

# TOWN OF DISCOVERY BAY

A COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

## **SDLF Gold-Level of Governance**



President - Kevin Graves • Vice-President - Bill Mayer • Director - Robert Leete • Director - Bill Pease • Director - Chris Steele

March 22, 2018

Director John Kopchik Contra Costa County Department of Conservation & Development 30 Muir Road Martinez, California 94553

### Director Kopchik:

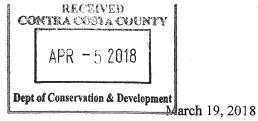
Thank you for providing information on the "Preliminary Framework for Cannabis Regulation in Unincorporated Contra Costa County" before the Discovery Bay CSD Board of Directors at their regular Board Meeting on February 28, 2018 and March 7, 2018. You requested input and comment from the Board and the Board has authorized the following responses:

- 1. What is your overall reaction to the Framework A. The framework was "well thought through."
- 2. Sensitive Site/Residential Buffers: What distance? A. Cultivation should be two (2) miles away from Discovery Bay.
- 3. Caps: How many? A. In the beginning keep caps tight, then release slowly as circumstances warrant.
- 4. Outdoor Personal Grow: Should it be allowed by right? A. Do not permit outdoor personal grows in Discovery Bay.
- 5. Additional Comments
  - \* We are against Microbusiness sales in and around Discovery Bay
  - \* We support maps and zoning that show no sales in Discovery Bay
  - \* The county should look at prohibiting outdoor personal use in Discovery Bay

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely.

Michael R. Davies General Manager



To those invested in Contra Costa County's regulatory framework on marijuana,

The CourAGE Youth Health Coalition, is a youth activated leadership group that addresses and focuses on health related issues that are prevalent in Contra Costa County. Members from CourAGE including: Rita Ewaz, Kalyn Stuart, Rose Tyree, Ryan McNevin, and Jason Cangjaya attended the Youth Marijuana Regulations Town Hall meeting at the Contra Costa County Office of Education on February 27th, 2018. The Coalition would like to thank you for the opportunity of hosting and having us attend the Town Hall meeting, as it was a valuable learning experience for all of us. However, as a youth health coalition we would like to express our discontent with the Town Hall, as we did not find it to be representative of the change we could have imposed on our local public officials.

Firstly, we would like to address the presentation's lack of communicating efficient information to the student audience. The PowerPoint presentation was not suitably understandable for middle/high school students, therefore, making it difficult to comprehend the material. The complex information presented about the issue of marijuana made it misleading for the students, as it created a confusing space for us to share out our questions and comments. In the future, having a concise and comprehensible presentation geared towards a younger audience would attract a variety of students, bringing out their opinions on the subject.

Furthermore, we would like to discuss the environment in which the students held their discussion in. The experts that were invited to the Town Hall meeting conveyed with a very one sided dialogue with the students. Rather than informing the students with credible information on the topic of marijuana, they imposed a biased opinion within their answer. The "safe space" that was reiterated throughout the meeting was not apparent within the questions and answers section. In addition, there was not a discussion portion of the Town Hall meeting where individuals could express how marijuana has affected their lives. The research that some of the CourAGE members have conducted could not have been expressed clearly within the framework of the meeting. There was no clear distinction as to when students could elaborate on the work they have prepared for the Town Hall Meeting. We wish we were able to share our recommendations on increasing retailer buffer zones, banning youth products, and commercial growing etc.

Thank you for taking the time to read the letter and assisting us in this matter. The CourAGE Coalition has been very invested in this topic and our contribution to this issue has given us the opportunity to raise awareness within our community. The Coalition is happy to meet and discuss the matter furtherly, and can be reached at CourAGEcyhc@gmail.com.

Signed.

Ryan Mclin

Rossetto Zuron.

P.O. BOX 156 • ALAMO, CALIFORNIA 94507

April 17, 2018

#### By E-mail to Ruben.Hernandez@dcd.cccounty.us

Department of Conservation & Development Community Development Division 30 Muir Road Martinez, CA. 94553

Attn:

Ruben Hernandez

Re:

**Cannabis Regulation** 

#### Dear Rueben:

This letter is being submitted regarding County regulation of cannabis and is being submitted by the Alamo Improvement Association on behalf of its members and constituents.

As background, Alamo is a community that takes great pride in having and maintaining its semi-rural character. Many residents live here because of Alamo's nature and character. Alamo, of course, has a variety of commercial enterprises in which it takes pride, but these are typically not large in nature, and not of the scale found in the surrounding communities of Walnut Creek and Danville.

Alamo is bounded by Walnut Creek at one end and Danville on the other. We understand that both Walnut Creek and Danville are planning to adopt strict local controls on cannabis, to the extent permitted by law. We are concerned that Alamo may become the "sweet spot" in this region to which commercial cannabis businesses are attracted, if the surrounding communities regulate these businesses closely.

In addition, due to the constraints of Federal Law, we understand that the cannabis business is basically a cash business, for both buyers and sellers. Thus, we are concerned that commercial operations of cannabis may attract a criminal element seeking to prey on both sellers or suppliers who deal only in cash, not to mention buyers or customers who must carry cash to transact business.

Based on the foregoing reasons, among others, we urge the County to:

1) Ban all cannabis dispensaries and all commercial growing of cannabis to the extent permitted by state law.

2) Ban outdoor growth of cannabis, even for personal use.

We understand that cannabis as it grows may give off a strong odor, which is unpleasant to the point of repugnant to many people. Thus, in addition to banning all commercial growth of cannabis, outdoor growth of cannabis, even for personal use, should be banned. (This would also help eliminate the problem of individuals who would like to help themselves to the plants growing outside.)

One neighbor should not be forced from their own backyard because of the odor coming from cannabis being grown outside by a neighbor next door. Of course, personal growth of cannabis indoors would still be permitted as specified in state law.

3) Ban all deliveries of commercial or non-medical cannabis. (Again, a cash business with the suppliers and the sellers as potential targets).

However, delivery of medical marijuana/cannabis should continue to be allowed. One need only consider the needs of a homebound, pain filled cancer patient to understand why home deliveries of medical marijuana/ cannabis, which deliveries have been taking place in the past, should be continued.

4) We do understand that other communities within the County may have different needs and priorities than Alamo. While not ideal, we recognize that one set of County regulations for the entire County of Contra Costa may not be viable, and that one size may not fit all. If that is the case, we request that the County provide different regulations for different areas or communities, and that in Alamo, cannabis is regulated as described above.

Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

Roger Smith President

: Supervisor Andersen

(by e-mail)

Alamo MAC Chair/S. Rock

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AIA Board of Directors