



December 12, 2016

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors  
651 Pine Street  
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisors Andersen, Gioia, Glover, Mitchoff and Piepho:

As coordinator of the Alcohol & Drug Abuse Prevention Team (ADAPT) San Ramon Valley, I would like to commend the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors on addressing the serious problem of effectively managing pharmaceutical waste in our County. I wish to express our strong support for the Safe Drug Disposal ordinance that you are considering. I appreciate that you were sensitive to the testimony last week calling for the addition of over the counter medications and asked staff to re-introduce the ordinance to reflect that. Including over the counter medications will reduce consumer confusion on what can and cannot be dropped off, making it much more likely that they will properly dispose of all unwanted medications.

As you are aware, prescription drug abuse has become a national epidemic and one of the key contributors to this national health crisis is the easy access to potentially dangerous and addictive medication by drug seeking teens and adults. The Drug Disposal Ordinance that is being proposed would provide much needed disposal opportunities for medications that are causing an alarming number of addictions and overdoses in Contra Costa County and are polluting our water, which affects both humans and our wildlife.

While this ordinance only covers unincorporated Contra Costa County, ADAPT San Ramon Valley is hopeful that the board will follow the lead of every other county that has passed a Safe Disposal ordinance and include the county as a whole. This will ensure that every resident has access to convenient disposal of unwanted medications.

We applaud your efforts and offer our support in moving this ordinance forward through approval and implementation.

Respectfully,

Patty Hoyt  
ADAPT San Ramon Valley Coordinator  
Discovery Counseling Center  
115A Town and Country Drive  
Danville, CA 94526

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Dear Supervisors Andersen, Gioia, Glover, Mitchoff and Piepho:

On behalf of the Center for Human Development, ADAPT (Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Team) Lamorinda and the Contra Costa MEDS (Medicine Education Disposal Safety) Coalition, I would like to commend the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors on addressing the serious problem of effectively managing pharmaceutical waste in our County. I was present at the first public discussion of the Ordinance at the Family and Human Services Committee meeting. I spoke then to the subject of access and the importance of reducing access to these often abused drugs. I also spoke to convenience and making safe disposal as easy as possible for consumers. The easier it is, the more likely that consumers will get rid of their unwanted drugs in responsible ways.

As you are aware, prescription drug abuse has become a national epidemic and one of the key contributors to this national health crisis is the easy access there is to potentially dangerous and addictive medication by drug seeking teens and adults. One of the goals of ADAPT Lamorinda (which has been in existence for seven years) is to reduce prescription drug abuse for all ages. The Drug Disposal Ordinance that is being proposed would provide much needed disposal opportunities for medications that are causing an alarming number of addictions and overdoses in Contra Costa County and are polluting our water, which affects both humans and our wildlife.

I was also at the reading of the ordinance to the full Board of Supervisors last Tuesday. I am all for working to make this bill as far reaching as possible. I believe that tomorrow the Board will hear more information on the inclusion of over the counter drugs in the language of the ordinance. These drugs definitely contribute to overdoses amongst all ages. I would also like to see the ordinance enlarged to include incorporated as well as unincorporated parts of the County.

Thank you for taking the lead in protecting both our people and our environment.

We applaud your efforts and invite you to let us know how we can be of support in moving this ordinance forward through approval and implementation.

Respectfully,

Jaime Rich  
Environmental Prevention Program Director  
Center for Human Development  
901 Sunvalley Blvd.  
Concord, 94520  
[Jaime@chd-prevention.org/925-349-7338](mailto:Jaime@chd-prevention.org/925-349-7338)

**REQUEST TO SPEAK FORM (2 minute limit)**

I wish to speak on Agenda Item # D4

Complete this form and place it in the upright box near the speaker's podium, and wait to be called by the Chair.

Date: 12/13/2016

*Personal information is optional. This speaker's card will be incorporated into the public record of this meeting.*

My comments will be: ☐ General  
☒ For  
☐ Against

NAME (Print) Nabila Sher  
*To ensure your name is announced correctly, you may include phonetic spelling.*

☐ I wish to speak on the subject of:

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I am speaking for: ☐ Myself

☒ Organization: Alcohol, Marijuana,  
Prescription Drug  
Coalition

☒ I do not want to speak but would like to  
leave comments for the Board to consider.  
(Use the back of this form.)

**Information for Speakers:**

Deposit this form in the upright box next to the speaker's podium before the Board's consideration of your item.

Wait to be called by the Chair. Please speak into the microphone at the podium.

Begin by stating your name and your city or area of residence, and whether you are speaking for yourself or on behalf of an organization.

If you have handout materials, please give them to the Clerk.

Avoid repeating comments made by previous speakers.

In lieu of speaking, I wish to submit these comments:

After surveying Walgreen Stores  
throughout Contra Costa County we  
only found 2 that provided drop boxes  
for safe disposal. Our communities  
are in need of information, and  
access to more drop boxes in order  
to keep our communities safe,  
and

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