

Mendocino County currently does not have a fully functional cannabis cultivation program. This will be the case unless and until a discretionary land use based permit system similar to that contained in Chapter 22.18 is enacted. With the expiration of the State CEQA exemption it is unlikely that any substantial changes to the cannabis program can be made without an environmental impact report. Therefore, I strongly encourage you to direct staff to include within the grant application funding for an EIR for a discretionary land use based permit system for cannabis cultivation.

Further, in line with the goal of helping as many current applicants as possible succeed, please consider either extending the cannabis cultivation submission date until 12/31/2021 or at least extend it for those applicants who made or will make an initial submission prior to the closing date.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

John McCowen