

Attachment O Addendum 2

Public Comment Received

May 10 & May 11, 2021

**From:** [Angela Johnson](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 10:49:42 AM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors,

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

Angela Johnson

Sent from my iPhone

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Bill Krawetz](#)  
**To:** [Susan Gorin](#); [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [David Rabbitt](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Chris Coursey](#); [Sean Hamlin](#); [district4](#); [James Gore](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Lynda Hopkins](#); [Leo Chyi](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Cc:** [billkrawetz@comcast.net](mailto:billkrawetz@comcast.net)  
**Subject:** Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Cannabis Land Use Ordinance and General Plan Amendments, and Draft Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 10:31:58 AM

---

**EXTERNAL**

May 10 2021

To: Sonoma County Board of Supervisors:

[Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org)  
[Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org)  
[David.Rabbitt@sonoma-county.org](mailto:David.Rabbitt@sonoma-county.org)  
[Andrea.Krout@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Andrea.Krout@sonoma-county.org)  
[district3@sonoma-county.org](mailto:district3@sonoma-county.org)  
[Chris.Coursey@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Chris.Coursey@sonoma-county.org)  
[Sean.Hamlin@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Sean.Hamlin@sonoma-county.org)  
[district4@sonoma-county.org](mailto:district4@sonoma-county.org)  
[James.Gore@sonoma-county.org](mailto:James.Gore@sonoma-county.org)  
[jchamber@sonoma-county.org](mailto:jchamber@sonoma-county.org)  
[district5@sonoma-county.org](mailto:district5@sonoma-county.org)  
[Lynda.Hopkins@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Lynda.Hopkins@sonoma-county.org)  
[Leo.Chyi@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Leo.Chyi@sonoma-county.org)  
[cannabis@sonoma-county.org](mailto:cannabis@sonoma-county.org)

Re: Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Cannabis Land Use Ordinance and General Plan Amendments, and Draft Ordinance

On behalf of Gold Ridge Neighborhood Group, I am providing observations, concerns and recommendations to the proposed revisions to the Cannabis Land Use Ordinance, General Plan Amendment and Mitigated Negative Declaration.

Phase 2 Process:

Page 5 of the "Planning Commission Staff Report 3/18/2021" correctly states a major goal of Phase 2 was to address neighborhood compatibility concerns. What is INCORRECTLY inferred to is this was done through an extensive broad reaching public outreach process. For 2 years, there has been no such outreach! The Cannabis Advisory Group meetings which were dominated by Industry never reached out to the general public or proactively engaged the public. To say these CAG meetings somehow fulfilled the BOS requirement for public input is patently wrong. Now without any public input (maybe only from the industry?), the County has issued a draft, establishing a baseline we are to start from. Unfortunately this starting point is biased pro-grower document, in

which the public is disadvantaged and is being discriminated against before even the first discussions are held.

Questions/Recommendations:

To prove my point, I ask the Board of Supervisors point out the changes (or maybe just one change), that improves protection to the general public and surround neighborhood folks? What provisions have been added into this amendment to address neighborhood concerns and protect us?

1. Is it making most permits ministerial, so the public has no voice? Follow the proper best practice approach: Fix the draft to eliminate ministerial permits for cannabis, go back and fix the conditional use permit processes (CUP) and ensure project-specific environmental review.
2. Is it by proposing a Negative Declaration of Environmental Impacts for an industry which your own documents recognize will operate 24/7, 365 days a year that require 24/7 security, lighting and fencing, waste management, water run-off requirement, water use/ground water use constraints, dust control, odor control, energy use and noise limits? For a product that Andrew Smith estimates at \$4-5m value per acre compared to the next highest valued crop, grapes at \$11K per acre. So is the County saying a crop worth 500 times more than anything else, wouldn't have a major impact on our way of life? On up to 65,000 acres in Sonoma County and within short distances of residential homes? A Negative Declaration is inappropriate for this industry and I request a complete CEQA review be done.
3. Is it by providing less protection to my family at home than in public? The BOS understood the problems and specifically amendment the setback requirements to 1000 feet for Schools, Parks, and Bikeways. Yet your draft retains the 100 foot setback from personal residences. So your proposal provides my children and spouse more protection at places where they will only be for a few hours' than their home where they spend the majority of their time and are more subjected to the impacts? This difference makes no sense. The BOS saw the wisdom to increase the setbacks to 1,000ft, the same setbacks are appropriate for the home. Should be 1,000 ft. everywhere.
4. Is it by leaving the parcel size to 10 acre minimums that the BOS knew in 2019 when they adopted such, still didn't address many situations on the ground? Increasing the minimum to 20 acres provides a reasonable chance for a grower to set up operations far enough away from a neighbor, situated properly on the parcel to have minimal impacts on neighbors.
  - a. For any parcel that borders RR or AR, in water zones 3 or 4, or within 500 feet of a stream, would need a detailed review before allowing any cannabis.
5. Is it by not specifically requiring the same kind of Air Quality, Odor, Noise controls required for indoor operations for outdoor grows also? Where

neighbors will more likely be impacted? Your document acknowledges odor should not leave the property line for indoor grows. The same principles need to be carried forward for outdoor grows.

6. Is it by only requiring the payment of a penalty fee when the operator doesn't comply with the law? Considering the profitability of cannabis, a financial fine will not deter a grower from continuing operations even when out of compliance. The financial penalties proposed need to be imposed in conjunction with a stop operating order. There should be a probationary period (1- 5 years) where they can't apply for a permit to grow again. There needs to be enough of a penalty to assure compliance.
7. Home Values: Reporting on the effects of pot legalization on Colorado home prices, Realtor.com said, "homes within a half-mile of a marijuana business often have lower property value than homes in the same county that are farther out" and that "neighborhoods with grow houses are the least desirable, with an 8.4 percent price discount." What are the proposed regulations doing to protect my property value against this?

Finally, now after a couple years of no action, there is pressure and urgency to push this amendment through (and without the upfront public outreach process promised). As any business person negotiating a deal or the average citizen buying a car knows, there is a salesman on the other side trying to convince you if you don't sign immediately, it's the end of the world and you'll lose out on the best deal. When things are rushed, errors happen, important provisions are overlooked and unexpected consequences occur. Let's take the time to get this right!

Thank you  
Bill Krawetz  
Gold Ridge Neighborhood Group.

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Brenda McConathy](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#); [Susan Gorin](#); [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [David Rabbitt](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Chris Coursey](#); [Sean Hamlin](#); [district4](#); [James Gore](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Lynda Hopkins](#); [Leo Chyi](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Cannabis Ordinance Amendments  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 10:25:19 AM

---

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County. I have read the letters in the newspapers along with the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I sat in on the Planning commission meeting. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting of these revisions. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. As an ecologist, I find it appealing that the County would seek to illegally circumvent CEQA. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

We only need look to our neighboring counties, current drought situation, and long-time vineyard owners to know that the amount of water in most areas of Sonoma County cannot support these large grows. We have watched more and more pumps and bladder tanks be added to the water well on Wellsprings Road to support the cannabis grow there. Sunday afternoons are now their target practice time making it unpleasant to be on our patio for dinner. The amount of trees we have watched them cut down over the past two years is appalling especially knowing the county did not want us to remove any trees when building our house 3 years ago. The County needs to do the studies and follow the CEQA process

Brenda McConathy

Bennett Valley Resident

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed new cannabis ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 2:49:18 PM

---

**From:** Carol Benfell <123carolb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 10, 2021 2:42 PM  
**To:** Arielle Kubu-Jones <Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org>; andrea.kraout@sonoma-county.org; district3 <district3@sonoma-county.org>; Jenny Chamberlain <jchamber@sonoma-county.org>; district5 <district5@sonoma-county.org>  
**Subject:** Proposed new cannabis ordinance

## EXTERNAL

Honorable County Supervisors:

I just wanted you to know that contrary to the documents arguing for the proposed cannabis ordinance, people will NOT be "whizzing by" on trails now designated as parks.

People walk there, bring their children or their dogs. Old people come and sit on the benches. Neighbors meet each and talk.

You will destroy a way of life and the pleasure of thousands of people if you remove the 1000-foot setback requirement for these trails. The odor from cannabis grows and the ugly security arrangements will make the trails useless to most people who currently use them.

I cannot believe that the number of pot plants that can be grown in a 1000-foot strip along a trail is an amount that will make or break a cannabis grower. If it is, he shouldn't be growing there anyway, but seek a larger parcel.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Carol Benfell  
220 S. Edison St.  
Graton CA 95444  
707 829 8801

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [China Dusk](#)  
**To:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 6:33:08 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been overly influenced by the cannabis industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time continue to allow residents their rights to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

***China Dusk***

***Steven Tierra***

***Graton, CA***

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.



**From:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Minimize cannabis effects on Sonoma County citizens.  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 8:53:38 AM

---

**From:** Debbie Schneider <geodeb@sonic.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 9, 2021 3:10 PM  
**To:** Arielle Kubu-Jones <Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org>  
**Subject:** Minimize cannabis effects on Sonoma County citizens.

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Arielle,

**I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County and I think that the County has been far too influenced by the cannabis industry in drafting this policy.**

**I believe that the “Mitigated Declaration” is fatally flawed and unfixable. Things like Cannabis growth that interferes with people’s outdoor living should be eliminated. It is time to return to the Board’s earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2 to comply with CEQA requirements and give residents a right to safely and peacefully enjoy the properties they have trustfully rented or purchased in this county you are charged with protecting.**

Sincerely,

**Debra B. Schneider, Ph.D**  
**Bennett Valley**  
**Santa Rosa CA**

DBS

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
**Warning:** If you don’t know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Erin Holm](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#); [Susan Gorin](#); [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [David Rabbitt](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Chris Coursey](#); [Sean Hamlin](#); [district4](#); [James Gore](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Lynda Hopkins](#); [Leo Chyi](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinances in Sonoma County  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 9:11:28 AM

---

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors,

*I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups.*

*I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the cannabis industry in drafting this policy. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable.*

*It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and, at the same time, give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties. Not to mention, our county has been drastically influenced by a lack of winter rains for many years now, and with viticulture already using up so many of the water resources in our county, I fear that allowing so many large scale, commercial cannabis farms to continue to develop in all areas of the county is going to even more so reduce the available water supplies. REAL farmers, and ranchers, dairymen and women need that water to support their FEDERALLY legal farms and ranches. not to mention being able to have water supplies available to save our county during the rapidly approaching fire season.*

*Outside of the environmental aspect of these ordinances, equally important is the useability of private homeowners personal property. The smell of growing cannabis is extremely offensive to the nose, commercial farms always come along with attached hazards and dangers to personal safety, not to mention increased and reckless traffic throughout all areas around the grow site. I, myself, live in the lovely small rural town of Bloomfield where a large scale "Bud and Breakfast" is trying to start operating. We have many small children, pets, livestock and a thriving community that would absolutely be devastated and destroyed, A: if the project is allowed to move forward, and B: if the county ordinances were not revised to suit community appropriateness. Which, in turn, realistically, **Cannabis grows do not belong in rural/residential areas, and/or on zoned grazing land for livestock.** With constant, and growing concerns for the future of small town life, AND agriculture county wide, please. Take the time to write the ordinances to save our homes, our lives, and our natural resources, from rapid decline due to cannabis.*

*Please do not approve this proposed cannabis ordinance as written.*

*Erin A. Holm  
Owner/ Operator Diamond H Ranch and Farm  
Sebastopol/ Bloomfield, California*

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 3:42:18 PM

---

-----Original Message-----

From: Edie Otis <netreal@comcast.net>  
Sent: Monday, May 10, 2021 3:41 PM  
To: Arielle Kubu-Jones <Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org>; district5 <district5@sonoma-county.org>  
Cc: Andrea Krout <Andrea.Krout@sonoma-county.org>; district3 <district3@sonoma-county.org>; Jenny Chamberlain <jchamber@sonoma-county.org>  
Subject: Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21

EXTERNAL

To Whom it May Concern,

If the Board of Supervisors approve the draft cannabis ordinance, some permits will be ministerial with no notice given to the neighbors and subsequently no protections nor notice to impacted neighbors. The presumption is that cannabis operations are no different than other crops, such as orchards or vineyards, which clearly is not the case.

Real Estate sellers will be unable to disclose if an application is pending and buyers could be main serious financial decisions without full knowledge of what they are about to experience as neighbors to a cannabis farm. The odor, water consumption, security lights and fences, not to mention crime, will impact our scenic and bucolic Sonoma County. Additionally, as Real Estate Professional and Investor in real estate for over 30 years, this will severely impact property values.

I have represented many families over the years who have wanted to avoid being next to a toxic pesticide using vineyard. That is impossible to guarantee, but at least it is somewhat feasible with a little homework. With the current plan for Cannabis there is no chance to keep families safe.

It would benefit the county if our supervisors followed Napa's decision to disallow commercial production. There is no shortage of cannabis! Please keep our county "safe" and keep it as a world class destination for the agricultural diversity it already supports.

Edie Otis  
Sebastopol, CA

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

Warning: If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, do not click any web links, attachments, and never give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [BOS](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Issue: Marijuana  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 3:30:08 PM

---

-----Original Message-----

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org <no-reply@sonoma-county.org>  
Sent: Monday, May 10, 2021 2:23 PM  
To: BOS <BOS@sonoma-county.org>  
Subject: Issue: Marijuana

Sent To: County of Sonoma  
Topic: Issue  
Subject: Marijuana

Message: As many concerned residents plead with the county to strictly limit further growth of pot farms and drug sales, it is alarming that the BOS continues to fully support the drug dealers and continues to ignore the citizens. People's investments in their homes and farms and in the safety of their communities matter. The case for compromising as much as 64,000 acres has just not been sufficiently justified as being in the best, long term interests of the county. It's very clear that the 'industry' is the favored customer. Where is the water going to come from? Pot uses a lot of water. During a drought, whose water gets turned off? Many are concerned with contamination of county wells from pot plants and from processing chemicals and fertilizers which threaten the quality of Sonoma's organic farming. There are, of course, many other negatives and these have been well articulated by many. I am most concerned that the BOS have basically looked past these concerns to focus on promises of tax revenues - a lure that basically put the county in the drug business without public consent and now, with swift and abbreviated ministerial review. Sonoma county's BOS has traded too much for too little in order to be in the drug business. The hardships so many in the county have endured due to COVID, fires - far to many of these and again threatening this year, P&G rolling outages, smoke from wildfires elsewhere driving us out of our homes and now Pot - the BOS visits this plague of drugs, rural destruction, and potential crime. It's cruel and not very forward looking or responsible.

Sender's Name: Erich  
Sender's Address:  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

**From:** [chauncy irvine](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#); [Susan Gorin](#); [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [David Rabbitt](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Chris Coursey](#); [Sean Hamlin](#); [district4](#); [James Gore](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Lynda Hopkins](#); [Leo Chyi](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis, Sonoma County  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 9:37:12 AM

---

## EXTERNAL

*Dear Supervisors,*

*I have been following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County and have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups.*

*I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the cannabis industry in drafting this policy. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable.*

*It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and, at the same time, give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.*

*Please do not approve this proposed cannabis ordinance as written.*

*Florence C. Irvine*

*Santa Rosa*

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [George Traverso](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** EIR for Phase 2  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 5:39:20 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors:

We unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. We have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

Respectfully,

George and Sandra Traverso

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cannabis  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 3:35:50 PM

---

**From:** Grant Barnes <gabarnes3@att.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 10, 2021 3:31 PM  
**To:** Arielle Kubu-Jones <Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org>  
**Subject:** Cannabis

## EXTERNAL

**Irina and Grant Barnes**  
**2193 Bloomfield Road**  
**Sebastopol, CA 95472**

Board of Supervisors  
Sonoma County May 10, 2021

My wife and I are retirees living on a one-acre site just outside Sebastopol, in a mixed agricultural-residential zone. Much has changed since we came here more than twenty years ago. Orchards have been removed, vineyards planted, cannabis has been legalized, wildfires have become endemic, and, perhaps most importantly, we've had twenty years of drought. The dimensions of that drought have reached a historically dangerous level. As a consequence, I believe that all decisions about agriculture have become first and foremost a question of water use.

I understand the reasons that the Board decided several years ago to accommodate cannabis growing. The County has for years, ever since the passage of Prop 13, been strapped for cash. No crop has a larger potential for generating substantial income-per-acre; no crop is likely to yield nearly so much tax income for local governments. However, as described above, things have changed. Marijuana-growing is water-intensive.

Reduced to two sentences, my message is: *The highest priority for all decisions affecting land use in Sonoma County must be the availability of water in the aquifer and other sources, such as the Russian River. To do otherwise could be the gravest mistake ever made by a public body in the North Bay.*

Sincerely yours,

Irina Barnes  
Grant Barnes

**THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.**  
**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.



**From:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#) on behalf of [Susan Gorin](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 4:15:16 PM

---

**From:** Jo/Ron Schultz <schultz133@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 10, 2021 3:59 PM  
**To:** Susan Gorin <Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org>; David.Rabbit@sonoma-county.org; Chris Coursey <Chris.Coursey@sonoma-county.org>; James Gore <James.Gore@sonoma-county.org>; Lynda Hopkins <Lynda.Hopkins@sonoma-county.org>  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance

**EXTERNAL**

*Dear Supervisor,*

*I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups.*

*I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the cannabis industry in drafting this policy.*

*Please do not approve this proposed cannabis ordinance as written.*

*Jo and Ron Schultz  
133 Alice Street  
Santa Rosa, CA 95409*

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** FW: "Grow" Operations in Sonoma County  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 1:41:50 PM

---

---

**From:** John De Groot <[john@degrootassociates.com](mailto:john@degrootassociates.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 10, 2021 11:39 AM  
**To:** Susan Gorin <[Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org)>  
**Subject:** "Grow" Operations in Sonoma County

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisor Gorin:

I own property in Bennett Valley, and have followed the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County. I have also read letters in the newspaper (PD) from various neighborhood groups. I am not happy that the County hasn't reached out more to residents and has been influenced by the industry in writing the ordinance.

