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## MENDOCINO COUNTY *MEMORANDUM*

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**Date:** July 16, 2019

**To:** Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

**From:** Supervisors Williams and Gjerde  
Cannabis Economic Development Ad Hoc Committee

**Subject:** Recommendations from the Cannabis Economic Development Ad Hoc Committee

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The Cannabis Economic Development Ad Hoc has been meeting with both County staff and industry leaders to look at the current California cannabis market, the economic future and long-term growth potential in Mendocino County.

The Ad Hoc is currently working with industry leaders on developing a countywide vision and strategic goals for cannabis economic development over the next 3-5 years. The Ad Hoc anticipates returning to the Board with the proposed vision and goals within the next few months.

Below are the initial five recommendations of the Ad Hoc.

### Recommendations

1. Direct Planning and Building Services to assess the feasibility of developing a cannabis business innovation zone and identify potential sites.
2. Update the County Temporary Use Regulations regarding special events to streamline permitting and include cannabis events.
3. Direct Planning and Building Services bring back potential sites throughout the County with proper zoning that could allow scaling up to larger than 10,000 square feet of cannabis cultivation. Potentially increasing the size of cultivation greater than one acre with multiple permits if supported with sufficient water and State approvals. Evaluate if biomass production warrants increased cultivation allowances.
4. Recommend the County work in partnership with Humboldt and Trinity counties to develop a three County Emerald Triangle advocacy group to brand and market the region.
5. Develop a private/public partnership with cannabis cultivation and facilities businesses to fund future code changes that will require additional California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documents to support industry operational desires not currently allowed under Mendocino County Code.