

APR 19 2023

Planning & Building Services

To: Board of Supervisors

RE: The Petion to establish a (CP) Cannabis Prohibition District.

Thanks for taking the time to review this letter. We would encourage you to consider voting in favor of a "Cannabis Free Zone" in Redwood Valley.

The Cannabis grows contribute very little financially to the local economy or services.

In regulating the Cannabis industry there was a thought that there would be a potential income stream for the county operating budget. But this has not been the case. There have been estimates that 80% of any cannabis cultivation is sold to the black market and there is only 20% left that may be claimed as taxable income. The county dollars that have been spent to regulate the cannabis program could instead be used to bolster other county programs.

We would like to point out that having a cannabis grow in the vicinity to residents has a negative impact for property owners who live here for the semi-rural pleasant, safe and clean environment.

Environmental (Ground) pollution is a problem that has been acknowledged. The leaching of the waste products from the grow sites into the Redwood Valley aquifer (water system) in the valley impacts our Water use. There has been evidence found that there is large amount of water being consumed by the cannabis grow sites.

This reduces the amount available to the residents. When the grow sites pump out of the ground wells it negatively affects the Redwood Valley aquifer and those residents that rely on their wells for operating needs. An environmental problem for residents is lighting at night (grow lights) the consistent lighting from the 24-hour operation of cannabis farming.

Environmental (Air) pollution is a factor that gets overlooked. The smell of a large Cannabis grow does adversely affect those people that live next too, or downwind (ie allergies and the unpleasant odor)

The Criminal Activity around the Cannabis sites has been noted to increase (According to the Local County Sheriff's.) This leads the residents and their families to deal with more crime in Redwood Valley.

All these negative factors will cause small business, as well as vineyard owners and ranchers to move out of the area (reducing the counties revenue for sales tax)

The employee workforce (Families with children) will be forced to move out of the area.

Employers and employees of other businesses that are in the county will move out of the area as well. Redwood Valley will be left as a crime laden neighborhood that the County is often left to clean-up. (When the cannabis sites are abandoned, the county is left to clean up the hazardous waste)

The Cannabis growers contribute little towards the local economy or services.

They pay on only 20% of their product. This impacts the maintenance of roads, the funding of schools and the maintenance of county parks.

All this to say that residential property values will decline, as Redwood Valley will no longer be a desirable place to live.

We would encourage you to vote in favor of a "Cannabis Free Zone" in Redwood Valley.

Sincerely

Richard and Cindy Sagan

2230 Road H, Redwood Valley, CA 95470

*Richard & Cindy Sagan* 4/16/23  
*Cindy Sagan*