Consequently, I have concluded that the Mitigated Declaration is flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time keep residents away from the awful smell of a grow operation. We have a right to health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

Sincerely,

John De Groot  
Santa Rosa, CA 95409

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Jeffery Matthews](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#); [Susan Gorin](#); [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [David Rabbitt](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Chris Coursey](#); [Sean Hamlin](#); [district4](#); [James Gore](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Lynda Hopkins](#); [Leo Chyi](#); [letters@pressdemocrat.com](#); [concerned citizens](#)  
**Subject:** Inadequate Cannabis Grow Buffer Zones  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 3:14:36 PM

---

## EXTERNAL

A 300' buffer zone between cannabis grow and processing sites from rural residential communities is wholly inadequate.

I've listened in on the Commissioners zoom meetings and have never heard any rational or data based argument for this seemingly shoot from the hip buffer metric.

In the event of a fire, either generated from outside of the grow or generated in the drying / processing facility itself, how can we rural residents be expected to collect ourselves, family, pets, important documents, computers, etc. while being exposed to the THC laden smoke, driven by our regular on shore winds that would push smoke directly into our neighborhood. After exposure could I even legally drive for our evacuation?

There must be a minimum 1000' buffer zone from rural residential property lines to allow smoke from such events to rise and diffuse into the atmosphere and allow us time to evacuate and protect our communities.

Jeffery Matthews  
6625 Hillview Street  
Bloomfield (Petaluma) CA 94952-3732

**THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.**

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Janet Waring](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#); [Susan Gorin](#); [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [David Rabbitt](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Chris Coursey](#); [Sean Hamlin](#); [district4](#); [James Gore](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Lynda Hopkins](#); [Leo Chyi](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 10:25:55 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

*Dear Supervisors,*

*I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups.*

*I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the cannabis industry in drafting this policy. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable.*

*It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and, at the same time, give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.*

*Please do not approve this proposed cannabis ordinance as written.*

*Thank you,*

*Janet Waring  
Sebastopol*

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Karen Adelson](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Cc:** [Susan Gorin](#)  
**Subject:** Phase 2 Cannabis Amendments – May 18  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 6:17:16 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

Karen Adelson  
Bennett Valley

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Ky Boyd](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#); [Susan Gorin](#); [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [David Rabbitt](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Chris Coursey](#); [Sean Hamlin](#); [district4](#); [James Gore](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Lynda Hopkins](#); [Leo Chyi](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 1:38:36 AM

---

**EXTERNAL**

*Dear Supervisors,*

*I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups.*

*I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the cannabis industry in drafting this policy. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable.*

*It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and, at the same time, give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.*

*Please do not approve this proposed cannabis ordinance as written.*

*Thank you for your attention to this matter.*

*Best regards.*

*Ky J. Boyd  
Coffey Park, Santa Rosa  
and  
Owner, Rialto Cinemas, Sebastopol*

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [majake3](#)  
**To:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [District3](#); [district5](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 2:21:44 PM

---

EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors,

When you meet on May 18 we urge you to order a project-wide EIR for phase 2 of the cannabis ordinance. This is imperative to protect our natural resources, satisfy CEQU requirements and help mitigate neighborhood compatibility issues.

We also believe that there should be at least a 1,000 foot set back buffer zone and that cannabis should be remote from residential enclaves.

Common sense dictates that during the current drought emergency cannabis permits should be limited or put on hold.

Please plan wisely for our future.

Thank you,

Marianne and Fred Jacobs

11745 Sutton St.

Petaluma, CA (Bloomfield)

Sent from my iPad

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

Warning: If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, do not click any web links, attachments, and never give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Sara Ganeless-Levine](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** cannabis on acres near us (NO)  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 9:38:28 AM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

Considering the drought, it is not a time to rush this decision for high water use agriculture. And the smell would be bad for everyone else but them.

Sara and Chuck Ganeless-Levine

2811 Bardy Rd

Santa Rosa, California 95404

Bennett Ridge

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.



**From:** [Shawn Johnson](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Bennet Valley Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 9:30:29 AM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

Shawn Johnson  
Santa Rosa

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [William Porter](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Phase 2 Cannabis Amendments- May 18th  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 9:35:49 AM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors:

We have been residents of Sonoma County for three years. We are very concerned about the rush to approve the flawed cannabis ordinance without an Environmental Impact Report that will comply with the California Environmental Quality Act. Careful study is required to understand and determine how to deal with the numerous extremely serious issues that have been raised including water use (especially in a declared drought emergency), commercial vehicles on our narrow roads, and the impact on our neighborhoods.

Please listen to your constituents and do the hard work necessary to provide for the quality of life you have been elected to protect.

William Porter

2985 Wild Turkey Run

Santa Rosa, CA 95404

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cannabis in Sonoma County  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 2:34:21 PM

---

-----Original Message-----

From: Warren Watkins <owlwo@sonic.net>

Sent: Monday, May 10, 2021 2:29 PM

To: Chris Coursey <Chris.Coursey@sonoma-county.org>; Lynda Hopkins <Lynda.Hopkins@sonoma-county.org>; James Gore <James.Gore@sonoma-county.org>; Susan Gorin <Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org>; David Rabbitt <David.Rabbitt@sonoma-county.org>

Cc: Sean Hamlin <Sean.Hamlin@sonoma-county.org>; Andrea Krout <Andrea.Krout@sonoma-county.org>;

Arielle Kubu-Jones <Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org>; Jenny Chamberlain <jchamber@sonoma-county.org>; Leo Chyi <Leo.Chyi@sonoma-county.org>; district4 <district4@sonoma-county.org>

Subject: Cannabis in Sonoma County

EXTERNAL

Please do not approve this cannabis ordinance.

Warren Watkins

Healdsburg

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

Warning: If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, do not click any web links, attachments, and never give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Angela Clements](#)  
**To:** [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Keep 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways in the Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 7:17:31 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Hello,

I am a Graton resident. My family and my two young children use the West County trail regularly. I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*" They do not need further clarification or codification.

Best,  
Angela Clements  
Attorney  
3144 Elisa Ann Way  
Sebastopol CA 95472.

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [asil.gokcebay](mailto:asil.gokcebay)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#); [Susan Gorin](#); [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [David Rabbitt](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Chris Coursey](#); [Sean Hamlin](#); [district4](#); [James Gore](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [itstoomuchcannabis@gmail.com](mailto:itstoomuchcannabis@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Transfer of pot growing oversight and permitting to the Ag Commissioner  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 10:53:21 AM

---

## EXTERNAL

I strongly object to the transfer of pot growing oversight and permitting to the Ag Commissioner, thereby rendering it a ministerial over-the-counter permit. Permitting of marijuana cultivation should stay with Permit Sonoma and always require a discretionary use permit with a required noticed hearing. Just because the people of California voted to legalize pot, it does not follow that the people want to promote or aid and abet its cultivation and use. Other than medical purposes, not much good comes from marijuana, it is a drug, and it makes a mockery of no drug campaigns when the County makes it production easy.

Just like other vices, such as smoking, gambling, prostitution, alcohol abuse, etc. the government should not make it "acceptable" or easy by giving governmental imprimatur to it. It is even more ignoble for government to promote it as a tax resource, thereby lower government to the level of a dope dealer.

Aside from its clear direct negative effects on society, the cultivation of marijuana is simply a needless waste of valuable resources: arable land and **water**. It is irrational to allow a needless product that diverts land from its natural state(or semi-natural state such as open grazing land) and from valuable food producing purposes.

The attempt to analogize pot production to wine production is superficial. Just because there is a well established industry with negative consequences, does not mean government should multiply such by promoting more.

Now consider this question- which one of you would advice your children and other dear ones to smoke pot. Wine in contrast, while it can have negative effects when abused, has salutary purposes and is certainly not on a comparable plain to pot whose purpose is to get high. Also, wine production does not cause a putrid stench that cross into neighboring properties

Pot production is environmentally without redeeming value. It is extreme in water consumption. It is generally carried on in unsightly hoop houses with unsightly guard fences. These houses and the fencing are a needless tax on natural resources and result in environmentally unfriendly waste (think the deteriorated plastic and climate warming from its oil based production)

Pot production draws criminal elements. It also, increases DUI incidents. Thus, it burdens law enforcement and our courts, not to mention mayhem and deaths and dispair to victims.

Pot production production presents a bad public image for Sonoma County. I can take no pride in it, in contrast the our food products, such as great cheeses and other quality dairy products, and our fine wines.

I strongly urge you to make pot cultivation subject to stringent oversight, which is best effectuated by a use permit process with required notice to area residents and a required hearing for approval, thereby assuring it is vetted by appointed citizens of the planning commission (with the attendant right to appeal to the board of supervisors). Pot cultivation should not be an over-the-counter ministerial bureaucratic process with no oversight or recourse for adversely effected neighbors (other than a writ of mandate action in superior court). Growing pot should not be treated as a right, but rather as a rare privilege..

For the forgoing reasons, any pot ordinance must at least be subject to an EIR

Please enter this email into the official record for the scheduled May 18, hearing.  
Thank you.

Asil Gokcebay  
411 Pepper Lane  
Petaluma CA 94952

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Susan Gorin](#)  
**To:** [Marcie Woychik](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Cannabis Growth  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 21, 2021 8:48:44 AM

---

**Susan Gorin**

1st District Supervisor  
County of Sonoma

*Be #SonomaSmart – Wash hands, wear masks, keep the distance.  
It's all about community.*

575 Administration Drive, Room 100A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
[www.sonoma-county.org](http://www.sonoma-county.org)  
[susan.gorin@sonoma-county.org](mailto:susan.gorin@sonoma-county.org)  
Direct 707-565-2982  
Cell 707-321-2788



Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrea <[aymcal@gmail.com](mailto:aymcal@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** April 21, 2021 at 8:48:01 AM PDT  
**To:** Susan Gorin <[Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org)>  
**Subject:** **Cannabis Growth**

EXTERNAL

Dear Susan

I am 100% against increasing prod of cannabis growth in Sonoma County.

1. It increases crime
2. We just don't have the water for this crop.
3. It stinks and the smell makes many ppl sick to inhale the scent
4. We don't need to grow it. We have other sources of tax revenue.
5. The industry does not lead to an increase in agricultural jobs
6. The lobbyists like John Boehner just want money.
7. This crop and the grow hoops are a nuisance.
8. The police, sheriff's office cannot begin to handle the complaint calls that originate because of this crop.

Lastly, what plans have the board of supervisors implemented for the homeless problem? You've have had eons to solve this problem. Focus on the immediate

problems before you take on new ones. The wild fire alert system in Sonoma is vastly inadequate once again focus on current problems before starting new ones.

Best  
Andrea McAuley

Sent from Andrea

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

Warning: If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, do not click any web links, attachments, and never give out your user ID or password.



**From:** [Addie Mullennix](#)  
**To:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 10:01:28 AM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors:

I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the cannabis industry in the drafting of the new cannabis ordinance. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide Environmental Impact Report (EIR) before adopting a flawed ordinance. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources (including our ground water), will comply with State CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

Addie Mullennix, Sebastopol

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Allison Pharis](#)  
**To:** [district5](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district3](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 8:50:46 AM

---

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

**Allison Pharis**  
**Sebastopol**

--

**Allison Pharis**  
**707 483 0006**  
2016 Realtor of the Year - Sebastopol Chapter of NorBAR  
Vanguard Properties  
The Barlow in Sebastopol  
6790 McKinley Street, Suite 120  
Sebastopol, California 95472  
License No. 01767431



**At Vanguard Properties we are committed to understanding your individual needs. We promise to provide you with the kind of quality service that will exceed your expectations. Quality is never an accident; it is always the result of sincere effort, intelligent direction and skilled execution.**

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [BARBARA DUNHAM](#)  
**To:** [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Keep 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways in the Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 4:29:09 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors:

I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*" They do not need further clarification or codification.

Sincerely,

Barbara Dunham, Taxpayer  
411 Eleanor Avenue  
Sebastopol

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [barb@paulmathewvineyards.com](mailto:barb@paulmathewvineyards.com)  
**To:** "Arielle"; Andrea Krout; district3; Jenny Chamberlain; district5; Cannabis  
**Subject:** Keep 1000" setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways in the Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 4:54:48 PM

---

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors -

I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*"

I have been following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

Barb Gustafson  
c 707 486 7002  
tr 707 861 9729  
paulmathewvineyards.com  
9060 Graton Road  
Graton, 95444

**THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.**

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Brendan Smith](#)  
**To:** [district5](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Keep 1000" setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways in the Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 9:59:57 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors -

I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*" They do not need further clarification or codification.

We will be keeping track on who is standing up for the rights of the many against the rights of the privileged few and wealthy ag Interests in our area.

Sincerely Brendan Smith and Elizebeth Herron in Sebastopol California

“Whether we and our politicians know it or not, nature is party to all our deals and decisions, and she has more votes, a longer memory and a sterner sense of justice than we do“

Wendell Berry..

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Carol Bokaie](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#); [Susan Gorin](#); [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [David Rabbitt](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Chris Coursey](#); [Sean Hamlin](#); [district4](#); [James Gore](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Lynda Hopkins](#); [Leo Chyi](#)  
**Subject:** Opposition to new cannabis ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 4:33:59 PM

---

## EXTERNAL

**The proposed changes to the cannabis permitting process will be some of the most significant land use changes in Sonoma County in the last 40 years. I am a member of a coalition of neighbors and environmental activists who are trying to preserve what makes Sonoma County so special: our scenic beauty and precious natural resources. Our goal is to limit these cannabis grows to small areas away from residences, not in public view, and not spreading noise or odor. Unfortunately, this is not what has been proposed.**

SPECIFICALLY, we want the County to change the following:

1. Invest in a full Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to determine suitable areas for future grows. The existing SMND is fatally flawed and should be scrapped.
2. Limit permit approvals during a state-declared drought to applicants that grow cannabis only using dry farming techniques.
3. Prohibit trucking of water or recycled wastewater under all circumstances.
4. Ensure that residential wells do not run dry due to cannabis operations.
5. Ban all cannabis cultivation in Community Separators.
6. Increase setbacks from the property line of all residences, schools, childcare facilities and parks to 1,000 feet for outdoor and hoop house cultivation and 300 feet minimum for indoor cultivation.
7. Require cannabis processing in facilities in commercial and industrial zones only.
8. Require fire inspection reports on all hoop houses.
9. Require that no odor will cross the property line for all indoor cultivation and processing.
10. Prohibit cannabis events near homes and in agricultural or resource zones.
11. Enforce code violations within two weeks, maximum, as County enforcement has been spotty at best and lousy at worst for existing permits.
12. Require posting of a \$50,000 mitigation bond upon issuance of each permit.
13. Update cannabis ordinance to comply with the County's tree ordinance and

prevent removal of oak trees.

14. Limit acreage in any 10-mile square zone to prevent over-concentration of any one area.

15. Impose a local residency requirement, where “operators” are defined as owning at least 51% of the applying business.

16. Change the initial permits period to one year, to match the State and test this new policy.

Pushing through a major policy change like this — during a pandemic when so many people are struggling and distracted, during a drought emergency with inadequate water study, without a real environmental review, or listening to affected neighbors — it’s an unnecessary rush to judgment. Slow down, listen to neighbors and the environmental community, and let’s do this the right way.

Carol and Stefan Bokaie, Petaluma

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don’t know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Susan Gorin](#)  
**To:** [Marcie Woychik](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: bennett Valley cannabis  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 5:55:06 AM  
**Attachments:** [Neighborhood Response to Cannabis Ordinance.pdf](#)

---

**Susan Gorin**

1st District Supervisor  
County of Sonoma

*Be #SonomaSmart – Wash hands, wear masks, keep the distance.  
It's all about community.*

575 Administration Drive, Room 100A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
www.sonoma-county.org  
susan.gorin@sonoma-county.org  
Direct 707-565-2982  
Cell 707-321-2788



Begin forwarded message:

**From:** carl hendel <carl@doctorcarl.org>  
**Date:** May 9, 2021 at 4:35:48 PM PDT  
**To:** Susan Gorin <Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org>  
**Subject:** bennett Valley cannabis

EXTERNAL

Hi Susan,  
I think you know how I feel about this issue. I did want to support our neighborhood effort, so I am attaching a letter to this email. I'm guessing you have already seen it. Thanks again for the good job you are doing.  
Carl Hendel

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

Warning: If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, do not click any web links, attachments, and never give out your user ID or password.



May 3, 2021

Sonoma County Board of Supervisors  
575 Administration Drive, Room 100A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

RE: CANNABIS ORDINANCE, PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Dear Supervisors:

**We represent a coalition of neighbors and environmental activists who are trying to preserve what makes Sonoma County so special: our scenic beauty and precious natural resources. The solution is small cannabis grows away from residences, not in public view, and not spreading noise or odor. This is not what is proposed.**

We don't expect to make millions of dollars from this policy change, like growers will, nor are we backed by major investors or powerful political players. We are ordinary homeowners and nature lovers, and we vote, consistently, as do our friends. We are local people who want to make Sonoma County better for everyone.

Members of our coalition have been constructively participating in this issue for years. At your behest, we have volunteered for community planning groups, reached out to staff, participated in public meetings, written letters and made endless suggestions to improve this new policy — only to see most of our recommendations sidelined and ignored. We are frustrated.

