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Planning & Building Services

>>> Amanda Reiman <amanda@flowcannabis.co> 5/5/2021 2:30 PM >>>

Hello,

Please find attached a letter from Flow Cannabis Company regarding the cannabis cultivation agenda item at the May 6th Planning Commission meeting.

Thank you!

Amanda

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Amanda Reiman PhD MSW

Vice President of Community Development

Flow Cannabis Company

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May 6, 2021

Mendocino County Planning Commission
Agenda Item: Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance

To the Mendocino County Planning Commission,

Flow Cannabis Company is a licensed distributor, manufacturer and processor located in Redwood Valley. We have been operating there since 2017, however, the Flow Kana brand was born two years earlier in 2015. We employ over 100 people at our facilities in Redwood Valley and Laytonville, over 90% of them from Mendocino, Lake and Humboldt county. We offer full health benefits, and paid time off.

We very much appreciate the process of Planning Commission review and we know that the Commission is more than aware of the laborious nature of going through the Major Use Permit process and the checks and balances that exist within. We support the recommendations from the Board of Supervisors with a few suggestions.

1. Cultivation on Rangeland. We support the recommendations of the Board of Supervisors regarding cultivation on Rangeland. We encourage the Planning Commission to recommend the definition of "agricultural activity" as the qualifier for RL projects.

Alternatively, CCR Title 14, Division 2, Chapter 8, Subchapter 1, Article 1, section 3501 defines "Agricultural Activity" as the cultivation and tillage of the soil, dairying, the production, cultivation, growing and harvesting of any agricultural commodity, the raising of livestock or poultry, and any practices performed by a farmer or on a farm as incident to or in conjunction with those farming operations, including preparation of these products for market.

2. Secondly, under the section "Findings applicable to Land Use Permits for cultivation on AG and RL zoned properties", we suggest eliminating the recommendation that "The proposed cultivation site will not result in a need for unintended expansion of infrastructure in conflict with other policies." How would the county confirm that expansion was "unintended"? Proposed expansion should be judged on a site-specific basis and suitability for expansion should be based on location and resources, not on intentionality. We believe this should not be included in the final recommendations from the Planning Commission.

Thank you for the time and attention you have given this complicated issue.

Sincerely,

CAREN WOODSON
Director of Government Affairs
Flow Cannabis Company

AMANDA REIMAN, PHD
VP of Community Development
Flow Cannabis Company