Many lots are very large and it would be unduly restrictive. Santa Ana operates in this fashion and the District Attorney (Tony Rucaukus) has publicly confirmed that crime has not increased in and around commercial cannabis retail operations.
- 5. Section 19.523.C misinterprets storage. Storage of the manufacturer's own cannabis products should be allowed.
- 6. We support allowing medium cultivation on lots so long as setbacks and viewing restrictions are in place. Since the County is going to make a case by case determination anyway, it should absolutely allow for medium size cultivation. This allows businesses to realize greater profitability margins and support the local economy. Stacking licenses should also be allowed, provided that the parcel size allows for discrete cultivation and setbacks are observed.
- 7. We do not see the staff reporting that say, apple orchards on RR zoned properties create these same issues, even though the issues are identical: "Larger scale operations require more employees, accessibility improvements,

- and building code improvements that are generally not consistent with residential use and have the potential to produce greater impacts. This could also create a significant number of potential enforcement issues." This is a clear adherence to the stigma against cannabis activity that the voters clearly rejected.
- 8. If the Planning Commission accepts the Staff recommendation to continue the ban (option A) it should be aware of the following impact on the local communities:
  - Loss of community support if the commission fails to act reasonably and in line with the will of the voters, it will cause turmoil between the county and its residents and businesses
  - Forcing cannabis businesses out of the unincorporated areas of the county will impact the local community, local commerce and local real estate values.
  - c. Cannabis operators are not supportive of methamphetamine addicts. They chase them away and make sure they know they are unwelcome in the community. This is something the police and sheriffs departments are unable to achieve. These types of individuals, albeit suffering from addiction, tend to drive down property values, discourage community unity and participation and overall, make for an unpleasant environment. The cannabis community on the other hand, supports the local community and businesses, support charities and those less fortunate, engage with the government state and county, and overall are some of the nicest, happiest people around.
  - d. The property values have gone up because of the potential for cannabis activity. Prohibiting cannabis activity will destroy the real estate market. You will see an exodus of cultivators who are peacefully, sustainably and responsibly cultivating in the unincorporated areas of Riverside County. In turn, the local economy will suffer; the mom and pop shops that depend on these residents and growers will see a sharp decline in sales and revenues.

You should keep in mind that political action committees (PACs) are being formed every day in California. If you do not advance the goal of providing a pathway to legalization for these business owners, it is highly likely that you will find a ballot initiative that goes well beyond what you are considering in this ordinance in the near future.

We thank you in advance for careful consideration of our comments. Please feel free to contact our office if you would like to discuss any of these issues further.

Sincerely,

Dana Leigh Cisneros, Esq.

From: Gary Worobec <garytwmw@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, August 16, 2018 8:09 PM

To: Ketcham, Thomas

Cc: Tisdale, Brian; Hellweg, Opal; Sarabia, Elizabeth

**Subject:** Marijuana discussion

#### Tom.

Thank you so much for your time after the meeting last night at the Residents Assc. of Greater Lake Mathews. It was great for me to get out and speak to other groups in other districts regarding the marijuana crisis we have right next door to our homes and families. Your folks seemed as passionate as ours are and hopefully Supervisor Jeffries will support the amendment to Land Use Ordinance 348 regarding the ban on commercial marijuana cultivation in RR and RA zoned properties. As you observed last night I gave great credit to Charissa Leach and her team for crafting the amendment to Ordinance 348 regarding cannabis cultivation. Ms. Leach and her team have to live with their recommendations far longer than elected officials. If it all goes sideways they have to deal with it 5,10,15 years out whereas the elected officials may not be there in 2 years and just walk away. Unfortunately, we the residents also have to live with the decisions from the elected officials who may not be here in two years.

I greatly enjoyed your history stories regarding the past cannabis issues in District 1. Great food for thought.

Tom, thanks and keep up the good work!!

Gary Worobec www.takebackanza.com 951-763-0518

From:

merrafarms@gmail.com

Sent:

Wednesday, July 18, 2018 9:16 PM

To:

Sarabia, Elizabeth

Subject:

July 18th meeting

Good morning. After watching the video of the meeting. I see there is still discussion and bias towards RR zoning. The most important factor the commission is over looking is how difficult growing cannabis is in any form. 70% of folks fail and give up. So not to worry about over saturated areas. The cream will rise the rest will sink. The the county can use the money to go after hard drugs and gangs! People are to lazy to really farm, that has been proven. So I implore the commission to please give responsible homeowners a level playing field. If there is a problem you reserve the right to refuse the permit/lic. It's that simple. The draft should not be based on fear. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Have a blessed day.

Sent from my iPhone

From:

Tisdale, Brian

Sent:

Thursday, July 26, 2018 3:52 PM

To: Subject: Sarabia, Elizabeth Take Back Anza

Attachments:

take back Anza letters July 26 2018.pdf

Good Afternoon Sarabia,

I have received several letters in the mail from this group. They are scanned and attached to this email.

## **Brian Tisdale**

Legislative Assistant to Supervisor Chuck Washington Riverside County, Third District

Office: 951-955-1030 | Fax: 951-677-0669 | BTisdale@RIVCO.ORG





% Brian Tisdale Legislative Assistant BTisdale@rivco.org

Dear Supervisor Washington,

As you know the Anza/Aguanga corridor is under siege from illegal commercial cannabis growing operations. These black market commercial operations are posing a very severe threat to the quality of life for the residents of this area. According to our electric cooperative our power grid is being stretched to the breaking point because of illegal growers. Our water resources are also being attacked with many residents finding well levels lowered because of adjacent large greenhouse operations. Commercial wells are not allowed in this area due to ongoing water rights litigation yet millions of gallons of water are being diverted for illegal purposes. Families and seniors are living in fear of retaliation if they contact authorities regarding commercial cultivation nuisances.

I urge you and the rest of the County of Riverside Supervisors to validate the Preliminary Working Draft – Regulatory Framework for Cannabis-Related Businesses Report as developed by your staff. It is especially important that you pay heed to the staff recommendation that "cannabis cultivation of any type be prohibited in all residential zones, R-1, R-1A, R-A, R-R, R-2, R-2A, R-3, R-3A, R-T, R-T-R, R-4, R-5, R-6, R-7, R-D, MU, W-2-M Zones."

Please do not allow pressure from growers to re-zone or ask for conditional use permits relating to the above zoning types

I support an individual's right to grow cannabis for personal and medicinal use under Ordinance 925.5. This personal small scale growing is not an issue. It is the hundreds if not thousands of large indoor and outdoor growing operations that are intolerable.

Please support the residents of your constituency in this fight for the very survival of our community.

thank you.

NAME

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NAME Mergino A. Buschmann AREA aguanga R-1

Campaign of a 1000 Letters www.takebackanza.org

### Campaign of a 1000 Letters

www.TakeBackAnza.org

To: Supervisor Chuck Washington Riverside County, Third District 4080 Lemon St Riverside, CA 92501 % Brian Tisdale Legislative Assistant BTisdale@rivco.org

Dear Supervisor Washington,

by: Supervisor

JUL 2 0 2018

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Thank you,

NAMF (

AREA

DATE

% Brian Tisdale Legislative Assistant BTisdale@rivco.org

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NAME Claudia a Naechel
AREA Tenwilligen

Campaign of a 1000 Letters www.takebackanza.org

% Brian Tisdale Legislative Assistant BTisdale@rivco.org

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NAME <u>Sindra a. Hughes</u> AREA <u>Anza</u>

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AREA Rose - Cary Rd.

