



COUNTY OF MENDOCINO
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING SERVICES

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MEMORANDUM

Date: May 2, 2018

To: The Honorable Board of Supervisors

**From: Trent Taylor, Interim Code Enforcement Manager,
Planning and Building Services**

**Subject: Update on Cannabis Code Enforcement for May 8, 2018 Cannabis Program
Update to the Board of Supervisors**

Since the hiring of the Cannabis Program Manager and changes in the permitting program, the Code Enforcement Division has been working closely with the Cannabis staff to develop and implement strategy to deal with complaints related to permitted and applicant cultivation sites.

Our beginning strategy is to jointly educate those in the program to correct violations of the ordinance and if necessary to give formal notices of violations and potentially issue administrative citations if those violating the ordinance do not comply. Fortunately, so far in this cultivation season education has been working and we have not met any resistance to our efforts to gain compliance.

Enforcement action related to cultivation not in the permit program continues and we have had cultivators remove a number of gardens this season that could not be permitted or made compliant.

Cannabis Complaints since the beginning of 2018 have come in at an average rate of 3.5 per week, which is down from 14 per week at the peak of the 2017 season. Code Enforcement continues to case manage all Cannabis complaints coming into the County by assignment for investigation and by coordinated referrals to other regulatory agencies as necessary.

Cannabis Code Enforcement as of 5/2/18:

- The Code Enforcement Division has received 68 complaints related to Cannabis since January 1, 2018. The majority of the complaints continue to come in on the Cannabis Hotline.

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The status of all Cannabis complaints for 2018 are as follows:

- 13 complaints closed as the Cannabis was removed
 - 6 complaints referred to Law Enforcement for Criminal Investigation
 - 10 complaints are under investigation and we are working with the cultivator to either remove the Cannabis or enter the Permit Program
 - 10 complaints resulted in notice of violation or administrative citation related to non-applicant cultivation and related code violations
 - 29 complaints are related to applicant sites and compliance is being coordinated between the Cannabis Program and Code Enforcement
- The primary complaint so far this year is light glare from hoop houses at night. About half of the light complaints also included complaints about generator use.
 - The Code Enforcement Division will continue with our regulatory approach to Cannabis Enforcement and we anticipate issuing notices of violations, administrative citations and abatement orders as necessary. During our response and investigation of Cannabis complaints we have been providing application packages to those that we determine may be eligible for a permit.
 - The 29 complaints related to applicant/permits were for 24 site locations. Of the 24 site locations 9 have been issued a cultivation permit and 15 are still under review.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trent Taylor
Interim Manager
Code Enforcement Division
Planning and Building Services