



day one

175 n. euclid ave. pasadena, ca 91101

p 626.229.9750 f 626.765.6239

www.goDayOne.org

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economic justice director

September 13, 2021

Dear Mayor Gordo and Members of the City Council,

**Re: AMENDING CHAPTER 17.50 OF TITLE 17 (ZONING CODE) OF THE PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE TO INCREASE POTENTIAL CANNABIS RETAIL SITES, AND TO CORRECT DISTANCE SEPARATION BETWEEN CANNABIS LABS AND OTHER CANNABIS USES**

Day One is incredibly concerned about the proposed amendments to the city's municipal code allowing for additional licensed cannabis retailers.

The proposed changes have the potential to severely impact the health and safety of youth across the community. By increasing the number of cannabis retailers, we are effectively increasing the accessibility of cannabis by youth. Although we know that it is illegal for youth to purchase cannabis, increasing the number of retailers in the community increases the amount of cannabis circulating within the community. According to the California Health Kids Survey (2018-19), only 9% of PUSD 9<sup>th</sup> graders reported that cannabis was difficult to obtain in Pasadena. This is incredibly concerning given the risks associated with cannabis use for anyone under the age of 21.

Cannabis use during adolescence is directly associated with:

- Lower academic performance
- Increased risk for mental health issues
- Impaired brain development
- Increased risky behavior

As an agency committed to supporting the development of youth and increasing opportunities for youth throughout Pasadena, we ask that you oppose any amendments to CHAPTER 17.50 OF TITLE 17 of the city's municipal code. We urge you to think about the potential impacts associated with increasing the number of cannabis retailers in our community and support the health and safety of youth across Pasadena.

Sincerely,

Christy Zamani,  
Executive Director

Day One is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization with a 30-year history of providing effective, high quality and culturally-sensitive public health education, intervention, and policy development. Day One builds vibrant, healthy cities by advancing public health, empowering youth and igniting change.

Tax ID number 95-4172246

**09/13/2021**  
**Item 18**

**Flores, Valerie**

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**From:** Michelle Cheung  
**Sent:** Monday, September 13, 2021 3:40 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Today's City Council Meeting (9/13)\_Item #18\_Cannabis Retail Sales

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Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council,

I respectfully oppose any action taken to reduce the distance between cannabis retailers in the City of Pasadena from 1,000 feet to 450 feet. I also opposes increasing the maximum number of cannabis retailers allowed in each city district from one to three. Amending the current cannabis retail regulations would drastically increase the access and availability of cannabis in our community which has been linked with an increase in cannabis consumption.

Additionally, reducing the distance between retail sites and increasing the number of sites will has to the potential to result in an overconcentration of cannabis retail sites which will not only expand access but also increase the exposure and visibility of cannabis in our community. Youth are especially vulnerable to this type of exposure and influence.

Resident of District 7 and Community Worker,  
Michelle Cheung

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**09/13/2021  
Item 18**



**Michelle Cheung 蔣劉詩敏 | Equity Coordinator**

**a: 175 N Euclid Ave, Pasadena, CA 91101**

**c:**

**e: [michelle@godayone.org](mailto:michelle@godayone.org)**

Day One builds vibrant, healthy cities by advancing  
public health, empowering youth, and igniting change.

**DO Stay Home DO Stay Healthy DO Stay Connected**

**<https://www.godayone.org/>**

**<https://www.godayone.org/toma>**

[illegible]

Dear Mayor Victor Gordo and members of the City Council.

RAM respectfully asks that this council consider the dangerous risks associated with increasing the number of cannabis retailers in Pasadena in an effort to protect the public health and safety of all community members. As a leading city in the San Gabriel Valley, we ask that the City of Pasadena take stand against the expansion of the cannabis industry and protect the future of our youth.

*BVA*

09/13/2021  
Item 18

**Flores, Valerie**

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**From:** Jennifer Jimenez  
**Sent:** Monday, September 13, 2021 4:22 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** Public Comment Action Item #18

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**\*Permission to read out loud during the hearing if possible.**

Good evening Mayor Gordo and Members of the City Council,

My name is Jennifer Jimenez. I've been a Pasadena resident for over 26 years. Pasadena is a place I call home. It is needless to say that I am agitated about the possibility of Pasadena increasing the number of cannabis retailers. I urge each of the city council members governing the city meeting today to consider opposing any amendments to CHAPTER 17.50 of TITLE 17 of the city's municipal code. As a resident of Pasadena and a mother, I am incredibly concerned about the proposed amendments to the city's municipal code allowing for additional licenses for cannabis retailers. Increasing the number of cannabis retailers will severely impact the health and safety of my child and other youth in our community. I always considered the city of Pasadena as one of the safest cities for my family and me and allowing this to happen makes it difficult to believe that. I want city council members to take action and protect our neighborhoods and families. I've had to deal with neighbors smoking cannabis next door to me and impacting my health and my newborn child. Even though marijuana is legal some members in our community do not abide by the regulations of not smoking in multi-unit housing and local public areas. This will encourage members to continue doing that and more. Second-hand smoke has a greater impact on those who do not smoke any substance such as children, youth, and seniors. If you all really do not care about the well-being of Pasadena please fulfill your commitment to keeping Pasadena safe by opposing any amendments to CHAPTER 17.50 of TITLE 17 of the city's municipal code.