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NAME Topo and Morro

AREA anga

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NAME Mary Boelme

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I urge you and the rest of the County of Riverside Supervisors to validate the **Preliminary Working** Draft – **Regulatory Framework for Cannabis-Related Businesses Report** as developed by your staff. It is especially important that you pay heed to the staff recommendation that "cannabis cultivation of any type be prohibited in all residential zones, R-1, R-1A, R-A, R-R, R-2, R-2A, R-3, R-3A, R-T, R-T-R, R-4, R-5, R-6, R-7, R-D, MU, W-2-M Zones."

Please do not allow pressure from growers to re-zone or ask for conditional use permits relating to the above zoning types

I support an individual's right to grow cannabis for personal and medicinal use under Ordinance 925.5. This personal small scale growing is not an issue. It is the hundreds if not thousands of large indoor and outdoor growing operations that are intolerable.

Please support the residents of your constituency in this fight for the very survival of our community.

thank you,

NIA DAE

AREA HNZA

% Brian Tisdale Legislative Assistant BTisdale@rivco.org

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AREA #17 #

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REA MIZA

Campaign of a 1000 Letters

www.takebackanza.org

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Hackel

thank you,

NIANAE

AREA

7-12-18

Supervisor Washington:

JUL 2 0 2018

by: Supervisor Chuck Washington

I have been working with code enforcement Officer Welsh, who has been mine and my neighbors lifeline to the issues of illegal pot grows in our rural residential neighborhood. Officer Welsh brought out Ms Leach from the planning dept and Hector Viray from code enforcement to meet with me and see first hand the problem I am facing with this illegal grow within 150' of my house. How could you possibly approve these grows in a "neighborhood" where people have their horses, kids and grandkids living within this community??? It doesn't belong in RR/RA zoning areas. They both seemed to agree that this is not the place for this type of commercial business to be in. But lo and behold, when it came time for case #1801271 53490 Ann Way, Aguanga to have their civil penalties starting to accrue, I found out that the attorney representing this grow got themselves a "hearing" to plead their case—what case??? They are illegal, what is there to plead??? It was to be heard on 7-11-18 and guess what, they asked for an extension and got it to 7-25-18!!! Who approved this added extension and for what reasons??? AND when the judge denies their claim, they get to have the 10 day grace period start all over again to be able to harvest their marijuana. IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG WITH THIS POLICY/??? Looks like the drug dealers are getting all the breaks and just us regular folk get SCRWED, AGAIN.

All thru Anza, we have neighborhood watches who band together to write/email our representatives regarding these concerns. We are running out of power and water, which I'm sure you are very aware of. We will also know how all the supervisors will vote for any changes to RR/RA next week on the 18<sup>th</sup> at the planning comm.. meeting.

Anza is a small community and not as affluent as Temecula BUT WE DO HAVE A LONG MEMORY AND WILL REMEMBER HOW YOU AND YOUR FELLOW SUPERVISORS VOTE REGARDING THIS CANCER THAT HAS TAKEN OVER OUR VALLEY.

Iris Grosse 53375 Paui Rd Aguanga, Ca 92536

Dris Brosse

From: Flores, Robert

Sent: Tuesday, September 4, 2018 4:56 PM

**To:** Gardner, Keith

Cc: Leach, Charissa; Cann Planning

Subject: FW: Message on Cannabis and New County-Wide Land Development Ordinance (Jackie

Hare)

**Attachments:** Dear Supervisor Washington.docx

Hi Keith,

I am going to add this to the Cannabis Ordinance comments, but I think it roots from and is a comment for the new Land Development Ordinance you're working on.

Kind regards,

Robert Flores | Urban and Regional Planner III
Riverside County Planning Department | 4080 Lemon Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Riverside, CA 92501
Direct (951) 955-1195 | Main (951) 955-3200 | Fax (951) 955-1811
RFlores@RivCo.org | www.rctlma.org | http://planning.rctlma.org/



## How are we doing? (Click the link and tell us)

From: COB

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 4, 2018 4:12 PM **To:** Jackie Hare <jackie@jlhare.com> **Cc:** Flores, Robert <rflores@RIVCO.ORG>

Subject: Message on Cannabis and New County-Wide Land Development Ordinance (Jackie Hare)

Good afternoon Jackie,

The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors received your email related to the Cannabis Ordinance 348.4862, and as requested, will forward to the Board of Supervisors and others listed below.

If you have any questions, please contact the Principal Planner, Robert Flores at (951) 955-1195 or rflores@rivco.org.

Thank you kindly,

Sue Maxwell

Board Assistant Clerk of the Board of Supervisors 4080 Lemon Street, 1st Floor, Room 127 Riverside, CA 92501 (951) 955-1069 Fax (951) 955-1071 Mail Stop #1010

smaxwell@rivco.org http://rivcocob.org/

https://www.facebook.com/RivCoCOB/



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----Original Message-----

From: Jackie Hare [mailto:jackie@jlhare.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2018 11:15 AM

To: COB < COB@RIVCO.ORG>

Subject: Message on Cannabis and New County-Wide Land Development Ordinance

I am sending you a letter that speaks to the commercial cannabis issue in Anza.

This letter also provides information relating to the New County-Wide Development Ordinance.

Please distribute to Supervisor Washington and the following mentioned below.

Send attached letter to:
All Board of Supervisors
George Johnson
Alex Gann
Planning Commission Secretary
Keith Gardner

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you for you time and efforts.

Best Regards,

Jackie Hare 56620 Mitchell Road Anza, CA 92539 mobile 714-746-2021 Supervisor Chuck Washington Riverside County Board of Supervisors 4080 Lemon Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor Riverside, CA

Dear Supervisor Washington:

Regarding: Commercial Cannabis Business in Anza

New County-Wide Land Development Ordinance

I am writing to you about concerns relating to the commercial cannabis growing in our community. As you know the illegal commercial cannabis businesses in Anza and surrounding area are having a significant negative impact of all aspects of our communities. We have lost our freedom. We understand that there will be no enforcement of the criminal elements that are a part of the world's drug business in Anza.

The meeting that you hosted was very well attended and greatly appreciated. I felt that the speakers that are against the illegal commercial cannabis businesses, were well prepared and professional in their statements. It is clear that our citizens have the following valid concerns of the criminal elements that have been observed since the establishment of growers in our community.

# **Violations:**

- Water (theft and pesticides pollution)
- Electricity (theft)
- Federal Laws (violations)
- State Laws (violations)
- Clean Water Quality Act (Violations)
- Waters of the US (Violations)
- EIR Compliance
- County Zoning Code (violations)
- Environmental Laws (violations)
- Criminal Element (gun/rifle carrying soldiers)
- Violation of the existing water Law Suit filed in the United States District Court that prohibits the right to build any new commercial development in Anza area.

