

County of Mendocino Board of Supervisors
501 Low Gap Rd.
Ukiah, CA 95482
BOS@mendocinocounty.org

June 7, 2021

RE: BOS Agenda 6/2/21 Re: Cannabis Expansion

Dear Chair Gjerde and Supervisors:

Measure AF was a complicated land use policy change that required a lot of public education. In comparison, this Ordinance is very clear to the public as their lives have already been disrupted by hoop houses, lights, generators, guard dogs and water trucks. Many citizens involved in defeating Measure AF are working on the Referendum to repeal this Ordinance. If you choose to engage us by voting to adopt this Ordinance, you will trigger the following sequence of events.

You will be facing an unprecedented coalition of Sheriff, former Sheriff, Environmentalists, Farm Bureau, Ranchers, Community Service Districts, Water Districts, Road Associations, and a lot of angry residents. Now we are experienced and have trained signature collectors and campaign infrastructure in place. The day after the Ordinance is adopted, signature gathering will begin throughout the County. It's unlikely we will need the full 30 days to gather the required number of signatures.

The day after the signatures are verified, we will begin installing signage. We have the database of people who had "NO on AF" signs and now we have many more databases of concerned citizens to utilize. Our signage will be along all major thoroughfares in the County.

Our Public Education campaign will, among other things, highlight the following:

- Humboldt County prepared an **EIR** and staffed up **before expansion**
- Sonoma County is well-staffed and has reversed course to prepare an **EIR before expansion**
- Mendocino County has a four year record of incompetence and failure in the Cannabis Program
- Mendocino County uses obsolete water and land use development standards and has issued an unprecedented number of new well permits. We will compare the number of well permits the County issued to the number of hydrological studies the County required.
- This drought will likely generate an unprecedented number of wells going dry
- The election will take place deep into the drought
- This drought will be followed by the next drought

We are confident this Referendum will succeed. The cost will be very bad publicity about this County's policies. You will generate a lot of ill-will of residents toward their County government. Please scroll through Form 26.09 under Land Use on the Environmental Health website. This is only one example highlighting the outdated standards this County uses in the 21st century. Please consider these issues carefully before you vote.

Sincerely,
Dennis Slota