

APR 19 2023

Planning & Building Services



Planning Commission  
501 Low Gap Road  
Ukiah, CA 95482

March 23, 2023

Re: Planning Commission Meeting 3/23, Agenda Item 6d *"Rezone request to establish a Cannabis Prohibition (CP) Combining District over 207 Assessor's Parcels in Redwood Valley"*

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Dear Honorable Planning Commission Members,

The Mendocino Cannabis Alliance (MCA) is strongly opposed to creating the Cannabis Prohibition District that will impact over 207 Assessor's Parcels in Redwood Valley.

It's important to note that this Prohibition District will do nothing to stop unlicensed cultivation, which accounts for the unregulated practices that receive the majority of complaints from community members. Restricting the operations of licensed operators who have volunteered to be regulated, pay taxes and contribute to our local economy would be a mistake for our community, especially at this challenging economic time.

As it currently stands, if this Prohibition District were to be created, it would require the 2 or 3 licensed operators in the proposed zone to cease operations. This would be despite the significant financial and time investment made by these operators who were told by the County when they entered the local cannabis program that they would have a pathway to the regulated market. At a bare minimum, if this District is adopted, it should only be for future operations, and the existing licensed operators within the proposed zone should be able to continue their operations within the regulated market.

The existence of the Prohibition District component of the ordinance is an unfortunate holdover from the prohibitionist mindset that is still pervasive within cannabis regulations, and it provides legal cover for discrimination against regulated tax paying cannabis businesses that together have contributed over \$10 million dollars to the general fund since the passage of Prop 64. These regulated businesses are a valuable and important part of our community and our economy, and should not be excluded from operating in Mendocino County.

We urge the Planning Commission to oppose this Prohibition District.

Sincerely,

Mendocino Cannabis Alliance  
e: [info@mendocannabis.com](mailto:info@mendocannabis.com)