# **Impacts**

- Cannabis is a drug of abuse
- Fear of criminal activity that is at our front door.

- The loss of our personal freedoms
- Negative impact on our local economy
- Anza area Identity, image and culture changes.
- MT Palomar light restriction area.
- Pending on-going Law Suit in United States District Court

At the meeting you heard the detailed statements from the speakers regarding each one of these topics. Plus....currently our area is seeing an unusual increase in homes for sale and decreases in sales prices! We feel that the commercial cannabis businesses are causing people to take their families and leave.

Some hikers on the <u>Pacific Crest Trail</u> have reported that they were confronted at gun point as they passed by an illegal commercial cannabis farm. The federal government needs to be addressing this danger. It is also dangerous to take a hike or a horseback ride just in case you get to close to a cannabis farm you may be threatened.

Most of all.....everyone is afraid of the <u>"criminal element that drugs attracts".</u>
Recently Anza had two known cannabis drug shootings that required two medical helicopters. One man was critical wounded. There will be more shootings.

We must also recognize the "Existing Law Suit in United States District Court" that prohibits any new commercial business development in Anza which includes commercial cannabis business. All the growers are in violation of this law suit. This law suit has been going on for more than 15 years. That is why we do not have any new commercial development in town. It would be nice if we could have a motel, Boy & Girls Club, Bike/Skateboard Park, etc. but we are prohibited by this law suit that is about water rights. (U.S.A. v. Fallbrook Public Utility District, et al., Civil No. 51-cv-1247-GPC-RBB) If commercial cannabis growers are allowed to continue with their businesses without consequences, then Anza should be allow to build as much commercial businesses without consequences.

It is hard to imagine coming home from work and seeing men with guns, passing back and forth in front of your neighbor's house. Then as you relax on the patio and have your grandson over for a swim, you can see a big tent over the fence and another guard holding a gun. Then as you go to bed with your window open, you have to close it because of the stink plus the bright lights making it hard to sleep. You try to get the government to come to you help, but there is nothing they can do. So every day there are strange people going in and out of the house next door and men marching around with guns. How would you feel? What could you do? I would feel as though I lost all my freedom and would be afraid of the "criminal element" next door.

How can these people continue to break the law and no one can do anything about it? All over the country, behind the scene, there are people benefiting from these criminal

# Page 3

operators. That's the way the drug cartels operate. The same thing happens every day at the LA and Long Beach harbors. Drugs are unloaded every day, put on truck and distributed and everyone looks the other way. This is how our world works. These cartels are coming in from all over the world. They are very serious about protecting their business. If they were growing corn or tomatoes, they would not need gun-packing guards!

It is hard to ignore everything that is happing and to go one with our lives. This issue is causing a crisis level of fear in all of our citizens and they can't be ignored. All of our communities rely on well water. Commercial cannabis growing is a major threat to our water and that it could pollute our underground water resources and cause cancer. Who is going to enforce the Clean Water Act and the Waters of the US law when Riverside County does not have funds available to enforce the County Planning Codes on the current illegal commercial cannabis growers in our area..

Please speak to the Planning Commissioner who I understand has to have a place-holder for pending zoning code requirements to set standards that will prohibit commercial cannabis business in Anza. Any new commercial business is not allowed by per the US District Court water law suit. As you know, Anza does not have the lawful right to have any new commercial business because of the "water law suit issue". This must include the commercial cannabis businesses.

I see changes are in process for the State CEQA Guidelines, EIR Requirements and County Planning and Zoning Code that include cannabis. How dare we add the commercial cannabis development requirements in our Planning and Zoning codes? The word "cannabis" should not show up anywhere in our planning and zoning codes. We are inviting criminal elements into our communities. We don't have separate codes for growing corn and tomatoes, so why would we have a special code for commercial cannabis growing? Could it be because it is a dangerous drug? The only reason is because it is currently waiting for the laws to change state wide. It is production of a drug causing danger and havoc. Unfortunately we watch our government making special accommodations for the commercial cannabis growers. This might reduce the costs of adding Code Enforcement and Sherriff staffing, but cost more when our water is used up, more shootings occur, and property values fall and reduce property taxes. It's a domino effect.

We are inviting criminal elements, non-citizens, people that are here on visas, into our communities and provide accommodations to meet the law. These people are dangerous. They are prepared to shoot anyone that gets neat their operation.

The Governor of the State of California is putting pressure on all the Cities and Counties (58 Counties are currently updating the zoning codes to accommodate cannabis) to make it easier for the commercial cannabis businesses to comply with the

# Page 4

Zoning Code thru the New County-Wide Land Development Ordinance. An EIR must be required for each separate commercial cannabis grove.

Our Governor is really working towards a new source of revenue. Remember the cannabis industry is a "drug" business and run by "foreign based cartels" that we are dealing with. These are people who will protect their drugs with guns and rifles. Most are in this country on visas. They are coming from all parts of the world and our state and local agencies are revising the codes and laws to allow them to operate and to bring violence into our communities? And we are not going have enough code enforcement staff. We will need more police and more sheriffs to manage these cannabis operations

We need to protect all the people who live and work in Riverside County and protect our freedom. Many people are migrating into Riverside County and that is very exciting. Our focus should be on transportation expansion and water and sewer development. The concerns over the commercial cannabis business could have a negative impact on the growth of our County. Families will need to protect their children from having access to this dangerous drug that is crowing in their "back yard".

Please don't give up on us! We have confidence in our County leaders and staff. We know you are in our "corner" and doing everything possible to help us resolve this crisis.

"Make Riverside County and Anza Great Again"

Sincerely,

Signed by: Jackie Hare, Anza Citizen 56620 Mitchell Rd. Anza, CA. 92539

CC:

Supervisor V. Manuel Perez
Supervisor Marion Ashley
Supervisor Kevin Jeffries
Supervisor John F. Tavaglione
Riverside County Planning Department
Keith Gardner, Planning
Elizabeth Sarabis, Planning Commission Secretary
George Johnson
Keith Gardner

From:

Flores, Robert

Sent:

Monday, September 10, 2018 2:21 PM

To:

Sarabia, Elizabeth

**Subject:** 

FW: cannabis email

**Attachments:** 

Comments in Advance of Public Hearing tomorrow; July 18th meeting; Re: Pictures say a

1000 words; Take Back Anza; Marijuana discussion; Comments Cannabis Ord after

071818.pdf

Hi Elizabeth, you sent me the attached comments after the Cannabis PC, but some are dated prior to the PC hearing. Were the ones dated prior to July 18th provided to the PC at the hearing. I want to know, so I will not add them to our current list of comments. Thank you.

