

MAY 17 2023

James Feenan

From: laura@martyjuana.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 3:36 PM
To: pbscommissions
Cc: Michael Katz
Subject: Planning Commission Meeting to Discuss Redwood Valley Cannabis Prohibition District - May 18 @ 9AM

Planning & Building Services

May 17, 2023

To the Mendocino County Planning Commission,

Please do not allow the cannabis prohibition zone to move forward as proposed in Redwood Valley. And if you do choose to pass it, please consider finding a way to allow exemptions for at least the farms with Phase One permits that have been legally cultivating on their parcels all along.

It's common knowledge and was even a subject for the County Grand Jury, the County & State have been slow-moving to roll out of cannabis policy for nearly nine years since adult use was passed in California in 2016.

Upon reading many of the letters sent in to the County, it seems education may be helpful as to what cultivation licensing entails. Those who want to exclude cannabis farms in this area are acting on a lot of misinformation. And its clear a number of people who live on or near the 200+ parcels in question wrote in to say no, they oppose this idea, they do not want a change of status on their property. Nor do they feel the farms in questions are a problem.

The inclusion & exclusion zones as outlined in Mendocino County cannabis cultivation ordinance are a clear holdover from prohibition. Why now? These neighbors had a chance to implement a sunset provision in 2017 when the ordinance was being formulated, other communities worked to choose opt-in or opt out zones. And even then, it seemed wrong to tell people what they can or can't do. We felt the same way when folks were put out business in other areas of the County. Especially, when the parties in question have all the proper permits & licenses.

If the real problem is guerilla grows, this is not even a code enforcement, planning policy or land management issue. The real question is why the Sheriff Department is not doing more to curb illegal activities. In this case, it is important to create reasonable accommodations for farms who have been in the process all along.

Thank you for you consideration,
Laura & Marty Clein,
Mendocino County residents &
permitted & licensed cannabis cultivators