

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am a Covelo resident, apparel print shop owner, mother and member of 5 generations of family that have lived here for many many years. I grew up here and care TREMENDOUSLY about the well being of our local economy & environment. I WANT US TO THRIVE as a community. We can't do that without a legal pathway forward in the cannabis industry.

I want other industries to expand as well, but right now there's a culture to shift and that will take time.

I want to see Phase 3 open WITHOUT 10% expansion, for now. I think we can consider expansion in a year or 2 after seeing how the water situation continues to unfold in our county. We need our water.

Phase 3 was supposed to open last year in April. I know several people who invested in property so that they could enter the legal cannabis industry and move forward as law-abiding citizens.

OUR COMMUNITY DESERVES A PATHWAY FORWARD.

There aren't many economic opportunities in our community here, and it will be a difficult blow to continue to criminalize people who want to pay their taxes, cultivate responsibly and be legal, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO MOVED FORWARD WITH LAND PURCHASES, WATER BOARD PERMITS ETC. in preparation for last year's PHASE 3 announcement to open.

At the very least, please open phase 3.

The best would be to open phase 3, without 10% expansion for now, and allow some version of temporary cultivation while the stacks of permits are processed. I think it will be hard for farmers to take an entire year off.

Let's help shift the wild west culture of illegal rebels gradually and with grace. There are so many wonderful people living here. LET'S BE AN INSPIRATION IN THE INDUSTRY. Let's be the county that cares about our residents and gives them a viable path forward.

I want to see Mendocino County embrace this shift with renewed efficiency, environmental responsibility, community support and local economic development in mind as the most important considerations.

Thank you so so much for your time,

Jessi