### Kind regards,

Robert Flores | Urban and Regional Planner III Riverside County Planning Department | 4080 Lemon Street, 12th Floor, Riverside, CA 92501 Direct (951) 955-1195 | Main (951) 955-3200 | Fax (951) 955-1811 RFlores@RivCo.org | www.rctlma.org | http://planning.rctlma.org/



# PLANNING DEPARTMENT

# How are we doing? (Click the link and tell us)

From: Flores, Robert

Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2018 2:23 PM To: Sarabia, Elizabeth < ESarabia@RIVCO.ORG> Cc: Cann Planning < CannPlanning@rivco.org>

Subject: FW: cannabis email

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Robert Flores | Urban and Regional Planner III Riverside County Planning Department | 4080 Lemon Street, 12th Floor, Riverside, CA 92501 Direct (951) 955-1195 | Main (951) 955-3200 | Fax (951) 955-1811 RFlores@RivCo.org | www.rctlma.org | http://planning.rctlma.org/



# How are we doing? (Click the link and tell us)

From: Sarabia, Elizabeth

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 22, 2018 1:40 PM **To:** Flores, Robert <<u>rflores@RIVCO.ORG</u>>

Subject: RE: cannabis email

Thank you.

Attached are the emails I received reg. the cannabis ordinance. I converted the emails and docs into 1 pdf. Please let me know if you need anything else.

From: Flores, Robert

Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2018 1:29 PM
To: Sarabia, Elizabeth < <a href="mailto:ESarabia@RIVCO.ORG">ESarabia@RIVCO.ORG</a>>

Subject: cannabis email

cannplanning@rivco.org

Kind regards,

Robert Flores | Urban and Regional Planner III

Riverside County Planning Department | 4080 Lemon Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Riverside, CA 92501

Direct (951) 955-1195 | Main (951) 955-3200 | Fax (951) 955-1811

RFlores@RivCo.org | www.rctlma.org | http://planning.rctlma.org/



How are we doing? (Click the link and tell us)

From:

tlmawebmaster@rctlma.org

Sent:

Tuesday, September 25, 2018 10:51 AM

To:

Cann Planning

**Subject:** 

New Form Content Email Subject By DNNSmart Super Form

# **Planning Department Cannabis Comments**

Name

Oscar Valent

Address

411 Walnut St #10656

**Email** 

valento@earthlink.net

Phone

7033621358

Comment

I was looking forward to becoming a member of the Jojoba Hills RV Resort at 45120 Highway 79 South • Aguanga, CA 9253 until I heard that City Farmer Project Number One was planning to grow and process cannibus on about 500 acres (the old Stagecoach Ranch) across the road. You should not allow them to proceed with this operation for it will ruin the tranquil atmosphere of the area. The stench, noise, pesticides, constant security operations, and enormous water consumption for the growth and processing of the plants will destroy the area and its ecosystem. Do not allow the lure of revenue from this operation to ruin one of the few rural areas left in Riverside County. Please do not

change the coding or the laws to allow this cannibus operation.

From:

tlmawebmaster@rctlma.org

Sent:

Friday, September 28, 2018 7:02 AM

To:

Cann Planning

Subject:

General Concerns about Cannabis Regulation

### **General Concerns about Cannabis Regulation**

The County currently prohibits all cannabis businesses within the unincorporated areas of the County. Should the County continue the ban cannabis businesses or create regulations to allow businesses to locate in the unincorporated areas of the County?

The state law defines cannabis cultivation as a "commercial" activity and specifically addresses the unique security issues with cannabis that do not exist with other crops. It is not an appropriate business for ANY residential area includibg lots zoned A1.

What is your biggest concern about the legalization of cannabis in California? What do you think the County could do to address that concern?

Crimminals will find it much easier to steal cannabis grown by others than to grow it themselves. By allowing outdoor growing rather than on commercial properties, which can be adaquately secured you are inviting violent crime into our neighborhoods. There were 4 (reportedly cannabis related) shootings in our area during the month of August alone.

Have you experienced negative impacts from illegal cannabis operations near your residence or business? Yes, I'm on an 800' deep well. Prior to the property owner above me sinking his well my well produced 10GPM. Apparently 10GPM was not adaquate to attract growers to the property above me so they drilled through the rock layer at 800' looking for more water. Even at 1,200 feet they did not find the volume of water they desired so they abandoned the hole. But what remained is a 4" diameter drain hole through the rock layer which caused my well to go dry within 30 days. I will need to spend \$50K on a new well.

Are there aspects of cannabis legalization that you are passionate about that you are not being asked in the following worksheets? What would you like the County to know about these aspects of cannabis legalization?

County Supervisors have stated that Riverside County will not be treating cannabis cultivation as commercial activity despite State Law clearly defining it as such. Creating Ordinances that conflict with State Law violates the very section of the State Constitution that empowers Riverside County government.

If the County regulates cannabis Businesses should the County prohibit cannabis businesses from locating near certain places or "sensitive" land uses, such as schools? If so, what are your specific concerns about cannabis businesses locating near those places or land uses?

Yes, State Law already prohibits locating near schools. The Law is unclear whether this would include homeschools. Because of the extreme security measures required by State Law ALL residential areas should be considered inappropriate for cannabis businesses by the County.

Do you think cannabis businesses should be located away from other cannabis businesses? If so, what are your specific concerns about cannabis The clustering of cannabis businesses could reduce the costs to the County for monitoring, inspections and the added law enforcement costs.

businesses locating near each other?

Which type of cannabis business (retailer, cultivator, manufacturer, distributer, testing laboratory) most concerns you, if any? The mom & pop shop, wanting to grow more than 6 plants on their residential property. Their desire to opprrate this business which has clear security risks out of their homes invites crime into our neighborhoods.

Is there anything else you would like to tell the County about the location of cannabis businesses?

It would appear nearly impossible to secure an open field at adaquatevelvels to either deter inviting theft or comply with State Law. Indoor growing in a secure building (not a green house) is the only way that proper security can be achieved.

If the County imposes a tax on cannabis businesses and commercial cannabis activity, what should be the purpose of the tax?

Cover the cost of regulation of legal businesses.

What programs or activities would you like to see funded by cannabis tax revenue?

Enforcement and regulation

Do you think the County should tax medical cannabis differently than nonmedical (or "recreational") cannabis? No

Is there anything else you would like to tell the County about cannabis taxation and revenue?

No

What most concerns you about cannabis legalization and the potential impact on young people, if anything?

The potential of them being victims of crimes being invited into our communities by the ignoring of the special security requirements of these businesses, by the County

What regulations or restrictions would you like to see for cannabis advertising and marketing, if any? N/A

What regulations or restrictions would you like to see regarding publicly visible signage at a cannabis business, if any? N/A

What rules can the County put in place to ensure people under 21 are not able to obtain cannabis or cannabis products? How can retailers partner with the County and local communities to achieve that goal?

Similar to alcohol.

Is there anything else you would like to tell the County about youth access and exposure to cannabis?

No

What concerns, if any, do you have about people growing cannabis plants in their homes or in their yards? What rules could the County implement to address those concerns?

The 6 plant maximum should be maintained on all residential lots or other lots in residential areas including A1 lots.

Do you agree that outdoor personal cultivation should be prohibited near schools, parks, libraries, day cares, and youth centers? Should outdoor personal cultivation be prohibited near other places? Outdoor cultivation of more than 6 plants should be prohibited County-wide because outdoor grows can't be adaquately secured.

Are you concerned that regulations for personal cultivation might make it harder for a medical cannabis patient to grow cannabis to treat a serious illness, such as cancer?