The proposed changes to the cannabis permitting process will be some of the most significant land use changes in Sonoma County in the last 40 years and, during a crushing pandemic when families are struggling with immediate needs, almost no one who's not already a grower or adjacent neighbor knows about it. Consider the context:

- Written into the Subsequent Mitigated Negative Declaration (SMND) document, more than 65,000 acres have been identified by the County for potential ministerial permits. The County, however, has *not* identified high fire danger zones, areas without a reliable source of water, lands with endangered species, areas away from neighborhoods, nor important open spaces, among other omissions. While proponents say they don't expect that many acres to actually be approved for grows, no one is offering a smaller number of acres than the 65,753 acres already stated. It's too much cannabis, and we need the County to clearly state a reduction in the acreage available for permits.
- This policy will grow tons of a new water-guzzling product, yet it relies on water survey data from 1980. We face a historically bad drought emergency that will likely extend for multiple years, caused by climate change, never considered in that 1980 data, the 20-year old General Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or the SMND prepared for this policy. This policy change should not move forward without evaluating our current water resources, determining if we have enough supply to meet current and projected demand in normal and drought years.
- Calls from environmental experts and affected community members (and several Planning Commissioners) for a full Environmental Impact Report (EIR) have been ignored too many times to count. The SMND is fatally flawed. We need a full EIR which could allow the County to determine suitable areas for future grows.
- The legal recommendations and Agency input, including the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) recommendations, among others, have not been incorporated, putting our county and taxpayers at risk of another expensive lawsuit.

***This is not how we should run our county. Fortunately, you have the power to course-correct and find true consensus in our community. We offer these recommendations below in that spirit.***

## **1. Recognize the Cumulative Impacts on Neighborhoods and our Environment**

- A. Invest in a full Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to comply with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements, fully analyze and proactively identify locations for cannabis cultivation that are least impactful on residences and agricultural, resource, commercial and industrial zoned parcels, plus set an acreage cap for each groundwater basin.
- B. Suspend issuing and renewing cannabis permits until the EIR is completed, until setbacks between cannabis cultivation and residences and other sensitive uses are increased, and until other flaws in the newly revised Commercial Cannabis ordinances are addressed.
- C. Improve the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) processes as follows: Undertake normal land use planning for cannabis by identifying suitable sites, after the EIR is completed, and clearly identify State permit requirements, including project-specific environmental review and site criteria for proposed projects. Then determine areas suitable for cannabis operations based on evaluation of:
  - i. Water availability and impacts
  - ii. Proximity to residential homes, schools/childcare, parks/recreation, waste stream impacts from excess wastewater and plastic hoop houses
  - iii. Avoiding open spaces, all identified scenic resources, community separators, access roads, wildfire danger and other hazards, endangered or sensitive species, wildlife corridors, riparian corridors, wetlands, and historic/archeological/cultural resource sites
  - iv. Providing accessibility to law enforcement
- D. Satisfy CEQA including for ministerial permits, predetermine suitable locations that remove the need for discretion by County staff on aspects like hydrogeological analysis, biotic assessment, proper access roads, analysis of visual blight, fire risk, etc. Projects resulting in fencing, 24-hour security, nuisance lighting and odor emissions are by definition changing their surrounding environment, and thus triggering CEQA requirements.
- E. In short, align with California state regulations including:
  - i. Prop 64 – as implemented by the California Department of Food and Agriculture
  - ii. Fire safe roads – as implemented by the Board of Forestry
  - iii. CEQA – include CEQA requirements for ministerial permits
  - iv. State Water Resources Control Board and Department of Water Resources requirements for water demand, wastewater disposal and required setbacks for biotic resources, riparian habitats, etc.
- F. Eliminate the practice of issuing multiple ministerial permits to separate growers on the same or adjacent parcels. This is a loophole which leads to cumulative impacts as it amplifies the impacts many times over, obfuscates liability for violations, and does not comply with project-specific CEQA review and cumulative impact review as currently required by State law.
- G. Restore the Health and Safety clause in Chapter 38. Residents have a right to health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.
- H. Limit permitted acreage in any 10-mile square zone to prevent saturation of any one area.
- I. For all ministerial permits, impose a local residency requirement to stop the influx of non-Sonoma County operators, where “operators” are defined as owning at least 51% of the applying business.
- J. Prohibit the use of all single-use plastics in cannabis grow operations, especially for hoop houses.
- K. End the Penalty Relief Program (PRP) after May 31, 2021 and schedule public hearings for all remaining PRPs by September 30, 2021. Enough time has elapsed to give aspiring growers the opportunity to fix their applications and reapply.

## **2. Preserve Water and Open Spaces**

- A. Maintain the Planning Commission’s inserted prohibition on all cannabis cultivation in Sonoma County’s Class 3 and 4 groundwater areas for all ministerial permits, and the County should assess water availability in all water zones as recommended by CDFW, before issuing new conditional use permits.
- B. Prohibit trucking of water or recycled wastewater under all circumstances.
- C. Require all wells to be independently monitored using a micro grid network system. Take precautionary steps to ensure that residential and agricultural wells do not run dry due to cannabis groundwater extraction or catchment systems.
- D. Prohibit all cannabis cultivation in voter-passed Community Separator parcels.
- E. Limit permit approvals during a drought, as declared by the State of California, to applicants that grow cannabis only using dry farming techniques with strict monitoring by the County.
- F. Trees with fruit or nuts have, since the original draft ordinance was published, been exempted from tree protections. Since many (or most) trees have fruits or nuts – including oak trees, whose acorns are both fruits and nuts – this exemption must be removed from proposed Chapter 38, or clarified so that the explicit intent is clear, resulting in continued protections from removal for oak and other trees.

## **3. Increase Setbacks, Neighborhood Compatibility and Odor Controls**

- A. Require 1,000 foot minimum setbacks, from the property line, for outdoor and hoop house cultivation and 300 foot minimum setbacks for indoor cultivation — for all residences, schools, childcare facilities and parks.
- B. Require that no odor will cross the property line for all indoor cultivation and processing.
- C. Create a “Rural Residential Exclusion Zone” option for neighbors to pursue, which would be a simple and speedy (less than six months) mechanism to exclude commercial cannabis production from certain locations based on potential harm to watersheds, including wells serving residential homes, endangered species, neighborhoods with multiple homes, poor access roads and/or other site-specific constraints.
- D. Do not open agricultural or resource lands to cannabis events. Follow CalCannabis’ rules for events in commercial and industrial areas.
- E. For outdoor cultivation, require the applicant to submit the results of air quality modeling that show terpene emission levels under a series of typical weather conditions during the growing and harvesting season at the cultivation location. The modeling shall include all current and proposed sources of terpene emissions within one mile of the cultivation location, and the County may require setbacks deeper than 1,000 feet to mitigate offsite odor from outdoor and hoop house cultivation.

## **4. Centralize Processing of the Product**

- A. Prohibit cannabis processing on-site and in residential, agricultural and resource zones. Instead, focus processing in facilities in commercial and industrial zoned land only.
- B. Prohibit cultivation and processing in areas without fire safe roads, which are narrow and often dead-end roads. This is another reason all processing should be done in our central corridor and not in our rural areas.

- C. State explicitly that cannabis is an agricultural product, not an agricultural crop, and therefore not the same as conventional agriculture and not subject to right-to-farm law.

**5. Enforce with Penalties that Deter Law-breakers**

- A. Change the initial term of permits to match the State License term of one year. This will allow the County to monitor performance and adjust standards on compliance with water, odor control, plastic handling and disposal. All evidenced claims of potential violations will be investigated immediately.
- B. Renew permits with no violations or unresolved complaints for two years, with the caveat that if violations and complaints occur later, the County will revoke the permit, effective immediately.
- C. Require posting of a \$50,000 bond upon issuance of each permit, to be used to remove structures, fencing and trash if the operator abandons a grow site, as well as to pay for enforcement; otherwise, the taxpayers will shoulder these costs.
- D. Do not give cannabis growers notice prior to inspections of their facilities for compliance checks. State law does not require this.
- E. Implement an enforcement team, similar to Humboldt County, consisting of Sheriffs, Fish and Wildlife and Water Resources staff to perform surprise inspections for compliance.
- F. Stop bad actors. Any person performing an illegal or un-permitted activity shall be required to stop all activities immediately, dismantle operations, pay a fine and be put under a two year probation where the violating operator will not be issued any cannabis permits.

In a news article from Sunday, April 18, the Press Democrat reported “cannabis varies in value from \$5.5 million to \$6 million per acre annually, compared to wine grapes that were about a \$11,000 per-acre value in 2019, county Agriculture Commissioner Andrew Smith said.” There’s a lot of money on the table, we understand that.

**But pushing through a major policy like this — during a pandemic when so many people are struggling, without adequate environmental review, during a drought emergency with no adequate evaluation of water availability, or listening to affected neighbors — it’s an unnecessary rush to judgment. Don’t pass this Ordinance just to get it off your agenda, like an ill-advised Chanate sale or an ill-conceived school funding ballot measure, because this will come back to haunt you. Slow down, listen to neighbors and the environmental community, learn from past mistakes, and let’s do this the right way.**

Make the changes we requested above and give neighbors and our environment a better deal. We cannot afford to get this wrong. Thank you.

Sincerely,

***Bridget Beytagh***  
Friends of Graton (FOG)

***Tess and Tom Danaher***  
Barlow Lane Neighbors

***Deborah Eppstein***

***Ron Evenich***  
No Pot on Pepper Lane

***Chris Gralapp***  
Bennett Valley Citizens for  
Safe Development

***Kim Gutzman***  
Barlow Lane Neighbors

***Bill Krawetz***  
Gold Ridge Neighborhood

***Katie Moore***

***Anna Ransome***  
Friends of Graton (FOG)

***Vi Strain***  
Concerned Citizens of  
Bloomfield

***Marsha Vas Dupre and Jack  
Dupre***

***Rachel and Gene Zierdt***  
Coffee Lane Neighbors

CC:

Sonoma County Administrators Office  
Sonoma County Counsel's Office  
Sonoma County Agriculture Commission  
Mayors of Sonoma County Cities  
The Press Democrat  
Petaluma Argus Courier  
Sonoma West Times & News  
Kenwood Press  
Oakmont Times  
North Bay Business Journal  
Sonoma County Gazette  
Sonoma Index-Tribune  
Sonoma Sun  
Greenbelt Alliance  
Sierra Club  
Sonoma County Water Coalition  
Sonoma County Conservation Action  
Preserve Rural Sonoma County  
Bay Area Chapter of the Gospel Coalition  
Interfaith Council of Sonoma County  
League of Women Voters  
North Bay Labor Council  
Sonoma County Vintners Association

**From:** [Cecile Isaacs](#)  
**To:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21: Sonoma County needs an EIR  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 11:31:16 AM

---

Dear Supervisors:

I read the proposed amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups.

After your diligent review of the file, you must agree that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is completely bogus! Please return with a decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. ***Sonoma County needs an EIR***, one which will protect our natural resources, and one that will comply with CEQA requirements.

*Cecile Isaacs, Palmer Creek (Healdsburg)*

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**To:** [Marcie Woychik](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cannabis in our rural areas and CEQA  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:16:43 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

---

**From:** Colleen Mahoney <colleen@mahoney-architects.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 1:45 PM  
**To:** Arielle Kubu-Jones <Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org>; Andrea Krout <Andrea.Krout@sonoma-county.org>; district3 <district3@sonoma-county.org>; Jenny Chamberlain <jchamber@sonoma-county.org>; district5 <district5@sonoma-county.org>  
**Subject:** Cannabis in our rural areas and CEQA

**EXTERNAL**

**Dear Supervisors:**

***I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.***

***At this time of serious drought - it is critical that you look at the high water use of pot in our water scarce rural/ranch properties. It is appropriate that you hear our voices and our concerns about the impacts pot grows have on neighbors.***

***My home is at 2781 Middle Two Rock Road, Petaluma - adjacent to the Drips/Nadale grow that I have been adamantly opposed to. All adjacent property owners are opposed:***

***The Mahoney family, the McClure family, the Kloopping family, The Grosser family, the Talamantis family, the Hyatt family, the Geisser family and on the list goes.***

**Colleen Mahoney**

Colleen Mahoney

Architect  
Six C Street, Petaluma  
707.765.0225  
mobile 415.517.0912  
[www.Mahoney-Architects.com](http://www.Mahoney-Architects.com)



MAHONEYARCHITECTS&INTERIORS

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.



**From:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**To:** [Marcie Woychik](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Phase 2 Cannabis Amendments- May 15th  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 3:47:14 PM

---

Arielle Kubu-Jones  
District Director, Supervisor Gorin  
First District

Sent from my mobile, please excuse typos and formatting

---

**From:** Chuck <pinopinotoo@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 3:26:15 PM  
**To:** arielle.kubu-jones@sonoma-county.org <arielle.kubu-jones@sonoma-county.org>  
**Subject:** Phase 2 Cannabis Amendments- May 15th

**EXTERNAL**

***Dear Supervisors:***

***I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups.***

***I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and un-fixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.***

***The County has no right to allow a business to move into a residential/rural residential setting and allow that business to have a negative affect on our property value. I've got friends who have legal grows in proximity to their homes and it has decreased their home values from 25%-33%.***

***If the County or the grower want's to purchase all of the affected***

***properties at market rate then you can approve whatever you want. To do anything else is criminal. Senior citizens depend on the equity in their homes to carry them through their retirement years. You are taking that away from them. We have worked long and hard to keep our homes and neighborhoods maintained and valuable. You have no right to slash our finances at the behest of a political donor is nothing less than bribery.***

***Chuck Pinnow  
Penngrove***

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

From: Arielle Kubu Jones  
To: [Arielle Kubu Jones](#)  
Subject: FW: Please Vote NO May 18, 2021  
Date: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 8:43:58 AM

From: Diana Barnacle <jumpertheat1@gmail.com>  
Sent: Monday, May 10, 2021 11:21 PM  
To: Susan Gorin <Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org>  
Cc: Arielle Kubu Jones <Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org>  
Subject: Please Vote NO May 18, 2021

EXTERNAL

The headline says it all. That headline requires a unanimous NO vote from our Supervisors on May 18, 2021!

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
Warning: If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
do not click any web links, attachments, and never give out your user ID or password.



> We should NOT be discussing, let alone considering making it easier to get a commercial cannabis grow permit when we are heading into a drought. Totally irresponsible!  
> Even our Governor recognizes "we have a problem Houston".  
> Cannabis uses 6 times more water than grapes. Yes, 6 times more. Over 6 million gallons per acre, one acre grow. We should be shutting down all cannabis permits at this time. Our water resource is paramount to life, our lives, pet is not. It's a revenue that ravages our environment and rapidly depletes our water resource. Smells up our county and devalues our property. Not to mention our safety.  
> Napa and Marin County Supervisors had it right. Ban commercial grows. They knew their people didn't want that product grown adjacent them. But Sonoma County's Supervisors, they saw dollar bills over environmental impacts, our hillside scenery, our safety and our quality of life.  
> Try and get any information off the internet on BDED (Deep East Oakland) these days. Nothing there. They have the pending permits on Pepper Rd in Petaluma. Asad I'm sure they are doing all they can to get this amendment approved. Especially the choosing language since they have three adjoining parcels.  
> All cannabis grow permits should be required to be renewed yearly. This alone protects our environment from putting revenue before lives.  
> We are in a drought. NO grow permits should be issued until our water resource in Sonoma County, not just one or two areas, but the entire county must have enough water to sustain its people comfortably.  
> People before pet product! At least table all commercial cannabis grow discussions and permits until we are out of the drought. That would be doing your job. That would be doing the right thing for ALL Sonoma County residents and our environment.  
> Please Vote NO!  
> Thank you.  
> Diana Barnacle  
> Another Pepper Road and Sonoma County cannabis victim  
>  
> Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Diane Martin](#)  
**To:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Keep 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways in the Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 4:22:10 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors -

I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*" They do not need further clarification or codification.

