

September 13, 2021

Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

Re: Agenda Item 5g on 9/14/21

Dear Supervisors,

Whether you choose to rescind the ordinance and start over, or to send it to the voters, I beseech you make sure you work for what the citizens of Mendocino County want, and work to prevent what they do not want.

The citizens want the very small legal growers to have a path forward. On that point, I endorse the Mendocino Cannabis Alliance memo.

The citizens do not want expansion at this time. 10,000sf is enough for almost all who want to cultivate cannabis. It is the maximum our environment can sustain at this time of extreme drought. Please prohibit license stacking and all cultivation in Rangeland. Please make sure we get the countywide programmatic EIR that is required to understand cumulative impacts.

The citizens want the cannabis industry of Mendocino County to be associated with the best practices of agriculture—sungrown, in the ground, in native soil, regenerative farming practices that improve the environment and literally pull carbon out of the air to store in the ground. Please prohibit use of non-native media and added fertilizers that can leach into waterways.

The citizens want cannabis to be cultivated using only renewable energy. Please prohibit use of generators and combustion engine pumps. Please also prohibit fossil fuel-based heaters which are non-renewable and a fire hazard.

The citizens do not believe water hauling should be allowed except in case of temporary emergency (water hauling should not be part of regular operating plan, water haulers must be required to show proof of their sources and deliveries).

The citizens do not want to see plastic fencing (including shade cloth on the inside of fences mentioned in the ordinance) or hoop houses (glass and metal greenhouses would be okay on preserved native soils or in industrial zones with a maximum total of 2500sf).

The citizens are tired of seeing proliferation of unlicensed cultivation or erection of hoop houses (sometimes permitted but not for cannabis). Please disqualify those who “jump the gun” with site preparation or cultivation from being eligible for County permits.

Very Sincerely,

Sattie Clark  
Redwood Valley