No, the president of the High Country Growers' Association has reported that he routinely produces 10 pounds of cannabis per plant and has produced as much as 27 pounds from a single plant. If 6 plants have the potential of producing 60 pounds or more annually that is more than adaquate for medicinal use.

Is there anything else you would like to tell the County about personal cannabis cultivation?

6 plants is more than adaquate.

How can the County appropriately expand economic opportunities in the cannabis industry while preventing the negative impacts potentially associated with an overconcentration of cannabis businesses? By treating it as a commercial eterprise with high security risks similar to any other pharmacueticsl production.

Should cannabis businesses engage with local communities to foster economic development and prevent negative impacts, such as loitering and crime? How so? N/A

What programs do you think the County should offer to advance economic development in communities where cannabis businesses locate? If permits are targetted at commercial zones that are struggling, that could improve the economy in those zones.

Is there anything else you would like to tell the County about equity and economic development as it relates to the cannabis industry?

N/A

Name \*

Bill Donahue

Email \*

Berean.training@gmail.com

Street Mailing Address \*

39695 Fretag Rd

City Sage CA State

Zip 92544

District \* 3

From:

Sarabia, Elizabeth

Sent:

Friday, September 28, 2018 11:02 AM

To: Cc: Cann Planning

Subject:

Flores, Robert FW: Take Back Anza

Attachments:

AR-M317\_20180926\_091923.pdf

### Cannabis letters in opposition.

----Original Message----

From: Tisdale, Brian

Sent: Wednesday, September 26, 2018 9:41 AM To: Sarabia, Elizabeth < ESarabia@RIVCO.ORG>

Subject: Take Back Anza

More letters for your files.

----Original Message----

From: scan@rcbos.org [mailto:scan@rcbos.org]
Sent: Wednesday, September 26, 2018 10:19 AM

To: Tisdale, Brian <BTisdale@RIVCO.ORG>

Subject: Scanned image from AR-M317 French Valley

DEVICE NAME: French Valley SHARP DEVICE MODEL: SHARP AR-M317 LOCATION: French Valley District 3

FILE FORMAT: PDF G3-1d RESOLUTION: 300dpi

Attached file is scanned image in PDF format. This file can be read by Adobe Acrobat Reader.

The reader can be downloaded from the following URL:

https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.adobe.com%2F&data=02%7C01 %7CBTisdale%40RIVCO.ORG%7C1d852235162e458da7c308d623ce3cf7%7Cd7f03410e0a84159b30054980ef605d0%7C1 %7C0%7C636735766599468495&sdata=ZSa41wvwAcpHOudCHtJ84sOoWCnfrChHJTR%2BmilZFjc%3D&reserved=0

Supervisor Chuck Washington 3st District County of Riverside 4080 Lemon St. Riverside, CA 92501

email to: Legislative Assistant Opal Hellweg OHellweg@rivco.org

Dear Supervisor Washington,

I want to strongly express my opposition to allowing commercial marijuana cultivation in Rural Residential and Rural Agricultural zoned properties. Our homes are fur sanctuaries where we can feel safe and secure however we have lost that peace and security due to large scale illegal commercial marijuana grows and will never get that back if commercial cultivation is allowed in RR and RA zones.

Along with the nuisance effects of commercial marijuana cultivation including odor, environmental concerns, water use, noise from generators and unsightly structures, marijuana is a high value product that lends itself to theft and accompanying violence. It will alter the character of our community and present us with a never ending feeling of anxiety every time a vehicle comes down our roads.

The Riverside County Planning Department in the Mar 20th 2018 Staff Report on Marijuana Cultivation recommended against commercial marijuana cultivation in RR and RA zoning. On June 18th in the proposed amendment to Land Use Ordinance 348 the Planning Department again rejected commercial marijuana cultivation in RR and RA zones. Again, after a further 30 day review on July 18th they reaffirmed their decision. Subsequently, the Planning Commission on July 18th accepted the amendment unanimously to exclude RR and RA zones from commercial marijuana cultivation. The Riverside County Planning Department has spent thousands if not hundreds of thousands of dollars of taxpayer funds in doing their due diligence and three times now have rejected RR and RA zones on this issue.

Supervisor Washington, we hope that your civic duty, common sense and moral compass aligns with that of the Riverside County Planning Department and ours, the residents in your constituency. We respect the right of an individual to grow marijuana for their own personal or medical use under County Ordinance 925 and State Proposition 64 but cannot allow commercial marijuana cultivation next door to our homes and families.

Thank you

NAME

7 ailing Pb Box 391643 Canga, la 92539-1643

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email to: Legislative Assistant Opal Hellweg OHellweg@rivco.org

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Thank you

NAME Kelly A. JORDAN

ADDRESS P.O. BOX 391643

60641 YUCCA VALLEY Rd.

ANZA, CA. 92539

AS A 20+ YEARS RESIDENT I VEGE YOU TO

From:

Flores, Robert

Sent:

Wednesday, October 10, 2018 9:57 AM

To:

Leach, Charissa Cann Planning

Cc: Subject:

RE: Ordinace 348

Got it.

Kind regards,

Robert Flores | Urban and Regional Planner III

Riverside County Planning Department | 4080 Lemon Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Riverside, CA 92501

Direct (951) 955-1195 | Main (951) 955-3200 | Fax (951) 955-1811

RFlores@RivCo.org | www.rctlma.org | http://planning.rctlma.org/



# RIVERSIDE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

#### How are we doing? (Click the link and tell us)

From: Leach, Charissa

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 10, 2018 6:12 AM **To:** Flores, Robert <rflores@RIVCO.ORG>

Subject: Fwd: Ordinace 348

To add to public comments for cannabis

Charissa Leach, P.E.

Transportation & Land Management Agency

**Assistant Director** 

From: Piantadosi, Debra

Sent: Tuesday, October 9, 2018 11:20:49 AM

**To:** Leach, Charissa; Perez, Juan **Subject:** FW: Ordinace 348

From our TLMA Website: ----Original Message----

From: Sagetownhall@gmail.com <Sagetownhall@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, October 5, 2018 3:37 PM

To: Piantadosi, Debra < DPIANTAD@RIVCO.ORG >

Subject: Ordinace 348

#### THIS EMAIL HAS BEEN SUBMITTED VIA THE RCTLMA WEBSITE.

Ms. Leach and Mr. Perez,

The Sage Town Hall Association is both encouraged and optimistic at your continued willingness to listen to the concerns and suggestions of Riverside County residents regarding zoning changes that will undoubtedly effect the future of unincorporated areas.

We have recently fielded many inquiries from concerned community members regarding Ordinace 348. We would like to take this opportunity to pass those concerns along to you and your staff.

While we are aware that the passing of Proposition 64 began to pave the way for larger scale cannabis cultivation in California, we are wary that some of the accommodations being given to potential growers via 348 are too grand in scale, and pose a significant threat to quality of life in rural areas.

It is our belief that while cannabis cultivation is, in some aspects, an agricultural undertaking, the resource consumption and security concerns that accompany the manufacturing or distribution of a schedule 1 controlled substance are more in line with a commercial pharmaceutical endeavor. As such, we feel that it should be treated with the according zoning restrictions and limitations.