Regards,  
Diane K. Martin  
Graton, CA

~~~~~  
Diane K. Martin  
[dianekmartin@gmail.com](mailto:dianekmartin@gmail.com)  
<https://dianekmartin.com/>  
415.710.8580 cell  
707.861.9766 home

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Don Pedrazzini](#)  
**Subject:** Pot Proposal  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 7:36:54 PM  
**Attachments:** [Pot proposal III.pdf](#)

---

**EXTERNAL**

Please see attached file.

We are pressing hard on this issue, bad things in Bennett Valley will be the result of a YES vote on this proposal, we an NOT let that happen.

Don

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

May 11, 2021

To: Board of Supervisors  
Subject: Marijuana Proposal

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Have any of you at the Board of Supervisors or the Planning Commission explained why you are so pro cannabis cultivation? I think this is a question that begs answering. Do any of you have special interests that involve yourselves, relatives, or friends? Would you be so willing to support 600 acres in Bennett Valley if you lived here? When a vote came up to authorize housing the homeless on Highway 12, Supervisor Gorin is the only supervisor who voted against it. It is right across from Oakmont where she lives. None of the people voting on this live in Bennett Valley.

Marijuana cultivation emits an unmistakable noxious odor. Sonoma County has enjoyed a very robust tourist trade for all those interested in the beauty of our area and the wine trade and this would certainly be a detractor. Becoming a major marijuana hub would in so many ways adversely impact our region, and it attracts an unsavory element of society that brings with it an increase in crime wherever it is grown. Is it tax revenue you are after? The cost to manage this increase in crime and the negative impact to the tourist trade as well as the reduction in property values due to their proximity to marijuana grows would outweigh any gain.

Our narrow road already has a traffic issue with far too many accidents, and the volume of traffic would increase dramatically.

The marijuana crop requires 6 times more water than grape vines. Governor Newsom just declared a state of emergency due to a water shortage for one third of the state, including Sonoma. How does approval of the proposal that allows 600 acres of this crop, mesh with that declaration?

Isn't your job to support the betterment of our neighborhood, community and county for the good of all? What good things will come of making our county the top marijuana growers in California? It certainly will not enhance the tourist draw, property values, beauty of the region or overall health and wellbeing of the inhabitants. What is your underlying agenda that would have you even consider such a proposal?

Respectfully yours,

Cynthia and Don Pedrazzini  
2945 Wild Turkey Run  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404  
707-568-5852

**From:** [Dominique Pfahl](#)  
**To:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance Comments  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 2:58:39 PM

---

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*" They do not need further clarification or codification.

Dominique Pfahl  
Graton

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Susan Gorin](#)  
**To:** [Marcie Woychik](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Minimize Cannabis effects on Sonoma County Citizens  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 5:57:09 AM

---

**Susan Gorin**

1st District Supervisor  
County of Sonoma

*Be #SonomaSmart – Wash hands, wear masks, keep the distance.  
It's all about community.*

575 Administration Drive, Room 100A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
[www.sonoma-county.org](http://www.sonoma-county.org)  
[susan.gorin@sonoma-county.org](mailto:susan.gorin@sonoma-county.org)  
Direct 707-565-2982  
Cell 707-321-2788



Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Debbie Schneider <[geodebb@sonic.net](mailto:geodebb@sonic.net)>  
**Date:** May 9, 2021 at 2:58:10 PM PDT  
**To:** Susan Gorin <[Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org)>  
**Subject:** Minimize Cannabis effects on Sonoma County Citizens

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisor Gorin,  
I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County and I think that the County has been far too influenced by the cannabis industry in drafting this policy.

I believe that the “Mitigated Declaration” is fatally flawed and unfixable. Things like Cannabis growth that interferes with people’s outdoor living should be eliminated.  
It is time to return to the Board’s earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2 to comply with CEQA requirements and give residents a right to safely and peacefully enjoy the properties they have trustfully rented or



**purchased in this county you are charged with protecting.**

**Sincerely,**

**Debra B. Schneider, Ph.D**  
**Bennett Valley**  
**Santa Rosa CA**

DBS

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Dee Swanhuysen](#)  
**To:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 9:31:21 AM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

***Dee Swanhuysen***  
***1800 Jonive Rd***  
***Sebastopol, CA 95472***

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Don Watanabe](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Keep 1000 ft cannabis setback  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 5:48:57 PM

---

## EXTERNAL

We have been notified by Supervisor Lynda Hopkins that the 1000' setbacks from cannabis operations to **the West County and Joe Rodota Trails are threatened because of a County error in recording the clarification of the 12/11/18 Board of Supervisors meeting (when the West County Trail was recognized as a park.)**

We are researching the history and accuracy of this, but there is little time to inform concerned trail users that all of our work for the past few years may come to nothing if the Supervisors do not maintain the setbacks to these trails.

So, without further elaboration, **we urge you to make this action to protect trail users from the impacts of commercial cannabis** such as odor, noise, crime potential and industrial blight (screened fencing, cameras, drones, guard dogs and other new and ugly security features that are incompatible with parks.)

Sincerely,

Don Watanabe  
District 5

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Elizabeth Fritzing](#)  
**To:** [ariellekubu-jones@sonoma-county.org](mailto:ariellekubu-jones@sonoma-county.org); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Keep 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways in the Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 5:53:23 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors:

I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*" They do not need further clarification or codification.

Sincerely,  
Elizabeth Fritzing, Graton

**Elizabeth Fritzing**  
*Attorney*



**Berry & Fritzing, P.C.**  
3550 Round Barn Blvd., Ste. 312  
Santa Rosa, California 95403  
Office (707) 800-0550  
Direct (707) 800-0553  
[elizabeth@berryfritzlaw.com](mailto:elizabeth@berryfritzlaw.com)

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Valorie Dallas](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#); [Susan Gorin](#); [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [David Rabbitt](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Chris Coursey](#); [Sean Hamlin](#); [district4](#); [James Gore](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Lynda Hopkins](#); [Leo Chyi](#); [concerned citizens](#)  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 4:24:06 PM

---

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors:

I have always believed in government being “we the people.” Participating in the public comment of Part 2 of the cannabis ordinance has made me feel that I am not part of the “we.” I assumed the goal of addressing neighborhood compatibility in Part 2 would be to set guidelines that take into account the impact on neighborhoods and the compatibility for grows located near residences. It seems to me that this has not been the case. I hope I am incorrect and that you will act in a way that changes my view.

Have you ever talked to a county resident who likes the idea having a cannabis grow next to them? I haven’t. But, I have talked to many residents who are fine having a farm or dairy next to them. Maybe a study should be conducted to find out why this is the case, and why cannabis is different, and then those issues could be addressed.

This ordinance was supposed to support local growers. How many of the proposed grows are local? Another study, possibly? I know our grow in Bloomfield is an LLC from San Francisco who has never lived in our county (and might not ever, in the future).

Why would a cannabis processing plant be put right next to a residential neighborhood? Processing plants belong in industrial and commercial areas, where there is plenty of support via proper roads, access, and police and fire proximity, rather than being allowed in rural communities with one-lane roads and neighbors within 300 feet from the 24/7 commercial activity. Another study/CEQA/EIR?

Whoever thought a setback that begins on a resident’s property and not at property fence lines would be neighborhood-compatible? Wouldn’t a 1000-foot setback be the right amount, for residents to feel like they could maintain their way of life? Possibly another study?

How much water does it take to grow cannabis? How much water can Sonoma County spare during this drought, or future droughts? Should there be meters on the water used by new or commercial installations? Again, this needs to be studied.

Sonoma County must do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2 which is in compliance with CEQA regulations. As hard as it is, please repeal, redesign, start over, gather data, do studies, and do not pass this ordinance the way it is presently written.

There is too much at stake.

Regards,  
Eric Fuge  
Bloomfield, CA

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**To:** [Marcie Woychik](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:18:01 PM

---

**From:** Ellen Rilla-Laherty <erilla@me.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:18 PM  
**To:** Arielle Kubu-Jones <Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org>  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

*Ellie Rilla*

*Sebastopol*

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**To:** [Marcie Woychik](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:16:32 PM

---

**From:** Emily Allen <ekallen79@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 1:06 PM  
**To:** Arielle Kubu-Jones <Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org>  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

***Emily Stewart***

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.



**From:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**To:** [Marcie Woychik](#)  
**Subject:** FW: cannabis ord. BOS 5/18/  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:22:00 PM

---

**From:** Ellen Stillman <ellenstillman@comcast.net>

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:22 PM

**To:** Arielle Kubu-Jones <Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org>; Andrea Krout <Andrea.Krout@sonoma-county.org>; district3 <district3@sonoma-county.org>; Jenny Chamberlain <jchamber@sonoma-county.org>; district5 <district5@sonoma-county.org>

**Subject:** cannabis ord. BOS 5/18/

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties .  
Ellen Stillman, Sebastopol

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Frear Stephen Schmid](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#); [Susan Gorin](#); [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [David Rabbitt](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Chris Coursey](#); [Sean Hamlin](#); [district4](#); [James Gore](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#)  
**Cc:** [itstoomuchcannabis@gmail.com](mailto:itstoomuchcannabis@gmail.com)  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 10:13:38 AM

---

## EXTERNAL

I strongly object to the transfer of pot growing oversight and permitting to the Ag Commissioner, thereby rendering it a ministerial over-the-counter permit. Permitting of marijuana cultivation should stay with Permit Sonoma and **always** require a **discretionary** use permit with a **required** noticed **hearing**. Just because the people of California voted to legalize pot, it does not follow that the people want to promote or aid and abet its cultivation and use. Other than medical purposes, not much good comes from marijuana, it is a drug, and it makes a mockery of no drug campaigns when the County makes it production easy. Just like other vices, such as smoking, gambling, prostitution, alcohol abuse, etc. the government should not make it "acceptable" or easy by giving governmental imprimatur to it. It is even more ignoble for government to promote it as a tax resource, thereby lower government to the level of a dope dealer.

Aside from its clear direct negative effects on society, the cultivation of marijuana is simply a needless waste of valuable resources: arable land and water. It is irrational to allow a needless product that diverts land from its natural state(or semi-natural state such as open grazing land) and from valuable food producing purposes.

The attempt to analogize pot production to wine production is superficial. Just because there is a well established industry with negative consequences, does not mean government should multiply such by promoting more. Now consider this question- which one of you would advice your children and other dear ones to smoke pot. Wine in contrast, while it can have negative effects when abused, has salutary purposes and is certainly not on a comparable plain to pot whose purpose is to get high. Also, wine production does not cause a putrid stench that cross into neighboring properties

Pot production is environmentally without redeeming value. It is extreme in water consumption. It is generally carried on in unsightly hoop houses with unsightly guard fences. These houses and the fencing are a needless tax on natural resources and result in environmentally unfriendly waste (think the deteriorated plastic and climate warming from its oil based production)

Pot production draws criminal elements. It also, increases DUI incidents. Thus, it burdens law enforcement and our courts, not to mention mayhem and deaths and despair to victims.

Pot production presents a bad public image for Sonoma County. I can take

no pride in it, in contrast the our food products, such as great cheeses and other quality dairy products, and our fine wines.

So in sum, I strongly urge you to make pot cultivation subject to stringent oversight, which is best effectuated by a use permit process with required notice to area residents and a required hearing for approval, thereby assuring it is vetted by appointed citizens of the planning commission (with the attendant right to appeal to the board of supervisors). Pot cultivation should not be an over-the-counter ministerial bureaucratic process with no oversight or recourse for adversely effected neighbors (other than a writ of mandate action in superior court). Growing pot should not be treated as a right, but rather as a rare privilege..

For the forgoing reasons, any pot ordinance must at least be subject to an EIR

Please enter this email into the official record for the scheduled May 18, hearing.  
Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Frear Stephen Schmid  
7585 Valley Ford Road  
Petaluma, CA 94952  
Tel: 415-788-5957  
e-mail: [frearschmid@aol.com](mailto:frearschmid@aol.com)

+++++

This e-mail and any attachments thereto is intended only for use by the addressee(s) named herein and may contain legally privileged and/or confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient of this e-mail, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this e-mail, and any attachments thereto, is strictly prohibited. If you receive this e-mail in error please notify us immediately either by return e-mail or by telephone at 415-788-5957 and permanently delete the original, any copy of any e-mail, and any printout thereof.

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Katy Mangan](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#); [Susan Gorin](#)  
**Cc:** [George Mangan](#)  
**Subject:** PHASE 2 CANNABIS AMENDMENTS - MAY 18  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 5:52:52 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors,

We have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. We are unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. We have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources (especially now that we are in a prolonged period of drought), will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

Respectfully,

George and Katy Mangan  
Bennett Valley  
2870 Rollo Road  
Santa Rosa CA 95404

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Hollynn](#)  
**To:** "[Arielle](#)"; [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Don't pollute our parks, please!  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 3:36:24 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

**Dear Supervisors:**

**As a person with a disability, having access to the West County Trails, especially the Joe Rodota Trail that travels through Graton, is especially important to me. This is my only access to the outdoors due to difficulties in accessing other park facilities. Please safeguard, for everyone, the ability to access clean air in the outdoor environment. I experience great stress when breathing even small amounts of cannabis, and I am just one of many. Please do not allow the pollution of our county trails.**

**I been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.**

**I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*" They do not need further clarification or codification.**

**Thank you for your time and consideration.**

**Hollynn D'Lil**  
**Graton, CA 955444**

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Jon & Katherine](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#); [Susan Gorin](#); [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [David Rabbitt](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Chris Coursey](#); [Sean Hamlin](#); [district4](#); [James Gore](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Lynda Hopkins](#); [leo.Chi@sonoma-county.org](mailto:leo.Chi@sonoma-county.org)  
**Cc:** [Jon & Katherine Little](#)  
**Subject:** Subsequent Mitigated Declaration - Cannabis / Drought Concerns  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 4:52:13 PM

---

## EXTERNAL

Supervisors:

My Wife and I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups.

I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the cannabis industry in drafting this policy. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. I fully understand under Covid restrictions face to face meetings weren't allowed. Our community in Bloomfield may be challenged with water issues too. We are 100% well water with each property. If we allow over an acre ft of water for cannabis what does that leave our residents? Will there be a burden on each of us?

It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and, at the same time, give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties .

Please do not approve this proposed cannabis ordinance as written.

Sincerely,  
Jon & Kathy Little  
6452 Bloomfield Rd  
Bloomfield Ca 94952

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Jo/Ron Schultz](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 8:03:34 AM

---

**EXTERNAL**

*I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups.*

*I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the cannabis industry in drafting this policy.*

*Please do not approve this proposed cannabis ordinance as written.*

*Jo and Ron Schultz  
133 Alice Street  
Santa rosa, CA 95409*

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, do not click any web links, attachments, and never give out your user ID or password.



**From:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 12:51:05 PM

---

---

**From:** Joy Anagnostis <joy2158@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 8, 2021 5:07 PM  
**To:** Arielle Kubu-Jones <Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org>  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors:

I have grave concerns about the Cannabis Ordinance and the consequences that many residents of Sonoma County will face unless our supervisors think through this with absolute care and respect for the greater good. Given the current drought and many other challenges to our natural world, a project-wide EIR is essential. Any action without this is dangerous and short-sighted.

I am not against cannabis or the growing of cannabis in Sonoma County. However, I do not support equating this with agricultural crops, but see this more as an agricultural-industrial *product*. It is essential that the supervisors protect our rural residential regions as well as the agricultural element and natural environment of our county.

The County has not sought enough feedback and direction from area residents and has pandered too much to the Cannabis industry. Without intelligent, careful forethought, this ordinance will do far more harm than good to our county in multiple ways.

Joy Anagnostis  
Sebastopol

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Joy Anagnostis](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Keep 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways in the Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 4:52:38 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors -

I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*" They do not need further clarification or codification.

Joy Anagnostis  
Sebastopol

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Joy Anagnostis](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 4:55:48 PM

