

BOS Meeting on Jan. 25th, 2021 at 1:30 pm

Dear Mendocino County Board of Supervisors,

We are disturbed to see the changes in the Final Draft of Item 3b which removes cannabis cultivation protections from our rural residential Neighborhoods and **strongly** oppose the changes proposed by Supervisors Haschak and Williams.

Agenda item 3b would remove protections for neighborhoods.

- Allows Expansion of Medical and Recreational Cannabis in neighborhoods:
100 sq. ft becomes 6 plants. 200 sq. ft. becomes 12 plants
- Removes Setbacks for neighboring grows
- Removes requirement for recreational cannabis being grown in a structure

It seems that Growers and sympathizers of those wanting to grow medicinal and adult-use cannabis cultivation in residential neighborhoods have not comprehended that we want our homes to be protected from the creeping affects of this plant (air quality, lights on, guard dogs, and on and on). These plants are not small – see attached pictures. We have been here before and are troubled to have to repeatedly ask Supervisors to maintain the protections we've worked so hard for.

At your BOS February 25, 2020 meeting, neighbors had to fight against a proposal to expand personal grows from 100 square feet to 6 plants.

We believed this issue, having been thoroughly debated by the public and the Board had finally been settled and we could go back to enjoying our neighborhoods. Please do not keep putting us through this.

If the restrictions on square footage and the ban on outdoor growing in our neighborhoods is removed, it will have the effect of eliminating the Sunset and Exclusion zones. All of our work to protect residential quality of life will be lost.

How often do we have to fight to **maintain the protections** we've worked so hard to get? We are not asking for new protections, but only asking to keep current protections in place.

We have worked for years to protect our neighborhoods from commercial cannabis operations. We appreciate the protections we do have.

The Board of Supervisors has recognized the impacts of commercial cannabis operations in residential neighborhoods which is why we have protections and regulations in place. Please do not dismantle them.

We appreciate that the Board has consistently stood up for neighborhoods and ask you to do so again.

Sincerely,

/s/

Ted and Carole Hester