Ordinance 348, as written, fails to mandate the security protocol necessary to dissuade the projected increase in asssualt, theft, robbery, trespassing, etc. that will accompany a grow site. Without imposing strict guidelines requiring heavy security measures, allowing cannabis cultivation on agricultural lots invites property crime and increased violence into areas that currently enjoy some of the lowest crime rates in the county. In addition, the entirety of the Sage, Anza, Valle Vista, and Aguanga communities are currently serviced by only two Riverside County Sheriff deputies. These areas are grossly understaffed and cannot rely upon law enforcement to provide timely and effective response. To allow the production of a schedule 1 controlled substance in an area so under served by the sheriff's department is to create a haven for crime, violence, and detritus.

In addition to safety concerns, we would like to remind the county that its agricultural zones are vital to the production of locally sourced produce and meat. We believe that creating sustainable agricultural in the county is necessary to ensure its prosperous future. However, given the recent lack of rainfall, combined with the tremendous amounts of illegal wells and water diversion utilized by illegal growers, we are witnessing an unprecedented amount of residential and agricultural well failure. The lack of underground and surface water is alarming and potentially catastrophic. The water needs of a single cannabis plant can be in excess of 6 gallons per day. A grow of 10,000 plants would use 60,000 gallons of water in a 24 hour period. This water use would not only drain the already limited resources needed by local farmers, but would also directly impact neighboring rural residential homes that rely solely on wells to provide water for their families. In addition to the sheer volume of water used, cannabis growers that operate outdoor grows rely heavily on both pesticides and poisons to deter pests and vermin. A study by UC Davis reported that the recent uptick in marijuana farms has presented a lethal threat to the endangered spotted owl. They also found the growers' use of poisons to be effecting the population of bob cats, coyotes, and mountain lions. Similarly, the state of California is seeking to declare the Humbolt Marten an endangered species, due to the drastic decline in numbers resulting from mass poisonings near cultivation sites. Given that the majority of agriculturally zoned lots in unincorporated Riverside County are within, abutt, or are in very close proximity to, environment sensitive habitats and multi-species habitat preserves, we feel that allowing any type of outdoor cannabis grow could be detrimental to local wildlife. Allowing the unsustainable water use required by cannabis growers to trump the basic water needs of residential homes, along with allowing pesticide and poison reliant outdoor grows in areas that are geographically and logistically unable to be scrutinously monitored, is unconscionable.

We understand that cannabis cultivation is a growing industry that demands to be accommodated. However, we urge the planning department and the board of supervisors to recognize that cannabis is a commercial pharmaceutical endeavor, and not an agricultural crop. As such, we would ask that cannabis cultivation be regulated in a similar manner as any other pharmaceutical. Due to the safety concerns and environmental impacts that accompany these grows, we would like to see cultivation relegated to commercially zoned areas. By mandating these operations to occupy

commercial zones, county staff and law enforcement can more effectively ensure that every site is operating within code, that the water use is metered (thus encouraging more conservation and environmental friendly matters of water collection while eliminating any impact to water availability to rural residential homes), that chemical use is monitored, that appropriate security measures are in place (neccessary lighting that is not code compliant in agricultural and residential zones), and that any odors, criminal activity, or safety hazards can be dealt with promptly and efficiently, without impact to residential or agricultural homesteads.

As always, we thank everyone on the planning department staff for taking the time to hear our concerns, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Lyndi Dana Secretary Sage Town Hall Association

From:

Flores, Robert

Sent:

Wednesday, October 10, 2018 9:57 AM

To:

Leach, Charissa

Cc: Subject: Cann Planning RE: Cannabis letter

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Robert Flores | Urban and Regional Planner III
Riverside County Planning Department | 4080 Lemon Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Riverside, CA 92501
Direct (951) 955-1195 | Main (951) 955-3200 | Fax (951) 955-1811

RFlores@RivCo.org | www.rctlma.org | http://planning.rctlma.org/



# RIVERSIDE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

How are we doing? (Click the link and tell us)

From: Leach, Charissa

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 10, 2018 6:19 AM **To:** Flores, Robert <rflores@RIVCO.ORG>

Subject: Fwd: Cannabis letter

Another

Charissa Leach, P.E.
Transportation & Land Management Agency
Assistant Director

From: BOYDD, April

Sent: Tuesday, October 9, 2018 7:03:20 AM

To: District 4 Supervisor V. Manuel Perez; District5; District3 Information; Supervisor Jeffries - 1st District; District2

Cc: Leach, Charissa; Perez, Juan; COB-Agenda; Maxwell, Sue

Subject: FW: Cannabis letter

Good Morning,

Please see the attached letter submitted to our office on the Cannabis Proposal.

Best regards,

April Boydd

Deputy Clerk of the Board Clerk of the Board of Supervisors 4080 Lemon Street, 1st Floor Riverside, CA 92501 (951)955-1068 Fax (951)955-1071 Mail Stop #1010

aboydd@rivco.org http://rivcocob.org/





https://www.facebook.com/RivCoCOB/

"Never lose sight of the fact that the most important yardstick of your success will be how you treat other people – your family, friends, and coworkers and even strangers you meet along the way."

#### ~Barbara Bush

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From:

Flores, Robert

Sent:

Wednesday, October 10, 2018 9:58 AM

To:

Cann Planning FW: Cannabis letter

Subject: Attachments:

Cannabis Proposal Letter to Perez.pdf

#### Kind regards,

Robert Flores | Urban and Regional Planner III

Riverside County Planning Department | 4080 Lemon Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Riverside, CA 92501

Direct (951) 955-1195 | Main (951) 955-3200 | Fax (951) 955-1811

RFlores@RivCo.org | www.rctlma.org | http://planning.rctlma.org/



# How are we doing? (Click the link and tell us)

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**Sent:** Wednesday, October 10, 2018 6:19 AM **To:** Flores, Robert <rflores@RIVCO.ORG>

Subject: Fwd: Cannabis letter

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Assistant Director

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Cc: Leach, Charissa; Perez, Juan; COB-Agenda; Maxwell, Sue

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Supervisor V. Manuel Perez Board of Supervisors 4080 Lemon Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Riverside, CA 92501

Re: Sky Valley Community Council and Community Position on Proposed Commercial Cannabis Ordinance for Unincorporated County Areas

Dear Supervisor Perez:

We have closely followed the planning process for a possible Riverside County ordinance allowing commercial cannabis activities in unincorporated areas of Riverside County. We greatly appreciate the thoroughness of the Planning Department's analysis of the many issues that any such ordinance must resolve. This is a matter of great importance to our community and, thus, we wish to formally communicate to you our community's opposition to any and all commercial cannabis activities in the unincorporated area of Sky Valley.

As you know, Sky Valley is a residential community that treasures its peaceful rural lifestyle. Several members of our community have toured a commercial cannabis cultivation plant in Desert Hot Springs and have spent time in areas of Riverside County where commercial cannabis activities are already underway. These experiences have educated us about the negative impact that commercial cannabis activities would have on our residential community. First, we have learned that, although cannabis cultivation involves growing a crop, in order to maintain high consistent quality and shorten the time between planting and harvesting, highly controlled industrial production techniques are necessary to maximize profitability. The associated manufacturing, testing, distribution and retail sales activities combine manufacturing and commercial elements. All of these activities are fundamentally incompatible with residential communities. In addition, commercial cannabis activities present unique concerns such as foul odors, the environmental impact of high demands for power and water, the threat of increased criminal activity due to the high cash value of the products, and the lack of adequate law enforcement resources to protect the community.