---

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors:

I have grave concerns about the Cannabis Ordinance and the consequences that many residents of Sonoma County will face unless our supervisors think through this with absolute care and respect for the greater good. Given the current drought and many other challenges to our natural world, a project-wide EIR is essential. Any action without this is dangerous and short-sighted.

I am not against cannabis or the growing of cannabis in Sonoma County. However, I do not support equating this with agricultural crops, but see this more as an agricultural-industrial *product*. It is essential that the supervisors protect our rural residential regions as well as the agricultural element and natural environment of our county.

The County has not sought enough feedback and direction from area residents and has pandered too much to the Cannabis industry. Without intelligent, careful forethought, this ordinance will do far more harm than good to our county in multiple ways.

Joy Anagnostis  
Sebastopol

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Jo Bentz](#)  
**To:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Keep 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways in the Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 3:19:13 PM

---

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors-

I attended the December 11, 2018 board meeting where the BOS decided to adopt an ordinance to classify the Joe Rodota and West County trails as "linear parks". This designation provides a protective setback of 1,000 feet to cannabis operations. The room was packed with people wanting to protect these parks and your decision was unanimous. However, in a recent turn of events, the Planning Commission decided (rather arbitrarily if you listen to the video) to exclude Class1 bike trails from cannabis setbacks.

You will be really pissing off a lot of your constituents if you go back on your December 11, 2018 decision. Cannabis is already a highly contentious issue for rural neighborhoods, and now we are facing the possibility that we cannot even escape the noxious odors, security fencing, security lighting and plastic trash hoop houses on these public trails and bike trails. These trails are used by children, disabled, elderly and families and are no place for cannabis.

Please maintain the 1000' setback to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and do not accept the careless recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated.

Thank you-

Jo Bentz, 9990 Graton Road, Sebastopol, CA 95472

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [joeldyar@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joeldyar@sbcglobal.net)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#); [Susan Gorin](#); [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [David Rabbitt](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Chris Coursey](#); [Sean Hamlin](#); [district4](#); [James Gore](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Lynda Hopkins](#); [Leo Chyi](#)  
**Subject:** 5/18/21 Meeting  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 2:53:26 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

Joel Dyar  
District 1, Sonoma County

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [sedna101@aol.com](mailto:sedna101@aol.com)  
**To:** [ArielleKubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org](mailto:ArielleKubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Keep 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways in the Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 1:13:09 PM

---

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors -

I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*" They do not need further clarification or codification.

**Jane Eagle, Graton activist and voter**

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Jim Fitzpatrick](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** more cannabis  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 7:00:48 AM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Major drought in our county and you are considering to allow more cannabis that takes 6x more water than grapes. What are you thinking???

At least put this decision off until we have enough water to take care of the crops we are currently trying to grow thru a major drought.

RE-THINK cannabis!!

James Fitzpatrick  
Sebastopol

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Joe](#)  
**To:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 12:24:42 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

Joe Pereira and Theresa Beldon  
Sebastopol

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.



**From:** [Joe Rogoff](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Keep 1000" setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways in the Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 1:56:24 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors -

I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*" They do not need further clarification or codification.

Joe Rogoff  
Guerneville, CA

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [judith Rousseau](#)  
**To:** [Andrea Krout](#); [ichamber@sonoma-county.org](mailto:ichamber@sonoma-county.org); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 9:01:32 PM

---

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*" They do not need further clarification or codification.

Thanks for Listening!

Judith Rousseau  
Graton

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Janet Waring](#)  
**To:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Keep 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways in the Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 3:06:24 PM

---

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors -

I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*" They do not need further clarification or codification.

Janet Waring  
Sebastopol

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Janet](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Phase 2 Cannabis Amendments – May 18  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 10:07:55 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

Sincerely,

- Janet Zhou, Bennett Valley resident, homeowner, and concerned parent

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Susan Gorin](#)  
**To:** [Marcie Woychik](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Cannabis Use Permit #UPC19-0005.  
**Date:** Monday, May 3, 2021 3:47:42 PM

---

***Susan Gorin***

1st District Supervisor  
County of Sonoma

*Be #SonomaSmart – Wash hands, wear masks, keep the distance.  
It's all about community.*

575 Administration Drive, Room 100A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
[www.sonoma-county.org](http://www.sonoma-county.org)  
[susan.gorin@sonoma-county.org](mailto:susan.gorin@sonoma-county.org)  
Direct 707-565-2982  
Cell 707-321-2788



Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Karen Baur <[kmbaur@comcast.net](mailto:kmbaur@comcast.net)>  
**Date:** May 3, 2021 at 3:11:26 PM PDT  
**To:** Susan Gorin <[Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org)>, David Rabbitt <[David.Rabbitt@sonoma-county.org](mailto:David.Rabbitt@sonoma-county.org)>, Chris Coursey <[chris.coursey@sonoma-county.org](mailto:chris.coursey@sonoma-county.org)>, district4 <[district4@sonoma-county.org](mailto:district4@sonoma-county.org)>, Larry Reed <[Larry.Reed@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Larry.Reed@sonoma-county.org)>, Todd Tamura <[Todd.Tamura@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Todd.Tamura@sonoma-county.org)>, Caitlin Cornwall <[Caitlin.Cornwall@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Caitlin.Cornwall@sonoma-county.org)>, Cameron Mauritson <[Cameron.Mauritson@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Cameron.Mauritson@sonoma-county.org)>, Gina Belforte <[Gina.Belforte@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Gina.Belforte@sonoma-county.org)>, Greg Carr <[Greg.Carr@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Greg.Carr@sonoma-county.org)>, Scott Orr <[Scott.Orr@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Scott.Orr@sonoma-county.org)>, Lynda Hopkins <[Lynda.Hopkins@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Lynda.Hopkins@sonoma-county.org)>, Sou Garner <[sgarner@migcom.com](mailto:sgarner@migcom.com)>  
**Subject: Cannabis Use Permit #UPC19-0005.**

EXTERNAL

Elected Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, Planning Commissioners,  
Sou Garner, Scott Orr:

As a life long resident of Sonoma County  
and resident of the Liberty Valley for over 45  
years I reach out to you regarding the proposed cannabis operation at 985 & 987

Pepper Rd. APN 113-110-068. I have many concerns this would have on our community but will focus on the main one....water. I'm sure you are aware an acre of pot takes 6 times as much water as an acre of grapes. The owner of this operation plans on 4 harvests a year which translates in to millions of gallons of water. This area has limited water resources and many dairies have been trucking in water for months, not to mention we are in a drought! I hope common sense will prevail and deny this operation for the sake of this beautiful, family community. May I add that the possibility of other pot operations being able to easily access a permit without an environmental impact report or notification to neighbors is beyond belief. You have been given the trust of the people you represent to do the right thing.... please do it and don't let money and profits be a determining factor in your decision and the future of Sonoma County. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Karen and George Baur  
300 Live Oak Dr  
Petaluma 94952

Sent from my iPhone

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

Warning: If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, do not click any web links, attachments, and never give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Jan Brush](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Phase 2 Cannabis Amendments - May 18  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 4:03:30 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

Best regards,

Ken and Jan Brush

Santa Rosa/Bennett Valley

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Kenh@sonic.net](mailto:Kenh@sonic.net)  
**To:** "Arielle"; [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Maintain 1000 Ft Setbacks Class 1 Bikeways Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 8:09:41 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors –

We urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*"

Kind regards,

Ken Hutchins Jr and Stephanie Hutchins  
Graton, CA 95444

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.



**From:** [Ken Adelson](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Cc:** [Susan Gorin](#)  
**Subject:** Phase 2 Cannabis Amendments – May 18  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 8:24:43 AM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County. I have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analyses from neighborhood groups. I am extremely unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and appears to have been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting of the amendments and revisions.

I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time will give residents a right to enjoy the health and safety of their properties.

Ken Adelson, Bennett Valley

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Kelsey Nicholson](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#); [Susan Gorin](#); [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [David Rabbitt](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Chris Coursey](#); [Sean Hamlin](#); [district4](#); [James Gore](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Lynda Hopkins](#); [Leo Chyi](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 1:16:57 PM

---

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors,

First of all, thank you Supervisor Rabbitt for taking the time to talk with our citizen representatives from Bloomfield.

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County and how this will effect our communities, especially more densely populated rural towns like Bloomfield.

The Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and needs more time to be re-written. It does not offer enough environmental protections, especially concerning water use in more populated small watersheds and other crucial considerations that the lack of a project wide EIR requirement will overlook and leave unregulated.

Therefore, It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and, at the same time gives protections to small rural townships like ours.

I understand that the county is trying to "grandfather" in small growers that have been living and growing prior to the legality of cannabis. However, as the ordinance is currently written, it also allows huge industrial LLC growers that would be allowed to farm large acreage properties, that as written, come within 300 ft of dozens of homes and within 1/2 a mile of our entire town of hundreds of citizens here in Bloomfield, as well as not addressing environmental or water use within the watershed — ESPECIALLY as we head into severe drought years, which is likely our new normal within the global climate crisis.

Road use and traffic dangers are also not addressed for small townships like Bloomfield, with narrow, minimally maintained residential streets that would be the only service roads to industrial cannabis farms if allowed to produce on the direct borders of our town, or other similar rural residential townships.

Please do not approve this proposed cannabis ordinance as written. Please do the needed work to value and respect Sonoma Country residents, complete more research and align with other counties and states that have a longer relationship with industrial cannabis and therefore lessons have been learned that they can offer, and we could adopt if the county is willing to take the time to properly consider the full needs of our towns, our residents, and our environment.

Sincerely,

Kelsey Nicholson  
Rusty Schwartz

6691 Moro St.  
Bloomfield / Petaluma  
707-753-4903

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Laurel Anderson](#)  
**To:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 10:22:32 AM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups.

I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2.

Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

*Laurel Anderson*  
*Healdsburg, CA*

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [BOS](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Issue: Changes being made to Cannabis regulations  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 3:12:52 PM

---

-----Original Message-----

From: no-reply@sonoma-county.org <no-reply@sonoma-county.org>  
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 1:26 PM  
To: BOS <BOS@sonoma-county.org>  
Subject: Issue: Changes being made to Cannabis regulations

Sent To: County of Sonoma  
Topic: Issue  
Subject: Changes being made to Cannabis regulations  
Message: Dear BOS members,

Please, please do not allow outdoor Cannabis production in Sonoma County.  
This decision would most definitely have a negative impact on our community's safety, beauty and overall lifestyle.

The potential for increased criminal activity is obvious. Marring the landscape with fenced, around the clock "Crops" will ruin the bucolic atmosphere that we all enjoy. (Including the many, current tourists that travel here to experience The Wine Country.)

And.....The odor!! Yuck,uncontrollable and pervasive!  
Please use your position of power to keep our county from making a huge mistake.

Kindly, Liz Brock  
lizatbrockhouse@yahoo.com

Sender's Name: Liz Brock  
Sender's Email: lizatbrockhouse@yahoo.com  
Sender's Home Phone: (707) 829-7755  
Sender's Cell Phone: (707) 579-9714  
Sender's Address:  
CA 95472

**From:** [lenachyle](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Keep 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways in the Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 8:06:15 PM

---

EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system." They do not need further clarification or codification.

Lena Chyle  
Jenner

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

Warning: If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, do not click any web links, attachments, and never give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Laura Duggan](#)  
**To:** [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#); [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**Cc:** [Lynda Hopkins](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance Comments  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 2:10:34 PM

---

EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors -

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups.

I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

I also urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system." They do not need further clarification or codification.

I personally use the Joe Rodota and West County trail regularly, and urge it to be protected.  
Thank you

Laura Duggan,  
Sebastopol, CA

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
Warning: If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
do not click any web links, attachments, and never give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [girfie@earthlink.net](mailto:girfie@earthlink.net)  
**To:** [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 2:20:14 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

---

**From:** girfie@earthlink.net <girfie@earthlink.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 10, 2021 2:26 PM  
**To:** 'Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org' <Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org>  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21

Dear Supervisors,

### **COMING TO OUR SENSES**

Living close to a vineyard, I find the daily intrusions mainly auditory. The noise of tractors and fans is the price I pay for living in a beautiful, rural county. To add visual and olfactory intrusions from an INDUSTRIAL marijuana grow is contrary, at best, to the agricultural nature and beauty of our county. I may not love the uniform acres of vineyards but at least I'm looking at plants and greenery. Plastic hoop houses, security fences, lighting, and the invasive smell that comes from industrial marijuana grows will affect the quality of life for many rural residents and tourists alike.

Whatever the acreage, such a large-scale change will significantly affect Sonoma County. It should be considered carefully and have MULTIPLE benefits, beyond just tax revenue. I encourage all Supervisors to consider carefully before rushing to permits. At \$1,000,000/acre in revenue, the marijuana industry will wait but your constituents may not.

Lisa Fiorelli  
Sebastopol  
510-325-6557  
[girfie@earthlink.net](mailto:girfie@earthlink.net)



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.**

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.



**From:** [Leonor Hurtado](#)  
**To:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 11:36:02 AM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

***Leonor Hurtado***

***Graton, Sonoma County, CA***

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Lawrence Prager](#)  
**To:** [Andrea Krout](#)  
**Subject:** Keep 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways in the Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 8:09:20 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors -

I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system." They do not need further clarification or codification.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Larry Prager  
Sebastopol

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Lisa Weger](#)  
**To:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** cannabis  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 2:46:40 PM

---

## EXTERNAL

May 11, 2021

Sonoma County Board of Supervisors  
575 Administration Drive, Room 100A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

RE: CANNABIS ORDINANCE, PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Dear Supervisor Gorin, Rabbitt, Coursey, Gore, and Hopkins:

I support the coalition of neighbors and environmental activists who are trying to preserve what makes Sonoma County so special: our scenic beauty and precious natural resources. The solution is small cannabis grows away from residences, not in public view, and not spreading noise or odor. This is not what is proposed. We don't expect to make millions of dollars from this policy change, like growers will, nor are we backed by major investors or powerful political players. We are ordinary homeowners and nature lovers, and we vote, consistently, as do our friends. We are local people who want to make Sonoma County better for everyone. Members of our coalition have been constructively participating in this issue for years.

At your behest, we have volunteered for community planning groups, reached out to staff, participated in public meetings, written letters and made endless suggestions to improve this new policy — only to see most of our recommendations sidelined and ignored. We are frustrated. The proposed changes to the cannabis permitting process will be some of the **most significant land use changes in Sonoma County in the last 40 years** when families are struggling with immediate needs, and almost no one who's not already a grower or adjacent neighbor knows about the proposed ordinance.

Consider the context:

