

Martinez, Ruben

From: Lory Nadia
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2021 3:13 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Support for Sweet Flower

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Dear City Council Members,

Re: Support for Sweet Flower with the amendment of Zoning Code to Cannabis Regs

My name is Lory Nadia, long time resident of Pasadena and I advocate for the successful passing of the Zoning Code Amendment to Cannabis Businesses Regulations on Monday, April 19 2021 in support of Sweet Flower.

Staff's recommendation is a fair solution for the applicants and best scenario to generate more tax revenue for the City of Pasadena.

Please support the staff recommendation and vote in favor of amending the current ordinance. I'm excited to see Sweet Flower as a retailer in Pasadena.

Thank You,

Lory Nadia

Pasadena, CA 91104

Martinez, Ruben

From: Caroline Cardenas <>
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2021 3:21 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public hearing- Against more cannabis shops opening

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Good afternoon!

I was born and raised in Pasadena and have been an employee as well for the last decade. I believe it would be a great disservice to the community of Pasadena to pass this without a vote from the citizens. Pasadena just recently allowed commercial cannabis into the city at the end of 2020 and has struggled to keep the black market shops at bay. I believe it would be counter productive to lower the distance and allow more shops in the city. I propose we allow the current businesses to show the city they're capable of operating under the Pasadena City guidelines before we discuss expansion.

Furthermore, it's incredibly disheartening to read all of the letters in favor the change are from a large cannabis business and are clearly fraudulent considering they're all obviously "cut and paste" letters to flood and weigh the decision in their favor. This feels like a big business is trying to take advantage of our city, and the cannabis zoning laws that have been put in place to insure safety within the industry.

Thank you for your time.

Caroline Cardenas

Martinez, Ruben

From: Leonard Wang
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2021 3:35 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for April 19 City Council meeting

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Dear City Council Members,

I am a business owner in Pasadena. I urge the city to leave the current cannabis ordinances as is and not make any modifications. Two or three cannabis businesses is enough for a city the size of Pasadena. I would point that Santa Barbara only has 3 dispensaries and Pomona allows only 2.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,
Leonard

RECEIVED

April 19, 2021

2021 APR 19 PM 4:30

Dear Mayor Gordo and Councilmembers:

This correspondence is meant to give more depth to the importance of providing an avenue to local cannabis retailers, who take the notion of "Social Equity" seriously.

Long standing members of the council and city staff will remember the Pasadena Community Coalition's (PCC) open letter to the Mayor, Council and staff in June of 2019, regarding cannabis licensing which opened: Who is looking out for us (the community most affected by the drug wars)!

In response to the question the PCC became by default the quasi-compliance officer for the city (and the community). It became clear that the retailers were not concerned with giving back to the communities of color most affected by the drug wars by providing jobs, partnerships or funding for these communities but, only to give lip service to this priority until a CUP was obtained.

A testament to this is a comment by a representative for one of the retailers where he causally states that we can worry about social equity later. One retailer which is hard to actually identify as it started as Integral/Essence and was recently identified to us as owned by Green Thumb Industries (GTI), refused to honor their social equity commitments stating a change in ownership/leadership makes any agreements null & void. Harvest who we understand may also have changed ownership/leadership showed no interest in working out a social equity plan to benefit the community. Without consequences for lack of real social equity compliance it will never happen.

On the other hand, Sweetflower reached out to the Coalition and through a series of meetings put together a MOU (memorandum of understanding), detailing their commitment in writing to social equity!

In reading the the attached documents and independent research it is clear that Sweetflower has followed through on its commitment to social equity.

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Back to the original question: who is looking out for us? The PCC for one and it appears that at least one cannabis retailer who has also answered the call. If amending the ordinance will finally bring a retailer with a social equity conscience and commitment, how can we say no? Amend the ordinance.

Martin A. Gordon
Chair/CEO
Pasadena Community Coalition

Martinez, Ruben

From: Landy Chen ·
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2021 4:18 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: I do not support the city in adding more dispensaries to Pasadena.

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I do not support the city in adding more dispensaries to Pasadena.

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Landy Chen

Martinez, Ruben

From: Pauline < >
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2021 4:26 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Please don't open up more dispensaries!

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Hello there,
Thanks for taking the time to read this.

I am a current resident in Pasadena and I wanted to take the time to speak out AGAINST the opening of more dispensaries in my neighborhood.

While cannabis is a wonderful medicine, I truly believe that opening more dispensaries in this town will:

1. Destroy the old town character of this historic town. This town became a part of LA county in 1850 and it has a very special history/historic architecture. It would be a shame to see this city become homogenized.
2. Most importantly, we must protect our children! Studies have shown that youth who grow up around dispensaries are more open and lax about their attitudes toward cannabis. While cannabis has many medicinal properties to offer, it interferes with proper cognitive development. It can even trigger psychosis in some individuals with a family history of psychosis and schizophrenia!

Please consider my pleas to keep Pasadena a family-friendly town where we can still enjoy the Old Town feel.

Thank you so much for your time and everything you do for the people of this beautiful, history-filled town. I appreciate you all!

Pauline Lee

04/19/2021
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Martinez, Ruben

From: jay you <
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2021 4:52 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Pasadena dispensaries

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I am a resident of pasadena and please don't let any more dispensaries in pasadena.

It is my opinion that we do not need more than 1. And this is enough.

Thank you

Jay You

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