The majority of the property in Sky Valley is zoned R-1 and R-A. There is a small strip of land along Dillon Road zoned C-P-S. There are also outlying areas zoned W-1 and W-2.

#### R-1 and R-A Zones

The drafts of the proposed ordinance that we have reviewed would **prohibit all commercial cannabis activities in all residential zones**, including the R-1 and R-A zones we have in Sky Valley. **We fully support such a prohibition.** We are basically a residential community and the limited agricultural and livestock activities that are allowed in our R-1 and R-A zones are – as the Planning Department correctly noted – small family uses and related to residential rural living. All commercial cannabis activities would be completely incompatible with our peaceful, residential rural life. We are, however, concerned that the residents of some unincorporated areas are seeking to allow commercial cannabis activities in their R-R zone, and

they may seek to include the R-A zone in such a request. We heard a number of residents from such an area speak in favor of allowing such activity in their R-R zone at the Board of Supervisor's March 20, 2018 meeting. We also have reviewed a survey of 272 residents in this community conducted in April, 2018 which found that 70% opposed any commercial cannabis activity in their community. We hope that the Board of Supervisors will heed these survey results – and the concerns expressed for that opposition. In addition, as the Planning Department's report noted, much R-R zoned land includes Conservation Habitat, rural mountain and open space areas that are not compatible with commercial agricultural use. Whatever the final determination is with respect to the R-R zone, please accept the Planning Department's recommendation with respect to a total prohibition of all commercial cannabis activities in the R-A zone in recognition that this zoning designation is fundamentally residential in nature.

#### C-P-S

This is a zoning designation for scenic highway commercial and there are a wide variety of commercial uses that are identified in existing Ordinance 348 as permitted in this zone. There are less than 2,500 acres of property zoned C-P-S countywide. The small strip so zoned in Sky Valley is along Dillon Road which is a designated California Scenic Highway. We are opposed to any commercial cannabis activities in this zone. It appears that the Planning Department's recommendations would prohibit all such activities except possibly small and/or specialty indoor cannabis cultivation. If there is support on the Board for allowing such activity, we would ask that it be made a discretionary, conditional use that would require a public hearing so that a case-by-case determination could be made with input from the involved community.

## W-2

This is a designation for Controlled Development areas. It appears that the Planning Department's **proposed draft would prohibit all commercial cannabis activities** in this zone. **We support this recommendation.** Although the zoning does list a variety of permitted agricultural, livestock and recreational activities, as the Planning Department report correctly noted, much of this land is located in remote, inaccessible areas which could not support the infrastructure required for any commercial cannabis activity. This is true in Sky Valley where the areas so designated are outlying, contiguous to BLM holdings in the Indio Hills and Joshua Tree National Park.

#### W-1

This is a designation for Watercourse, Watershed and Conservation areas which are not suited for permanent occupancy or residence due to periodic flooding or other hazards. The **Planning Department recommendation is to prohibit all commercial cannabis activity** in this zone because it would negatively affect the nature and purpose of this zone designation. **We support this recommendation.** 

Thank you for giving Sky Valley the opportunity to comment on this important issue.

2:			
Julie Casserly	Elin Holmberg	Noel Ragsdale	Michael Tennessen SVCC Member
SVCC Vice-Chair	SVCC Secretary	SVCC Chair	

From:

Emily Heebner <eheebneryoung@earthlink.net>

Sent:

Wednesday, October 10, 2018 5:04 PM

To:

Cann Planning

Subject:

When is the hearing?

We object to the marijuana shops in Idyllwild. They have brought disruptive, criminal activity to our small town. We would like to attend the public hearing. Please advise when the date is set for.

Thank you, Emily Heebner, Eric N. Young PO Box 4190 Idyllwild CA 92549 818-913-1017

From:

Robert Mayo <rmayoca@gmail.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, October 10, 2018 5:45 PM

To:

Cann Planning; Supervisor Jeffries - 1st District; District2; District3; District 4 Supervisor

V. Manuel Perez; District5

**Subject:** 

Please Allow Commercial Cannabis in zones RR, RA, and W2.

Dear Supervisors,

Please Allow Commercial Cannabis grows that are 5 Acres or more in Zones RR, RA and W-2 in the unincorporated areas of Riverside County.

Thank you,

Robert Mayo Cabazon, California 92230 Owner of 25 Acres of W-2 zoning.

From: Armond Wilkerson <merrafarms@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2018 4:49 PM

To: Cann Planning
Subject: Oct 23rd meeting

Good morning, I will be there to take my last stand. Hopefully you all will come to a fair reasonable ordinance. I had previously mentioned growing the plant indoors with a shorter period of time would cause problems. I will present the evidence to prove this. To make it simple. Cannabis needs its full season to produce the medicinal values that it possesses. When the plant is grown quickly for profit. Its like eating a piece of fruit that isn't ripe. It will make people sick. It's not the plant it's the people growing it! I have now lived in the unincorporated area of Riverside County for 32 years. When I moved here I wouldn't see a car for 2 days or more. I own 20 acres and have built a custom home as well a self sustaining farm. Farming is in my blood, as long as I can trace back! It has been my life long dream. Cannabis would just make it profitable. The day BCC opened its site for applications. I was up at 12am submitting my cultivation plan and disclosing the security of my home/farm. I have spent an enormous amount of money locally to make all this happen. Now I find myself listing my dream for sale. To move to a place that is open to a free, but regulated market. I'm financially devastated and more so heart broken. I get there are many folks who frown upon cannabis. My guess is they have never taken the time to understand its true value to our society. I respect their opinion, but it is wrong to impose opinion over the state law.

I implore the board to be fair to home owners in the unincorporated areas of Riverside County, who have the space to cultivate to be allowed to pursue a legal business. I personally have already lost over 2.4 million dollars in business. I'm a family man and won't take any chances doing anything not by the book. I'm sure the authorities are aware of this, as they fly over me frequently. Only to see empty tunnels sitting.

I understand my life or business plans don't mean much to others, but I put my entire adult life into building this dream. Never asking anyone for anything. I will succeed even if not in Riverside County. It just hurts because I'm a California native and now I'm forced to relocate. The State Law was created to give the average farmer or person a chance at this market. Riverside County is devastating the small people with the lack of action towards a free market. The last meeting was all about fear of what could happen. What about the vision of what could be. Thank you all for your time.

Respectfully Submitted,

Armond Wilkerson

From: Kim Barker <kbnstarent@aol.com>

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2018 5:24 PM

To: Cann Planning

**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance Amendment

Dear Supervisors,

I am happy to see that this ever growing problem in our neighborhood is getting much needed attention.