- Written into the Subsequent Mitigated Negative Declaration (SMND) document, more than 65,000 acres have been identified by the County for potential ministerial permits. The County, however, has not identified high fire danger zones, areas without a reliable source of water, lands with endangered species, areas away from neighborhoods, nor important open spaces, among other omissions. While proponents say they don't expect that many acres to actually be approved for grows, no one is offering a smaller number of acres than the 65,753 acres already stated. It's too much cannabis, and we need the County to clearly state a reduction in the acreage available for permits.

- **This policy will grow tons of a new water-guzzling product, yet it relies on water survey data from 1980.** We face a historically bad drought emergency that will likely extend for multiple years, caused by climate change, never considered in that 1980 data, the 20-year old General Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or the SMND prepared for this policy. This policy change should not move forward without evaluating our current water resources, determining if we have enough supply to meet current and projected demand in normal and drought years.

- Calls from environmental experts and affected community members (and several Planning Commissioners) for a full Environmental Impact Report (EIR) have been ignored too many times to count. The SMND is fatally flawed. We need a full EIR which could allow the County to determine suitable areas for future grows.

- The legal recommendations and Agency input, including the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) recommendations, among others, have not been incorporated, putting our county and taxpayers at risk of another expensive lawsuit.

This is not how we should run our county. Fortunately, you have the power to course-correct and find true consensus in our community. We offer these recommendations below in that spirit.

**1. Recognize the Cumulative Impacts on Neighborhoods and our Environment**

A. Invest in a full Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to comply with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements, fully analyze and proactively identify locations for cannabis cultivation that are least impactful on residences and agricultural, resource, commercial and industrial zoned parcels, plus set an acreage cap for each groundwater basin.

B. Suspend issuing and renewing cannabis permits until the EIR is completed, until setbacks between cannabis cultivation and residences and other sensitive uses are increased, and until other flaws in the newly revised Commercial Cannabis ordinances are addressed.

C. Improve the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) processes as follows: Undertake normal land use planning for cannabis by identifying suitable sites, after the EIR is completed, and clearly identify State permit requirements, including project-specific environmental review and site criteria for proposed projects. Then determine areas suitable for cannabis operations based on evaluation of: i. Water availability and impacts ii. Proximity to residential homes, schools/childcare, parks/recreation, waste stream impacts from excess wastewater and plastic hoop houses iii. Avoiding open spaces, all identified scenic resources, community separators, access roads, wildfire danger and other hazards, endangered or sensitive species, wildlife corridors, riparian corridors, wetlands, and historic/archeological/cultural resource sites iv. Providing accessibility to law enforcement

D. Satisfy CEQA including for ministerial permits, predetermine suitable locations that remove the need for discretion by County staff on aspects like hydrogeological analysis, biotic assessment,

proper access roads, analysis of visual blight, fire risk, etc. Projects resulting in fencing, 24-hour security, nuisance lighting and odor emissions are by definition changing their surrounding environment, and thus triggering CEQA requirements.

E. In short, align with California state regulations including: i. Prop 64 – as implemented by the California Department of Food and Agriculture ii. Fire safe roads – as implemented by the Board of Forestry iii. CEQA – include CEQA requirements for ministerial permits iv. State Water Resources Control Board and Department of Water Resources requirements for water demand, wastewater disposal and required setbacks for biotic resources, riparian habitats, etc.

F. Eliminate the practice of issuing multiple ministerial permits to separate growers on the same or adjacent parcels. This is a loophole which leads to cumulative impacts as it amplifies the impacts many times over, obfuscates liability for violations, and does not comply with project-specific CEQA review and cumulative impact review as currently required by State law.

G. Restore the Health and Safety clause in Chapter 38. Residents have a right to health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

H. Limit permitted acreage in any 10-mile square zone to prevent saturation of any one area.

I. J. For all ministerial permits, impose a local residency requirement to stop the influx of non-Sonoma County operators, where “operators” are defined as owning at least 51% of the applying business. Prohibit the use of all single-use plastics in cannabis grow operations, especially for hoop houses.

K. End the Penalty Relief Program (PRP) after May 31, 2021 and schedule public hearings for all remaining PRPs by September 30, 2021. Enough time has elapsed to give aspiring growers the opportunity to fix their applications and reapply. Page of 2 5

-

## **2. Preserve Water and Open Spaces**

A. Maintain the Planning Commission’s inserted prohibition on all cannabis cultivation in Sonoma County’s Class 3 and 4 groundwater areas for all ministerial permits, and the County should assess water availability in all water zones as recommended by CDFW, before issuing new conditional use permits.

B. Prohibit trucking of water or recycled wastewater under all circumstances.

C. Require all wells to be independently monitored using a micro grid network system. Take precautionary steps to ensure that residential and agricultural wells do not run dry due to cannabis groundwater extraction or catchment systems.

D. Prohibit all cannabis cultivation in voter-passed Community Separator parcels.

E. Limit permit approvals during a drought, as declared by the State of California, to applicants that grow cannabis only using dry farming techniques with strict monitoring by the County.

F. Trees with fruit or nuts have, since the original draft ordinance was published, been exempted from tree protections. Since many (or most) trees have fruits or nuts – including oak trees, whose acorns are both fruits and nuts – this exemption must be removed from proposed Chapter 38, or clarified so that the explicit intent is clear, resulting in continued protections from removal for oak and other trees.

### **3. Increase Setbacks, Neighborhood Compatibility and Odor Controls**

-

A. Require 1,000 foot minimum setbacks, from the property line, for outdoor and hoop house cultivation and 300 foot minimum setbacks for indoor cultivation — for all residences, schools, childcare facilities and parks.

B. Require that no odor will cross the property line for all indoor cultivation and processing.

C. Create a “Rural Residential Exclusion Zone” option for neighbors to pursue, which would be a simple and speedy (less than six months) mechanism to exclude commercial cannabis production from certain locations based on potential harm to watersheds, including wells serving residential homes, endangered species, neighborhoods with multiple homes, poor access roads and/or other site-specific constraints.

D. Do not open agricultural or resource lands to cannabis events. Follow CalCannabis’ rules for events in commercial and industrial areas.

E. For outdoor cultivation, require the applicant to submit the results of air quality modeling that show terpene emission levels under a series of typical weather conditions during the growing and harvesting season at the cultivation location. The modeling shall include all current and proposed sources of terpene emissions within one mile of the cultivation location, and the County may require setbacks deeper than 1,000 feet to mitigate offsite odor from outdoor and hoop house cultivation.

### **4. Centralize Processing of the Product**

A. Prohibit cannabis processing on-site and in residential, agricultural and resource zones. Instead, focus processing in facilities in commercial and industrial zoned land only.

B. Prohibit cultivation and processing in areas without fire safe roads, which are narrow and often dead-end roads. This is another reason all processing should be done in our central corridor and not in our rural areas.

C. State explicitly that cannabis is an agricultural product, not an agricultural crop, and therefore

not the same as conventional agriculture and not subject to right-to-farm law.

**5. Enforce with Penalties that Deter Law-breakers**

A. Change the initial term of permits to match the State License term of one year. This will allow the County to monitor performance and adjust standards on compliance with water, odor control, plastic handling and disposal. All evidenced claims of potential violations will be investigated immediately.

B. Renew permits with no violations or unresolved complaints for two years, with the caveat that if violations and complaints occur later, the County will revoke the permit, effective immediately.

C. Require posting of a \$50,000 bond upon issuance of each permit, to be used to remove structures, fencing and trash if the operator abandons a grow site, as well as to pay for enforcement; otherwise, the taxpayers will shoulder these costs.

D. Do not give cannabis growers notice prior to inspections of their facilities for compliance checks. State law does not require this.

E. Implement an enforcement team, similar to Humboldt County, consisting of Sheriffs, Fish and Wildlife and Water Resources staff to perform surprise inspections for compliance.

F. Stop bad actors. Any person performing an illegal or un-permitted activity shall be required to stop all activities immediately, dismantle operations, pay a fine and be put under a two year probation where the violating operator will not be issued any cannabis permits.

In a news article from Sunday, April 18, the Press Democrat reported “cannabis varies in value from \$5.5 million to \$6 million per acre annually, compared to wine grapes that were about a \$11,000 per-acre value in 2019, county Agriculture Commissioner Andrew Smith said.” There’s a lot of money on the table, we understand that. But pushing through a major policy like this — during a pandemic, without adequate environmental review, during a drought emergency with no adequate evaluation of water availability, or listening to affected neighbors — it’s an unnecessary rush to judgment. Please slow down, listen to neighbors and the environmental community, learn from past mistakes, and let’s do this the right way. Make the changes we requested above and give neighbors and our environment a better deal.

If you support this bill without an EIR in place addressing the numerous and significant negative impacts, I believe that Sonoma county citizens will see this for what it is—big money unduly influencing our Board of Supervisors. Whether or not this is accurate, I suspect that come election time a price will be paid for that perception.

Best Regards,

Lisa Weger  
Healdsburg CA

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.



**From:** [Susan Gorin](#)  
**To:** [Marcie Woychik](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: cannabis farms  
**Date:** Friday, May 7, 2021 1:59:20 PM

---

***Susan Gorin***

1st District Supervisor  
County of Sonoma

*Be #SonomaSmart – Wash hands, wear masks, keep the distance.  
It's all about community.*

575 Administration Drive, Room 100A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
[www.sonoma-county.org](http://www.sonoma-county.org)  
[susan.gorin@sonoma-county.org](mailto:susan.gorin@sonoma-county.org)  
Direct 707-565-2982  
Cell 707-321-2788



Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Mindy Barrett <[grnteez@yahoo.com](mailto:grnteez@yahoo.com)>  
**Date:** May 7, 2021 at 1:58:31 PM PDT  
**To:** Susan Gorin <[Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org)>  
**Subject:** cannabis farms

**EXTERNAL**

**What does Napa know?**

The Napa County Supervisors got it right on cannabis. They invested in an environmental impact report that states it is reasonable to foresee significant land use conflicts with cannabis, adverse impacts to the visitor experience, and reduced TOT revenue for the County. The report also said no significant data suggests that tourists would be attracted to visit Napa County, or any other destination, specifically because of the local cannabis industry.

Napa supervisors agreed at their board meeting earlier this year, to say

no to cannabis while they learn from the mistakes of Sonoma and Santa Barbara Counties.

What's the rush? Let's pause cannabis permitting and witness what happens in Santa Barbara County where significant conflicts, including lawsuits that are already occurring between cannabis grows and grape growers. Let's join with Napa and the other Bay Area counties and take a wait-and-see approach. If the cannabis opportunity truly is real and right for Sonoma County, it will still be real in 2 years. We can't afford to get this one wrong especially given cannabis uses over six times the water per harvest compared to vineyards (source – Napa County 9111 report 2020).

After a recent camping trip to Humboldt Co., we can't imagine how fields of cannabis and hoop structures could possibly help the Sonoma Co. tourist industry. Also, with a drought, it doesn't seem prudent to start encouraging crops that require significant amounts of water.

Franz Valley Resident

**THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.**

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 3:29:11 PM

---

**From:** Mirandi Dallas Fuge <mirandiandzephyr@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 2:26 PM  
**To:** Arielle Kubu-Jones <Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org>; Andrea Krout <Andrea.Krout@sonoma-county.org>; district3 <district3@sonoma-county.org>; Jenny Chamberlain <jchamber@sonoma-county.org>; district5 <district5@sonoma-county.org>  
**Cc:** ccobloomfield@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors:

Thank you for considering all the public's comments regarding the proposed cannabis ordinances. I imagine you have thousands of pages of comments, requests, petitions, maps, and even possible lawsuits to consider in making your decision. I have lived in Sonoma County for 25 years, and am saddened to watch this difficult situation evolve, with no compromise, that we find ourselves in.

After attending both the Planning Commissioners meetings, I was disappointed that their proposal to the BOS was not a unanimous one. Two of the five commissioners did not approve of the proposal they sent to you. Hopefully, the process allows you to ask them why.

The timing for this ordinance cannot be worse. Just yesterday, 41 counties in California were declared to be drought emergency counties by Governor Newsom. This seems like a terrible time to pass a cannabis ordinance with no water regulations, without proper studies.

Please do a complete EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR in order to protect our natural resources, comply with CEQA requirements, and give residents a right to their health, safety, and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

Thank you,  
Mirandi Dallas-Fuge  
Bloomfield, CA

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Monty Delozier](#)  
**To:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabi Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 11:34:21 AM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors:

I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the cannabis industry in the drafting of the new cannabis ordinance. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide Environmental Impact Report (EIR) before adopting a flawed ordinance. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources (including our ground water), will comply with State CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

**Monty Delozier**  
**Sebastopol, CA**

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Marcy Greeley](#)  
**To:** [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#); [ArielleKubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org](mailto:ArielleKubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance Comments  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 4:29:06 PM  
**Importance:** High

---

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm VERY unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally **flawed and unfixable**. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2.

Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

**I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to NOT accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated.** These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*" They do not need further clarification or codification.

Marcy Greeley  
Sebastopol, CA

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cannabis Ordinance – There is No Free Lunch – Require an EIR  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 11:44:17 AM

---

**From:** marylee guinon <maryleeguinson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 11:33 AM  
**To:** Arielle Kubu-Jones <Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org>; Andrea Krout <Andrea.Krout@sonoma-county.org>; district3 <district3@sonoma-county.org>; Jenny Chamberlain <jchamber@sonoma-county.org>; district5 <district5@sonoma-county.org>; Susan Gorin <Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org>; David Rabbitt <David.Rabbitt@sonoma-county.org>; Chris Coursey <Chris.Coursey@sonoma-county.org>; district4 <district4@sonoma-county.org>  
**Subject:** RE: Cannabis Ordinance – There is No Free Lunch – Require an EIR

## EXTERNAL

May 11, 2021

Sonoma County Board of Supervisors  
575 Administration Drive, Room 100A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

RE: Cannabis Ordinance – There is No Free Lunch – Require an EIR

Dear Supervisors:

The evidence and arguments against Sonoma County's influenced cannabis policies and inadequate MND are compelling.

- Our collective society learned that “*there is no free lunch*”, yet the County continues to ignore critically limited water supplies (including groundwater) even during this epic drought year, and the potentially significant impacts to the environment and our communities resulting from the flawed Cannabis Ordinance.
- Responsible tax-paying citizens have expressed their dire concerns in vast numbers and have gone woefully ignored.
- Residents ask that the County be compliant with State licensing, and complete the necessary and informed advanced planning prior to implementing the most significant land use change in decades - the commercial cannabis cultivation, processing and hospitality program.
- Citizens ask for an Environmental Impact Report and amendments to the existing ordinance that comply with State law governing cannabis cultivation permitting and licensing.

- Residents ask the County to ensure State Water Resources Control Board permits that certifies adequate water and address wastewater discharge are obtained early in the application process.
- We ask for a discretionary permit process to allow affected neighbors in the community to provide constructive input, and to be compliant with the CalCannabis Cultivation Licensing Division.

The County's leadership has been sending a clear message to responsible tax-paying citizens that our neighborhoods and the county's natural resources are simply not your concern. Many voted for Prop 64 to decriminalize cannabis, not unleash a commercial industry and wreak havoc in our communities. I ask that you question your priorities and seek a balanced solution to a fair ordinance and an adequate CEQA process.

Our collective society has also learned that *The ends do not justify the means.*

Regards,

Marylee Guinon  
Freestone, West County

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Marcy Meadows](#)  
**To:** [Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Keep 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways in the Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 6:02:07 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors -

I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*" They do not need further clarification or codification.

Marcy Meadows

Graton

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.



**From:** [maryrustygatefarmca@gmail.com](mailto:maryrustygatefarmca@gmail.com)  
**To:** "Arielle"; [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Keep 1000" setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways in the Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 4:11:41 PM

---

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors -

I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*" They do not need further clarification or codification.

Mary Radu  
Rusty Gate Farm, Sebastopol CA  
Artisan Peaches and Albarino Wine Grapes  
Cell 707 688-4382

[Arielle Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org); [Andrea.Krout@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Andrea.Krout@sonoma-county.org); [District3@sonoma-county.org](mailto:District3@sonoma-county.org); [jchamber@sonoma-county.org](mailto:jchamber@sonoma-county.org); [District5@sonoma-county.org](mailto:District5@sonoma-county.org); [cannabis@sonoma-county.org](mailto:cannabis@sonoma-county.org)

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Susan Gorin](#)  
**To:** [Marcie Woychik](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: You Are Clearly FAILING US Here - - - (can't even find Coursey's direct e-mail address)  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 7:29:04 AM

---

***Susan Gorin***

1st District Supervisor  
County of Sonoma

*Be #SonomaSmart – Wash hands, wear masks, keep the distance.  
It's all about community.*

575 Administration Drive, Room 100A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
