

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As a resident in Willits for the past 32 years and having raised my two sons to be productive members of society. I am absolutely against what has happened in this beautiful valley.

I am appalled at the idea that large cannabis operations can start up on pending permits. My son's are in construction, they cannot start a building project on a pending permit! This is insane! On Hearst RD in Willits there is a intended expansion of 18 hoop houses on the O'Leary property that was recently purchased. I was under the understanding that 2019 there would be pause to approval of new grows in Mendocino Co. Also the original plan called for portions of money from the permitting process to be set aside for law enforcement. I understand that is not happening. It's also my understanding, the permitting process is very expensive and the time to get approval is very long. Many have gone back to illegal grows just to survive. I also understand the desire to get tax revenues from this new economic source, but it is failing. Also of major concern is the lack of water! We have the potential for a very severe fire season. Several permitted burns have gotten out of control already this year! I live at the Golden Rule Mobile Village and we are on water rationing already and have been for the past two years! We only measured 23 3/4 inches of rainfall this year. The illegal growers are pulling water out of creeks and irrigation ditches. As of March Redwood Valley residents were being told to conserve water NOW! In the past when we lived in Brooktrails we were told to be on the lookout for water trucks tapping in to hydrants. This is very serious. Please take these things into consideration. We depend on you to make wise decisions for our county. Please look to bringing other viable forms of tax revenue for our county. Cannabis is not working for the overall benefit for our future and the future of our families.

Thank you for your consideration,
Lauri Karaglanis