I purchased land in the Garner Valley area around the intersection of highway 74 and rout 371 approximately 23 years ago. We have experienced the normal growth, busier highway traffic and that is be expected but nothing compares to the problems that have arised in the recent years with the Cannabis Business taking over the mountain. The air quality has changed from the smell of fresh air, pine trees and sage to the smell of Cannabis twenty four hours a day, the cars coming and going to the neighbors property at all hours of the day and night is very concerning.

I would be in favor of using some of our property tax dollars to pay for better ordinances to control this problem and we need enforcement that will actually hit these growers in the pocket book, not thousands but tens of thousands, these growers are making millions off of these grow farms and land owners need to run the risk of loosing there property to the county for code violations.

Thank you for your time.

Kim Barker

From:

cbailey621@aol.com

Sent:

Friday, October 12, 2018 5:38 AM

To:

Cann Planning

Subject:

Cann Planning

I am against any regulation, no matter how many times you give it a new number and try to shove it down our throats, that does not keep big business out of the Cannabis Growing in our area.

I realize that you are after the tax money and that is your main concern. People in the area that have lived here should be the first priority of any bill that is considered.

A much better approach is to allow the residents of the area to grow and put in Bed and Breakfast type business that is similar to the Wine Country in Temecula. We do not need or want Commercial Growing in this area. From all my neighbors and friends in this area, the consensus is for small locally owned grows and not major commercial grows that would change our life style and deplete our resources.

Again, in case I was not clear in the above.

I AM AGAINST ANY ORDNANCE THAT WILL PUT COMMERCIAL GROWS AND LICENSES ABOVE THE INTERESTS OF THE LOCAL PEOPLE THAT WILL TAKE CARE OF OUR ENVIRONMENT.

Chuck Bailey 20+ year resident.

From: tlmawebmaster@rctlma.org
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2018 6:24 AM

To: Cann Planning

Subject: General Concerns about Cannabis Regulation

#### **General Concerns about Cannabis Regulation**

The County currently prohibits all cannabis businesses within the unincorporated areas of the County. Should the County continue the ban cannabis businesses or create regulations to allow businesses to locate in the unincorporated areas of the County?

Create regulations that allow the local citizens to grow marijuana as a cottage industry. We need to be able to benefit from this above the Commercial Grows. It needs to be set up more as a bed and breakfast type destination. That would benefit the area more than passing a bill to collect taxes, as that is the primary concern of the proposed bill.

I AM AGAINST ANY BILL THAT WOULD PUT LOCAL COTTAGE, DESTINATION ORIENTED BUSINESS, AND LICENSES AT A DISADVANTAGE TO LARGE COMMERCIAL GROWERS.

What is your biggest concern about the legalization of cannabis in California? What do you think the County could do to address that concern?

None

Have you experienced negative impacts from illegal cannabis operations near your residence or business? yes, illegal grows use chemicals that are detrimental to our water supply. That and the trash that is left after every growing season for the locals to cleam up. We need to have better enforcement on these issues.

Are there aspects of cannabis legalization that you are passionate about that you are not being asked in the following worksheets? What would you like the County to know about these aspects of cannabis legalization?

The only legalization I am for is to regulate cannabis growing to a cottage type industry that would benefit our are and not turn it into a Commercial Farming industry that would only benefit large corporations.

If the County regulates cannabis Businesses should the County prohibit cannabis businesses from locating near certain places or "sensitive" land uses, such as schools? If so, what are your specific concerns about cannabis businesses locating near those places or land uses?

No regulation on growing, sales and distribution should be regulated similar to liquor sales in regards to schools and parks.

Do you think cannabis businesses should be located away from other cannabis businesses? If so, what are your specific concerns about cannabis I do not think segregation by regulation is important. That will be determined by how many cannabis outlets can profit in any given area. Competition will sort that out.

businesses locating near each other?

Which type of cannabis business (retailer, cultivator, manufacturer, distributer, testing laboratory) most concerns you, if any? None of the above, as long as it is community oriented and not Commercially oriented to fill the tax coffers without regard to the communities involved.

Is there anything else you would like to tell the County about the location of cannabis businesses?

No

If the County imposes a tax on cannabis businesses and commercial cannabis activity, what should be the purpose of the tax?

Tax is the only reason any government agencies are involved in the production of cannabis. Tax on cannabis should be the same as tax on tomatoes.

What programs or activities would you like to see funded by cannabis tax revenue? Enforcement of Organic Only grows. This will keep our water and overall environment clean from the chemicals, pesticides and herbicides currently being used by illegal growers from out of state, and in most cases, out of country growers.

Do you think the County should tax medical cannabis differently than nonmedical (or "recreational") cannabis? No

Is there anything else you would like to tell the County about cannabis taxation and revenue?

All growing should be local, taxed the same as Wine and vineyard business.

What most concerns you about cannabis legalization and the potential impact on young people, if anything?

None

What regulations or restrictions would you like to see for cannabis advertising and marketing, if any? Same as for alcohol

What regulations or restrictions would you like to see regarding publicly visible signage at a cannabis business, if any? Same as for Alcohol

What rules can the County put in place to ensure people under 21 are not able to obtain cannabis or cannabis products? How can retailers partner with the County and local communities to achieve that goal?

Same as for alcohol

Is there anything else you would like to tell the County about youth access and exposure to cannabis?

No

What concerns, if any, do you have about people growing cannabis plants in their homes or in their yards? What rules could the County implement to address those concerns?

None

Do you agree that outdoor personal cultivation should be prohibited near schools, parks, libraries, day cares, and youth centers? Should outdoor personal cultivation be prohibited near other places? I agree with restrictions on commercial growing. Not on personal cultivation. It would be discriminatory to not allow people to grow in their own homes.

Outdoor personal cultivation should not be prohibited anywhere.

Are you concerned that regulations for personal cultivation might make it harder for a medical cannabis patient to grow cannabis to treat a serious illness, such as cancer?

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Is there anything else you would like to tell the County about personal cannabis cultivation?

Personal cultivation should not be regulated in any way.

How can the County appropriately expand economic opportunities in the cannabis industry while preventing the negative impacts potentially associated with an overconcentration of cannabis businesses? The market will decide by what is profitable. It needs no intervention by the government. However, Local winery type, destination business should be supported above large commercial grows that would effect the life style and income of local small farmers.

Should cannabis businesses engage with local communities to foster economic development and prevent negative impacts, such as loitering and crime? How so? Do not allow large business into the area by making licenses available to local people for destination, winery type business.

What programs do you think the County should offer to advance economic development in communities where cannabis businesses locate? The Tax money from cannabis cultivation, distribution, and sales should be used only in the areas that it is collected.

Is there anything else you would like to tell the County about equity and economic development as it relates to the cannabis industry?

MAKE LICENSES AVAILABLE TO LOCAL PEOPLE FOR SMALL DESTINATION TYPE BUSINESS, SIMILAR TO THE WINERY BUSINESS. DO NOT MAKE THE LICENSES ONLY AVAILABLE TO LARGE COMMERCIAL GROWERS BY PRICING THEM OUT OF THE REACH OF THE LOCAL PEOPLE. LOCAL PEOPLE SHOULD HAVE PRIORITY IN ANY LICENSING OR REGULATIONS THAT ARE IMPOSED.

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