[www.sonoma-county.org](http://www.sonoma-county.org)  
[susan.gorin@sonoma-county.org](mailto:susan.gorin@sonoma-county.org)  
Direct 707-565-2982  
Cell 707-321-2788



Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Mark Vicini <[mark@mvicini.com](mailto:mark@mvicini.com)>  
**Date:** May 10, 2021 at 7:25:08 AM PDT  
**To:** Susan Gorin <[Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org)>, David Rabbitt <[David.Rabbitt@sonoma-county.org](mailto:David.Rabbitt@sonoma-county.org)>, district4 <[district4@sonoma-county.org](mailto:district4@sonoma-county.org)>, district5 <[district5@sonoma-county.org](mailto:district5@sonoma-county.org)>, district4 <[district4@sonoma-county.org](mailto:district4@sonoma-county.org)>  
**Cc:** "Rogers, Chris" <[CRogers@srcity.org](mailto:CRogers@srcity.org)>  
**Subject:** You Are Clearly FAILING US Here - - - (can't even find Coursey's direct e-mail address)

**EXTERNAL**

**What a joke . . . . .**

Why has there been such little mention of the policy on cannabis grows that the Board of Supervisors are scheduled to consider at their next meeting?  
This has all seemingly been kept very quiet because the public knows these grows are big water users, among other considerable environmental problems they will

inevitably cause.

The Supervisors seem all ready to allow cannabis to move ahead WITHOUT an Environmental Review. Is this what the public wants?

With the cannabis grows that will be all but taking over any possible water surplus how can more housing be permitted when there isn't enough water for the current population?

This insanity needs to stop now. Cannabis cannot and should not move forward without an EIR.

Additionally, new housing (and vineyard) permits need to be carefully monitored.

**You Are Clearly FAILING US Here - - -**

**Mark Vicini**

707-888-2762

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [phillip knowlton](#)  
**To:** [Lynda Hopkins](#)  
**Cc:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 10:26:50 AM

---

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors Rabbit: and Hopkins

I write to ask for your help and your consideration regarding commercially growing marjuna in Sonom County.

I have farmed for 20 years west of Graton and sold grapes and vegetables. I farmed organically and with great care for wildlife.

And I was raised on a small dairy farm.

My feeling is that industrial marjunan growering should be done far out in the country. Not near houses,schools or living areas.

Commercial marijuana needs input and oversite

I am alarmed and concerened of what the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County are looking like

I have read some of the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm disapointed that the elected officals of the County have not reached out to residents more than they have

I don't feel there is enough oversite of enviornmental issues and you supervisors have been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting.

I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is not good for the community It is fatally flawed and unfixable.

Please consider a return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources. Please plan to comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

Commercial Marijuana needs much more community oversight and planning before it is given a go ahead in Sonoma County

*Phillip Knowlton*

*Family Farm in Graton*

*Currently retired and living in Petaluma*

cell 41`5 225 6214

[Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org)

[Andrea.Krout@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Andrea.Krout@sonoma-county.org)

[District3@sonoma-county.org](mailto:District3@sonoma-county.org)

[jchamber@sonoma-county.org](mailto:jchamber@sonoma-county.org)

[District5@sonoma-county.org](mailto:District5@sonoma-county.org)

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**To:** [Marcie Woychik](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Sonoma County EIR  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 12:55:03 PM

---

Should I keep sending these to you for BOS comment? Again, out of district.

---

**From:** Peter Lawson <peterrlawson@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 12:51 PM  
**To:** Arielle Kubu-Jones <Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org>  
**Subject:** Sonoma County EIR

**EXTERNAL**

TO: Sonoma County Supervisors  
FROM: Peter Lawson  
805 North Webster Street, Petaluma, 94952  
707/482/0228  
[peterrlawson@mac.com](mailto:peterrlawson@mac.com)

I have been following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County. I have tried to keep up with letters in the newspapers and the information and analyses from neighborhood groups.

I am disappointed that you have not sought to hear and understand those of us in the county who have serious reservations about the present Mitigated Declaration. We think it is both defected and unsatisfactory

We are concerned that you have been much too influenced by the cannabis industry in its drafting.

Sonoma County needs an EIR which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements. It should, at the same time give residents a right to their unabated supply of domestic water sources and the peaceful enjoyment of their homes and yards.

It is time for the Board of Supervisors to reconsider the issues and it's earlier decision and write a new project-wide EIR for Phase 2.

Thank you for your consideration and continuing public service.

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Patrick Pfahl](#)  
**To:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Keep 1000" setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways in the Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 1:23:42 PM

---

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors -

I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*" They do not need further clarification or codification.

Patrick Pfahl  
Graton

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Pamela Stevens](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#); [Susan Gorin](#); [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [David Rabbitt](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Chris Coursey](#); [Sean Hamlin](#); [district4](#); [James Gore](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Lynda Hopkins](#); [Leo Chyi](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 11:18:48 AM

---

**EXTERNAL**

**Dear Supervisors:**

**I have been reading the letters in the Press Democrat regarding the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County and the very valid concerns about water usage. Why in the world has the County not reached out to residents?? It sounds like the only group the County has been listening to related to the drafting of the ordinance is the cannabis industry! How is that fair?**

**The Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.**

**Pamela Stevens (Santa Rosa)**

*Pamela E. Stevens*

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.



**From:** [Robyn Bramhall](#)  
**To:** [Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Keep 1,000" setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways in the Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 1:48:13 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors -

I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*" They do not need further clarification or codification.

Robyn Bramhall  
Graton

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Robert Brent](#)  
**To:** [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#); [ArielleKubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org](mailto:ArielleKubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org)  
**Subject:** Keep 1000" setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways in the Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 3:02:48 PM

---

## EXTERNAL

This is important. It's supposed to be an ordinance now, but errors may have occurred in recording it. Please be sure that's rectified. I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*" They do not need further clarification or codification.

Robert Brent  
Sebastopol

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Randi Francis](#)  
**To:** [ArielleKubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org](mailto:ArielleKubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** Keep 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways in the Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 4:26:54 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors -

We live near one of the proposed cannabis grow sites and are VERY concerned about our water table which is already down 40% in 3 years, cannabis odors, emergency access on a one lane road that would have increased traffic, potential crime, unsightly hoop houses near the Atascadero wetlands, which are supposed to be protected, and more. These grows need to happen in industrial zones, and with the drought, how can you risk making it even worse?!

I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system*" do not need further clarification or codification.

Sincerely

Randi Francis

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Ricardo Garcia](#)  
**To:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#)  
**Subject:** Phase 2 Cannabis Amendments – May 15th  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 11:51:12 AM  
**Attachments:** [Letter to So Co Planning Comm.pdf](#)

---

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

Rick Garcia, Occidental

---

**From:** Ricardo Garcia  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 12:39 PM  
**To:** [planningAgency@sonoma-county.org](mailto:planningAgency@sonoma-county.org)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance

Dear Commissioners,

I am a director of a science camp, summer camp, and day camp that provides education to students year round here in West County. It has come to my attention that you will be reviewing the new county draft ordinance governing cannabis growing. Enacted as written, it is a deeply troubling ordinance that will change the look and character of our county.

The changes proposed are environmentally sweeping and not adequately measured - a few examples being that there is no accounting for over concentration of grows in one area of the county subjecting neighbors to a barrage of odors, security measures, overuse of water, constant business activities.

We have a proposed grow near us, and I am concerned about all of the above issues even though it might be "allowable" being it might 1000 feet away from our property line. That is too close since we have 250 students who use the whole camp area to do their activities while with us. We have very little faith based on the previous ordinance lack of enforcement done by the county, that they will do any better with even broader allowances in this bill. I consider it an "attractive" nuisance possibly drawing the kids unwelcomed attention.

Sweeping changes such as are being proposed require measured steps with lessons learned from the

previous missteps and failures that occurred by other counties including our own.  
This ordinance needs to be revised and clarified with more protections for the citizens in Sonoma County.

**Rick Garcia**

Director of CYO Camp and Retreat Center

D | 707-874-0203

Catholic Charities

**THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.**

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.



CYO Summer Camp  
CYO Retreat Center  
CYO Outdoor Environmental Education  
Caritas Creek at CYO Camp

2136 Bohemian Highway  
Occidental, CA 95465  
T | 707 874 0200 F | 707 874 0230  
[CatholicCharitiesSF.org](http://CatholicCharitiesSF.org)

March 16, 2021

Dear Commissioners,

I am a director of a science camp, summer camp, and day camp that provides education to students year-round here in West County. It has come to my attention that you will be reviewing the new county draft ordinance governing cannabis growing. Enacted as written, it is a deeply troubling ordinance that will change the look and character of our county.

The changes proposed are environmentally sweeping and not adequately measured - a few examples being that there is no accounting for over concentration of grows in one area of the county subjecting neighbors to a barrage of odors, security measures, overuse of water, constant business activities.

We have a proposed grow near us, and I am concerned about all of the above issues even though it might be "allowable" being it might 1000 feet away from our property line. That is too close since we have 250 students who use the whole camp area to do their activities while with us. We have very little faith based on the previous ordinance lack of enforcement done by the county, that they will do any better with even broader allowances in this bill. I consider it an "attractive" nuisance possibly drawing the kids unwelcomed attention.

Sweeping changes such as are being proposed require measured steps with lessons learned from the previous missteps and failures that occurred by other counties including our own.

This ordinance needs to be revised and clarified with more protections for the citizens in Sonoma County.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly at 707-494-0619.

Blue Skies,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Garcia', with the date '3-16-21' written to the right of the signature.

Rick Garcia  
Catholic Charities CYO Camp Director  
[rgarcia@catholiccharitiessf.org](mailto:rgarcia@catholiccharitiessf.org)  
707-494-0619 C  
707-874-0200 D

A PROGRAM OF  Catholic Charities 

**From:** [Roger House](#)  
**To:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 10:00:20 AM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

***Roger House***  
***Occidental***

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Renee Riggs](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#); [Susan Gorin](#); [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [David Rabbitt](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Chris Coursey](#); [Sean Hamlin](#); [district4](#); [James Gore](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Lynda Hopkins](#); [Leo Chyi](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 9:51:55 AM

---

**EXTERNAL**

*Please do not approve this proposed cannabis ordinance as written.*

Renee Riggs  
Renee.riggs@gmail.com  
C-214-538-0878  
H-707-536-9248  
Sent from my iPhone

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.



**From:** [Sara Alexander](#)  
**To:** [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#); [ArielleKubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org](mailto:ArielleKubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org)  
**Subject:** Keep 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways in the Cannabis Ordinance. Sonoma County needs an EIR .....  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 4:38:38 PM

---

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors:

I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups. I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been mostly influenced by the industry in the drafting. **I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable.** It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. ***Sonoma County needs an EIR***, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

I just found out that our hard won very small mitigation against the invasion of marijuana/hemp farming along the Rodota trail is in jeopardy.

I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are an enormously frequented important part of our community life.

They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as ***"all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system."*** They do not need further clarification or codification.

Once Again, my heartfelt pleas and my Best Wishes,

Sara Alexander  
3087 Dyer Ave  
Sebastopol, CA 95472  
415-606-5335

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](mailto:Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** FW: CANNABIS ORDINANCE, PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 10:34:13 AM

---

**From:** Scott Seidman <scottgseidman@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 9:09 AM  
**To:** Arielle Kubu-Jones <Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org>; Andrea Krout <Andrea.Krout@sonoma-county.org>; district3 <district3@sonoma-county.org>; Jenny Chamberlain <jchamber@sonoma-county.org>; district5 <district5@sonoma-county.org>; Susan Gorin <Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org>; David Rabbitt <David.Rabbitt@sonoma-county.org>; Chris Coursey <Chris.Coursey@sonoma-county.org>; district4 <district4@sonoma-county.org>  
**Subject:** CANNABIS ORDINANCE, PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

## EXTERNAL

May 11, 2021

Sonoma County Board of Supervisors  
575 Administration Drive, Room 100A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

RE: CANNABIS ORDINANCE, PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Dear Supervisors:

As a very engaged and concerned stakeholder in West Sonoma County, I closely follow the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County. I read the letters (and the vanishingly rare articles) in our Press Democrat and the information and analyses from neighborhood groups.

I have seen my neighbors and friends volunteer for community planning groups, reach out to County staff, participate in public meetings, write letters and make endless constructive and positive suggestions to improve the cannabis ordinance, and I have seen most all of this positive effort sidelined. It is clear that the County has been influenced too much by the industry in the drafting of this ordinance, and has largely ignored most of its residents.

I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

Sincerely,

Scott Seidman, M.D., F.A.C.E.P.

Freestone, CA

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Protect Homes & Forests  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 8:42:52 AM

---

**From:** SoCoCAN! <sonomacountycan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 3:07 AM  
**To:** Susan Gorin <Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org>; Arielle Kubu-Jones <Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org>; David Rabbitt <David.Rabbitt@sonoma-county.org>; Andrea Krout <Andrea.Krout@sonoma-county.org>; district3 <district3@sonoma-county.org>; Chris Coursey <Chris.Coursey@sonoma-county.org>; Sean Hamlin <Sean.Hamlin@sonoma-county.org>; district4 <district4@sonoma-county.org>; James Gore <James.Gore@sonoma-county.org>; Jenny Chamberlain <jchamber@sonoma-county.org>; district5 <district5@sonoma-county.org>; Lynda Hopkins <Lynda.Hopkins@sonoma-county.org>; Leo Chyi <Leo.Chyi@sonoma-county.org>  
**Subject:** Protect Homes & Forests

## EXTERNAL

Sonoma County Climate Activist Network (SoCoCAN!) urges you to:

(1.) Focus fire safety resources on protecting homes and communities through home hardening and defensible space.

(Please see <https://vimeo.com/543710055> (2 mins), featuring co-authors of the document "Working from the Home Outward: Lessons from California for Federal Wildfire Policy" <http://bit.ly/Home-Outward-Report-2021>

(2.) Protect existing forest ecosystems, and say "No" to logging under the guise of vegetation management for public safety.

(3.) Say "No" to the burning of woody forest biomass for energy. It is [not clean, not carbon neutral, and not renewable](#)

**Thank you,  
Sonoma County Climate Activist Network (SoCoCAN!)**

<https://www.SonomaCountyCAN.org>  
<https://www.facebook.com/SonomaCountyCAN>  
<https://twitter.com/SonomaCAN>

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,  
**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**To:** [Marcie Woychik](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:20:06 PM

---

**From:** THOMAS ABRAMS <tga3seb@comcast.net>

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:20 PM

**To:** Arielle Kubu-Jones <Arielle.Kubu-Jones@sonoma-county.org>; Andrea Krout <Andrea.Krout@sonoma-county.org>; district3 <district3@sonoma-county.org>; Jenny Chamberlain <jchamber@sonoma-county.org>; district5 <district5@sonoma-county.org>

**Cc:** Anne <aabrams@sonic.net>

**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors:

We are unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the cannabis industry in the drafting of the new cannabis ordinance. It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide Environmental Impact Report (EIR) before adopting a flawed ordinance. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources (including our ground water), will comply with State CEQA requirements and at the same time give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties . These are critical issues. It is abundantly clear that they must be addressed in a more comprehensive manner than has been demonstrated by the County to date. Please do not abrogate your responsibilities and condemn your constituents to the long term affects of inadequate governance.

Respectfully,

*Tom and Anne Abrams*

1702 Barlow Ln

Sebastopol, CA 95472

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Valorie Dallas](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#); [Susan Gorin](#); [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [David Rabbitt](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Chris Coursey](#); [Sean Hamlin](#); [district4](#); [James Gore](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Lynda Hopkins](#); [Leo Chyi](#); [concerned citizens](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 4:20:52 PM  
**Attachments:** [image.png](#)  
[image.png](#)  
[ThreePoints.docx](#)

---

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors:

I am a longtime Sonoma County resident. I have three issues I would like to be put on the record regarding the Cannabis Ordinance you are voting on May 18, 2021:

1. Approving "hoop houses" with electricity to be an outdoor grow

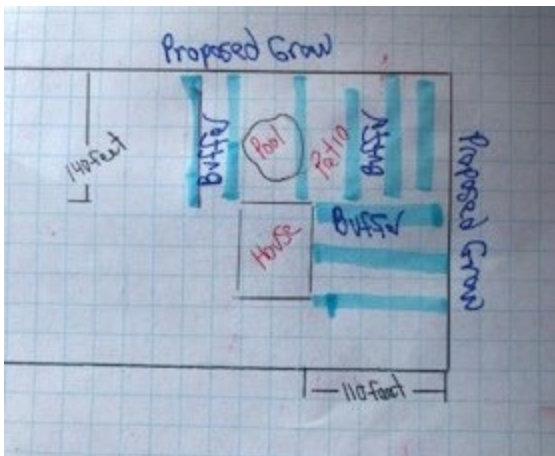