Thank you for your consideration.

**09/18/2021  
Item 18**

**Flores, Valerie**

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**From:** Benjamin Jimenez  
**Sent:** Monday, September 13, 2021 4:32 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** Public Comment: Action Item #18 Opposing

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Good evening Mayor Gordo and Members of the City Council,

My name is Benjamin Jimenez. I've been a Pasadena resident for over 40 years. As a parent and resident, I am furious and worried about the possibility of Pasadena increasing the number of cannabis retailers. I urge each of the city council members governing the city meeting today to consider opposing any amendments to CHAPTER 17.50 of TITLE 17 of the city's municipal code. I am incredibly concerned about the proposed amendments to the city's municipal code allowing for additional licenses for cannabis retailers. Increasing the number of cannabis retailers will severely impact my family's health and safety. I want city council members to take action and protect our neighborhoods and families. This is why we voted for you all to keep Pasadena safe from drugs. This will only bring in more crime and drug addicts into our city something you all have been fighting for. I will not feel safe in my community if you allow this to happen. I've had to deal with neighbors smoking cannabis next door to me and impacting my health and my family. I've had to go to the doctor numerous times as a senior (72 years old) because of second-hand smoke. Second-hand smoke has a greater impact on those who do not smoke any substance. If you all really do not care about the well-being of Pasadena please fulfill your commitment to keeping Pasadena safe by opposing any amendments to CHAPTER 17.50 of TITLE 17 of the city's municipal code.

Thank you for your consideration.



ReplyForward

09/13/2021  
Item 18

**Flores, Valerie**

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**From:** Jacqueline Jimenez  
**Sent:** Monday, September 13, 2021 4:41 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** Public Comment Action Item #18 Opposing

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Good evening Mayor Gordo and Members of the City Council,

My name is Jacqueline Jimenez. I've been a Pasadena resident for over 20 years. Pasadena is a place I call home and hope to continue doing so. I urge each of the city council members governing the city meeting today to consider opposing any amendments to CHAPTER 17.50 of TITLE 17 of the city's municipal code. As a resident of Pasadena and a student at Cal Poly. I am incredibly concerned about the proposed amendments to the city's municipal code allowing for additional licenses for cannabis retailers. Increasing the number of cannabis retailers will severely impact the health and safety of our community especially our youth. As a student, it is needless to say how easy and accessible it is to purchase marijuana. By allowing more cannabis retailers to come into our neighborhood it would only make it easier for our youth to get their hands on cannabis and impacting their health. Not only would it cause damage to our youth but it will cause damage to our city. More crime and drug addicts will make their way into our neighborhoods. I want city council members to take action and protect our neighborhoods and families. If you all really do not care about the well-being of Pasadena please fulfill your commitment to keeping Pasadena safe by opposing any amendments to CHAPTER 17.50 of TITLE 17 of the city's municipal code.

Thank you for your consideration.

**09/13/2021  
Item 18**

**Flores, Valerie**

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**From:** Isaias Gomez  
**Sent:** Monday, September 13, 2021 4:52 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** Public Comment Action Item #18 Opposing

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Good evening Mayor Gordo and Members of the City Council,

My name is Isaias Gomez. I just became a Pasadena resident a month ago. It is needless to say that I chose to live and start a family in Pasadena because I always thought Pasadena is one of the safest cities around LA County. I am worried about the possibility of Pasadena increasing the number of cannabis retailers. I urge each of the city council members governing the city meeting today to consider opposing any amendments to CHAPTER 17.50 of TITLE 17 of the city's municipal code. As a new resident of Pasadena and a father, I am incredibly concerned about the proposed amendments to the city's municipal code allowing for additional licenses for cannabis retailers. Increasing the number of cannabis retailers will severely impact the health and safety of my child and other vulnerable populations in our community. I want city council members to take action and protect our neighborhoods and families. I've had to deal with neighbors smoking cannabis next door to me and impacting my health and my newborn child. Irresponsible community members already do not abide by the regulations of not smoking in multi-unit housing and local public areas. This will encourage members to continue doing that and more. Making cannabis more available in our community would only do more damage to our community than good such as bringing in more crime into our city. If you all really do not care about the safety and well-being of Pasadena please fulfill your commitment to keeping Pasadena safe by opposing any amendments to CHAPTER 17.50 of TITLE 17 of the city's municipal code. Thank you for your time and consideration.



**Flores, Valerie**

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**From:** Ashley Carrasco  
**Sent:** Monday, September 13, 2021 5:27 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** 9/13/21 city council meeting agenda #18

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Good evening,

My name is Ashley Carrasco and I am a voting resident of District 1 and I am here to ask council to decline any changes to the current zoning codes. A change in the zoning code could increase the number of dispensaries near schools and create hot spots that contribute to people smoking in public school spaces such as parks and parking lots. After experiencing so much change and loss due to the pandemic, the last thing our community needs is more access to marijuana. Please keep your community's best interest in mind and decline the change. Thank you for your time,  
Ashley

**09/13/2021  
Item 18**