Please consider what constitutes an indoor versus outdoor grow. Is it the thickness of a wall, the ventilation system, having power? I have a "hoop house." All the air from inside comes out a vent that is about 1/60 of the plastic covering the volume of indoor space. With electricity, there will be fans blowing air out that opening. That seems just like an indoor grow to me. Because of this, I request you extend the buffers to 1000 feet around residential properties or consider adding odor restrictions on hoop houses.

2. Water

We are in a drought. Thirty percent of California has been declared in drought emergency by our Governor, including our county. Please do not allow unlimited water use for cannabis growing with no water restrictions, regulations, or metering.

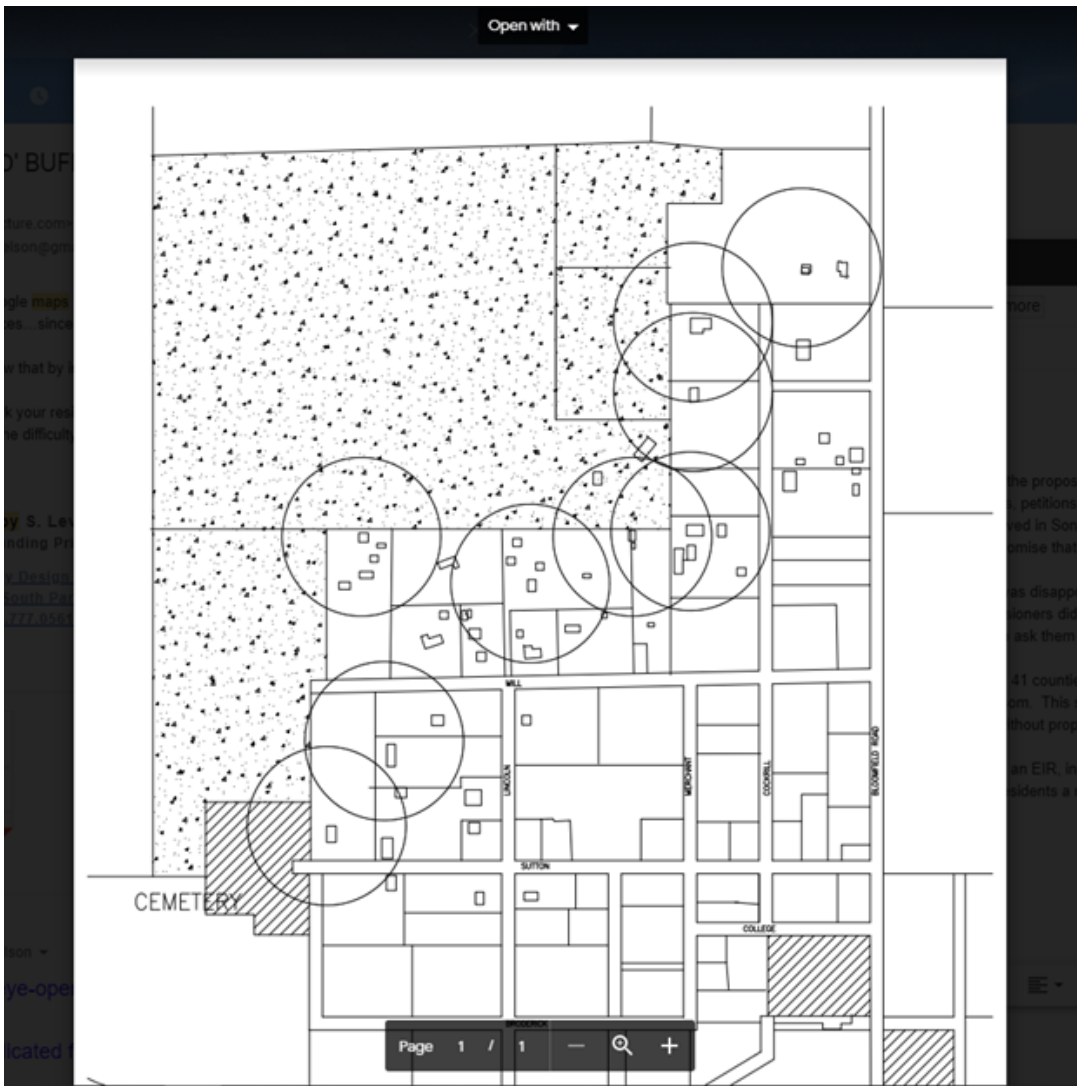
3. The 300 foot buffer/setback starting at the residence

Here is an example of what the 300-foot buffer/setback will be on my residential property in Bloomfield:



We have a pool and patio in that exact proposed buffer/setback zone. My grandkids and the neighborhood kids swim and play in that buffer zone. In fact, over 50 percent of my property in Bloomfield would be considered a setback zone, the way this ordinance is now written.

The proposed grow in Bloomfield has eight properties that would be impacted in a similar way. The map below shows those impacts. What percent of a neighbor's property is fair to claim as a setback zone? Please consider it zero, and consider extending the setbacks to 1000 feet around residential properties.



Thank you for considering my comments,

Valorie Dallas  
Bloomfield, CA

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.  
**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected,



**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

Dear Supervisors:

I am a longtime Sonoma County resident. I have three issues I would like to be put on the record regarding the Cannabis Ordinance you are voting on May 18, 2021:

### 1. Approving "hoop houses" with electricity to be an outdoor grow

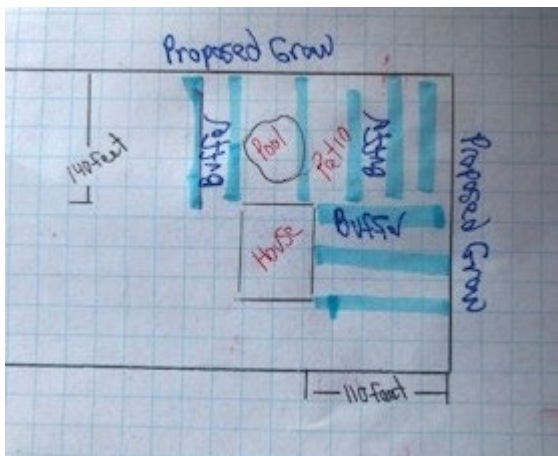
Please consider what constitutes an indoor versus outdoor grow. Is it the thickness of a wall, the ventilation system, having power? I have a "hoop house." All the air from inside comes out a vent that is about 1/60 of the plastic covering the volume of indoor space. With electricity, there will be fans blowing air out that opening. That seems just like an indoor grow to me. Because of this, I request you extend the buffers to 1000 feet around residential properties or consider adding odor restrictions on hoop houses.

### 2. Water

We are in a drought. Thirty percent of California has been declared in drought emergency by our Governor, including our county. Please do not allow unlimited water use for cannabis growing with no water restrictions, regulations, or metering.

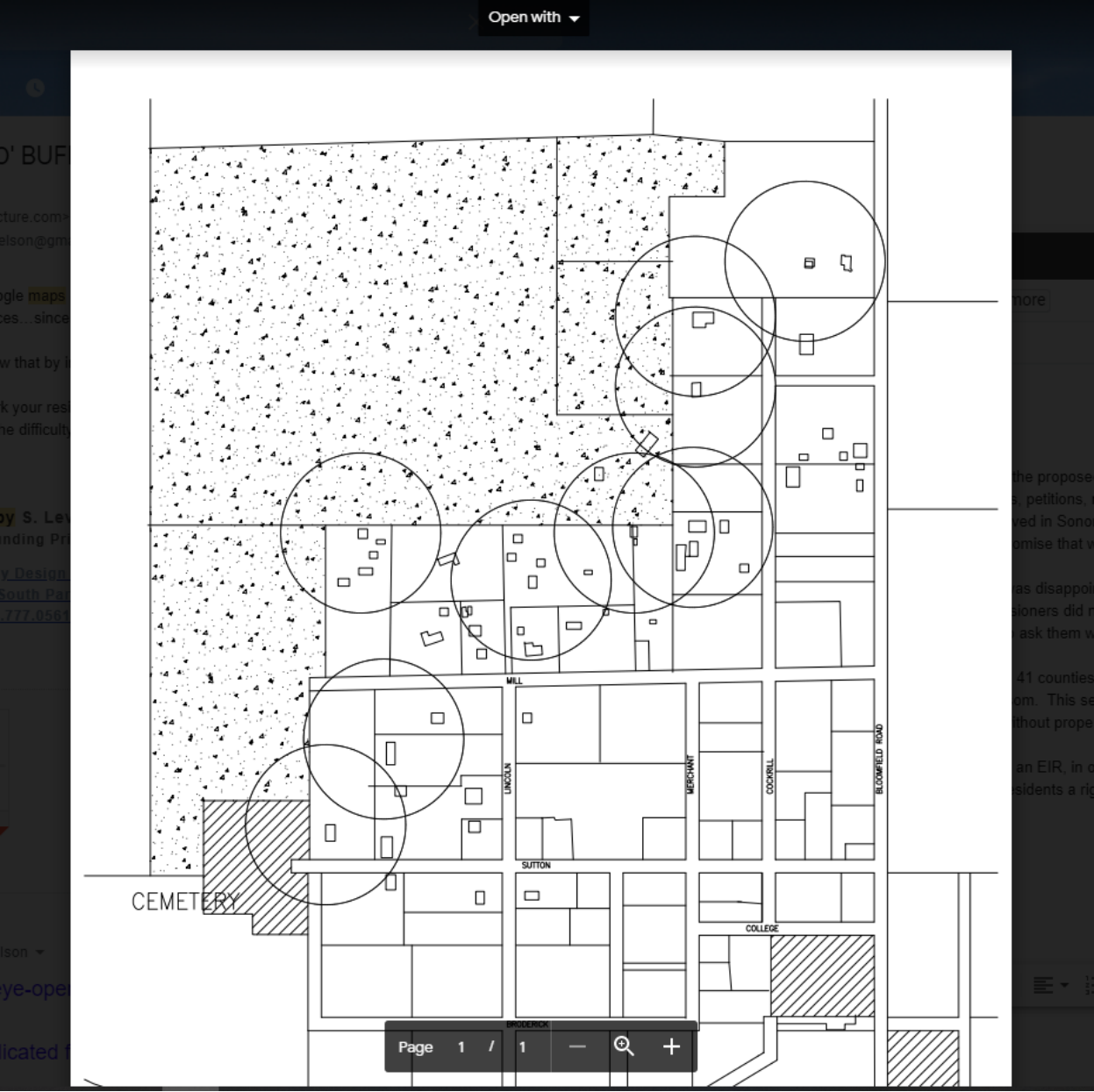
### 3. The 300 foot buffer/setback starting at the residence

Here is an example of what the 300-foot buffer/setback will be on my residential property in Bloomfield:



We have a pool and patio in that exact proposed buffer/setback zone. My grandkids and the neighborhood kids swim and play in that buffer zone. In fact, over 50 percent of my property in Bloomfield would be considered a setback zone, the way this ordinance is now written.

The proposed grow in Bloomfield has eight properties that would be impacted in a similar way. The map below shows those impacts. What percent of a neighbor's property is fair to claim as a setback zone? Please consider it zero, and consider extending the setbacks to 1000 feet around residential properties.



Thank you for considering my comments,

Valorie Dallas  
Bloomfield, CA

**From:** [Veva Edelson](#)  
**To:** [Cannabis](#); [Susan Gorin](#); [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [David Rabbitt](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Chris Coursey](#); [Sean Hamlin](#); [district4](#); [James Gore](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Lynda Hopkins](#); [Leo Chyi](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance BOS 5/18/21- Complete an EIR and then write an ordinance, please.  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 12:47:00 PM

---

## EXTERNAL

*Dear Supervisors,*

*I have been closely following the amendments and revisions to the cannabis ordinance for Sonoma County, have read the letters in the newspapers and the information and analysis from neighborhood groups.*

*I'm unhappy that the County has not reached out to residents and has been influenced too much by the cannabis industry in drafting this policy. I have come to the conclusion that the Subsequent Mitigated Declaration is fatally flawed and unfixable.*

*It is time to return to the Board's earlier decision to do a project-wide EIR for Phase 2. Sonoma County needs an EIR, one which will protect our natural resources, will comply with CEQA requirements and, at the same time, give residents a right to their health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.*

*Please do not approve this proposed cannabis ordinance as written.*

*Best,*

*Veva Edelson*

*Piano Farm  
District 2 Bloomfield*

*Farm Bureau Member  
Farm Trails Member*

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Tina Thomas](#)  
**To:** [Marcie Woychik](#)  
**Cc:** [Andrea Krout](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cannabis Ordinance Proposed Improvements letter of May 3, 2021  
**Date:** Monday, May 10, 2021 2:59:11 PM  
**Attachments:** [Neighborhood Response to Cannabis Ordinance.pdf](#)

---

Good Morning Marcie,

Supervisor Rabbitt receive the attached letter in response to the cannabis ordinance item for May 18<sup>th</sup>. I believe you may have already received this letter as the CAO office was cc'd but wanted to make sure it made it into public comment.

Thank you,

**Tina Thomas**

Board of Supervisors Aide, Second District David Rabbitt

County of Sonoma

Email: [tina.thomas@sonoma-county.org](mailto:tina.thomas@sonoma-county.org)

Phone: (707) 565-2241

---

**From:** Dick and Vi Strain <[vcrstrain@yahoo.com](mailto:vcrstrain@yahoo.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 7, 2021 8:13 PM  
**To:** Tina Thomas <[Tina.Thomas@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Tina.Thomas@sonoma-county.org)>  
**Subject:** Cannabis Ordinance Proposed Improvements letter of May 3, 2021

**EXTERNAL**

Hi Tina,

In our meeting today with Supervisor Rabbitt, I asked if he had the above letter and he was not sure so I've attached it and would appreciate your getting it to him. Thank you

Vi Strain

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

May 3, 2021

Sonoma County Board of Supervisors  
575 Administration Drive, Room 100A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

RE: CANNABIS ORDINANCE, PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Dear Supervisors:

**We represent a coalition of neighbors and environmental activists who are trying to preserve what makes Sonoma County so special: our scenic beauty and precious natural resources. The solution is small cannabis grows away from residences, not in public view, and not spreading noise or odor. This is not what is proposed.**

We don't expect to make millions of dollars from this policy change, like growers will, nor are we backed by major investors or powerful political players. We are ordinary homeowners and nature lovers, and we vote, consistently, as do our friends. We are local people who want to make Sonoma County better for everyone.

Members of our coalition have been constructively participating in this issue for years. At your behest, we have volunteered for community planning groups, reached out to staff, participated in public meetings, written letters and made endless suggestions to improve this new policy — only to see most of our recommendations sidelined and ignored. We are frustrated.

The proposed changes to the cannabis permitting process will be some of the most significant land use changes in Sonoma County in the last 40 years and, during a crushing pandemic when families are struggling with immediate needs, almost no one who's not already a grower or adjacent neighbor knows about it. Consider the context:

- Written into the Subsequent Mitigated Negative Declaration (SMND) document, more than 65,000 acres have been identified by the County for potential ministerial permits. The County, however, has *not* identified high fire danger zones, areas without a reliable source of water, lands with endangered species, areas away from neighborhoods, nor important open spaces, among other omissions. While proponents say they don't expect that many acres to actually be approved for grows, no one is offering a smaller number of acres than the 65,753 acres already stated. It's too much cannabis, and we need the County to clearly state a reduction in the acreage available for permits.
- This policy will grow tons of a new water-guzzling product, yet it relies on water survey data from 1980. We face a historically bad drought emergency that will likely extend for multiple years, caused by climate change, never considered in that 1980 data, the 20-year old General Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or the SMND prepared for this policy. This policy change should not move forward without evaluating our current water resources, determining if we have enough supply to meet current and projected demand in normal and drought years.
- Calls from environmental experts and affected community members (and several Planning Commissioners) for a full Environmental Impact Report (EIR) have been ignored too many times to count. The SMND is fatally flawed. We need a full EIR which could allow the County to determine suitable areas for future grows.
- The legal recommendations and Agency input, including the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) recommendations, among others, have not been incorporated, putting our county and taxpayers at risk of another expensive lawsuit.

***This is not how we should run our county. Fortunately, you have the power to course-correct and find true consensus in our community. We offer these recommendations below in that spirit.***

## **1. Recognize the Cumulative Impacts on Neighborhoods and our Environment**

- A. Invest in a full Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to comply with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements, fully analyze and proactively identify locations for cannabis cultivation that are least impactful on residences and agricultural, resource, commercial and industrial zoned parcels, plus set an acreage cap for each groundwater basin.
- B. Suspend issuing and renewing cannabis permits until the EIR is completed, until setbacks between cannabis cultivation and residences and other sensitive uses are increased, and until other flaws in the newly revised Commercial Cannabis ordinances are addressed.
- C. Improve the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) processes as follows: Undertake normal land use planning for cannabis by identifying suitable sites, after the EIR is completed, and clearly identify State permit requirements, including project-specific environmental review and site criteria for proposed projects. Then determine areas suitable for cannabis operations based on evaluation of:
  - i. Water availability and impacts
  - ii. Proximity to residential homes, schools/childcare, parks/recreation, waste stream impacts from excess wastewater and plastic hoop houses
  - iii. Avoiding open spaces, all identified scenic resources, community separators, access roads, wildfire danger and other hazards, endangered or sensitive species, wildlife corridors, riparian corridors, wetlands, and historic/archeological/cultural resource sites
  - iv. Providing accessibility to law enforcement
- D. Satisfy CEQA including for ministerial permits, predetermine suitable locations that remove the need for discretion by County staff on aspects like hydrogeological analysis, biotic assessment, proper access roads, analysis of visual blight, fire risk, etc. Projects resulting in fencing, 24-hour security, nuisance lighting and odor emissions are by definition changing their surrounding environment, and thus triggering CEQA requirements.
- E. In short, align with California state regulations including:
  - i. Prop 64 – as implemented by the California Department of Food and Agriculture
  - ii. Fire safe roads – as implemented by the Board of Forestry
  - iii. CEQA – include CEQA requirements for ministerial permits
  - iv. State Water Resources Control Board and Department of Water Resources requirements for water demand, wastewater disposal and required setbacks for biotic resources, riparian habitats, etc.
- F. Eliminate the practice of issuing multiple ministerial permits to separate growers on the same or adjacent parcels. This is a loophole which leads to cumulative impacts as it amplifies the impacts many times over, obfuscates liability for violations, and does not comply with project-specific CEQA review and cumulative impact review as currently required by State law.
- G. Restore the Health and Safety clause in Chapter 38. Residents have a right to health, safety and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.
- H. Limit permitted acreage in any 10-mile square zone to prevent saturation of any one area.
- I. For all ministerial permits, impose a local residency requirement to stop the influx of non-Sonoma County operators, where “operators” are defined as owning at least 51% of the applying business.
- J. Prohibit the use of all single-use plastics in cannabis grow operations, especially for hoop houses.
- K. End the Penalty Relief Program (PRP) after May 31, 2021 and schedule public hearings for all remaining PRPs by September 30, 2021. Enough time has elapsed to give aspiring growers the opportunity to fix their applications and reapply.

## **2. Preserve Water and Open Spaces**

- A. Maintain the Planning Commission’s inserted prohibition on all cannabis cultivation in Sonoma County’s Class 3 and 4 groundwater areas for all ministerial permits, and the County should assess water availability in all water zones as recommended by CDFW, before issuing new conditional use permits.
- B. Prohibit trucking of water or recycled wastewater under all circumstances.
- C. Require all wells to be independently monitored using a micro grid network system. Take precautionary steps to ensure that residential and agricultural wells do not run dry due to cannabis groundwater extraction or catchment systems.
- D. Prohibit all cannabis cultivation in voter-passed Community Separator parcels.
- E. Limit permit approvals during a drought, as declared by the State of California, to applicants that grow cannabis only using dry farming techniques with strict monitoring by the County.
- F. Trees with fruit or nuts have, since the original draft ordinance was published, been exempted from tree protections. Since many (or most) trees have fruits or nuts – including oak trees, whose acorns are both fruits and nuts – this exemption must be removed from proposed Chapter 38, or clarified so that the explicit intent is clear, resulting in continued protections from removal for oak and other trees.

## **3. Increase Setbacks, Neighborhood Compatibility and Odor Controls**

- A. Require 1,000 foot minimum setbacks, from the property line, for outdoor and hoop house cultivation and 300 foot minimum setbacks for indoor cultivation — for all residences, schools, childcare facilities and parks.
- B. Require that no odor will cross the property line for all indoor cultivation and processing.
- C. Create a “Rural Residential Exclusion Zone” option for neighbors to pursue, which would be a simple and speedy (less than six months) mechanism to exclude commercial cannabis production from certain locations based on potential harm to watersheds, including wells serving residential homes, endangered species, neighborhoods with multiple homes, poor access roads and/or other site-specific constraints.
- D. Do not open agricultural or resource lands to cannabis events. Follow CalCannabis’ rules for events in commercial and industrial areas.
- E. For outdoor cultivation, require the applicant to submit the results of air quality modeling that show terpene emission levels under a series of typical weather conditions during the growing and harvesting season at the cultivation location. The modeling shall include all current and proposed sources of terpene emissions within one mile of the cultivation location, and the County may require setbacks deeper than 1,000 feet to mitigate offsite odor from outdoor and hoop house cultivation.

## **4. Centralize Processing of the Product**

- A. Prohibit cannabis processing on-site and in residential, agricultural and resource zones. Instead, focus processing in facilities in commercial and industrial zoned land only.
- B. Prohibit cultivation and processing in areas without fire safe roads, which are narrow and often dead-end roads. This is another reason all processing should be done in our central corridor and not in our rural areas.



- C. State explicitly that cannabis is an agricultural product, not an agricultural crop, and therefore not the same as conventional agriculture and not subject to right-to-farm law.

**5. Enforce with Penalties that Deter Law-breakers**

- A. Change the initial term of permits to match the State License term of one year. This will allow the County to monitor performance and adjust standards on compliance with water, odor control, plastic handling and disposal. All evidenced claims of potential violations will be investigated immediately.
- B. Renew permits with no violations or unresolved complaints for two years, with the caveat that if violations and complaints occur later, the County will revoke the permit, effective immediately.
- C. Require posting of a \$50,000 bond upon issuance of each permit, to be used to remove structures, fencing and trash if the operator abandons a grow site, as well as to pay for enforcement; otherwise, the taxpayers will shoulder these costs.
- D. Do not give cannabis growers notice prior to inspections of their facilities for compliance checks. State law does not require this.
- E. Implement an enforcement team, similar to Humboldt County, consisting of Sheriffs, Fish and Wildlife and Water Resources staff to perform surprise inspections for compliance.
- F. Stop bad actors. Any person performing an illegal or un-permitted activity shall be required to stop all activities immediately, dismantle operations, pay a fine and be put under a two year probation where the violating operator will not be issued any cannabis permits.

In a news article from Sunday, April 18, the Press Democrat reported “cannabis varies in value from \$5.5 million to \$6 million per acre annually, compared to wine grapes that were about a \$11,000 per-acre value in 2019, county Agriculture Commissioner Andrew Smith said.” There’s a lot of money on the table, we understand that.

**But pushing through a major policy like this — during a pandemic when so many people are struggling, without adequate environmental review, during a drought emergency with no adequate evaluation of water availability, or listening to affected neighbors — it’s an unnecessary rush to judgment. Don’t pass this Ordinance just to get it off your agenda, like an ill-advised Chanate sale or an ill-conceived school funding ballot measure, because this will come back to haunt you. Slow down, listen to neighbors and the environmental community, learn from past mistakes, and let’s do this the right way.**

Make the changes we requested above and give neighbors and our environment a better deal. We cannot afford to get this wrong. Thank you.

Sincerely,

**Bridget Beytagh**  
Friends of Graton (FOG)

**Tess and Tom Danaher**  
Barlow Lane Neighbors

**Deborah Eppstein**

**Ron Evenich**  
No Pot on Pepper Lane

**Chris Gralapp**  
Bennett Valley Citizens for  
Safe Development

**Kim Gutzman**  
Barlow Lane Neighbors

**Bill Krawetz**  
Gold Ridge Neighborhood

**Katie Moore**

**Anna Ransome**  
Friends of Graton (FOG)

**Vi Strain**  
Concerned Citizens of  
Bloomfield

**Marsha Vas Dupre and Jack  
Dupre**

**Rachel and Gene Zierdt**  
Coffee Lane Neighbors

CC:

Sonoma County Administrators Office  
Sonoma County Counsel's Office  
Sonoma County Agriculture Commission  
Mayors of Sonoma County Cities  
The Press Democrat  
Petaluma Argus Courier  
Sonoma West Times & News  
Kenwood Press  
Oakmont Times  
North Bay Business Journal  
Sonoma County Gazette  
Sonoma Index-Tribune  
Sonoma Sun  
Greenbelt Alliance  
Sierra Club  
Sonoma County Water Coalition  
Sonoma County Conservation Action  
Preserve Rural Sonoma County  
Bay Area Chapter of the Gospel Coalition  
Interfaith Council of Sonoma County  
League of Women Voters  
North Bay Labor Council  
Sonoma County Vintners Association

**From:** [Dick and Vi Strain](#)  
**To:** [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#); [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#)  
**Subject:** Keep 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways in the Cannabis Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 2:06:36 PM

---

**EXTERNAL**

Dear Supervisors,

I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*" They do not need further clarification or codification.

Vi Strain

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** [Veronique Wiggs](#)  
**To:** [Arielle Kubu-Jones](#); [Andrea Krout](#); [district3](#); [Jenny Chamberlain](#); [district5](#); [Cannabis](#)  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 6:29:20 PM

---

## EXTERNAL

Dear Supervisors -

I urge you to maintain the 1000' setbacks to Class 1 Bikeways that are a part of the current Draft Cannabis Ordinance and to not accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission that these setbacks be eliminated. These trails are our linear parks. They are defined in the Sonoma County Code of Ordinances as "*all land or water owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the Sonoma County park system.*" They do not need further clarification or codification.

Veronique wiggs  
Graton

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.