McClenagan, Laura

From: Greta Turney <kneeland@kneelandsd.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2021 10:32 AM

To: Wilson, Mike; Planning Clerk; Acevedo, Megan; hcpcmccavour@gmail.com; Bushnell, Michelle;

mnewman@gpins.com; mrbrian707@gmail.com; noah@landwaterconsulting.com; Madrone, Steve;

sregon@aol.com; Bass, Virginia; hrh707@outlook.com; Bohn, Rex

Subject: Linda Lorvig - Kneeland School Board Member - opposition letter

Attachments: Linda Lorvig Kneeland School District,-1.pdf

To the Planning Department of Humboldt County:

This letter from Linda Lorvig, Kneeland School's Board Member, is in response to the proposed special permit record number PLN-2020-17313, assessor's parcel number (APN) 314-311-037. We formally request that this letter of opposition, in addition to the letter the Kneeland School board president has also submitted, be entered into the permanent record and added to the agenda for the planning hearing at the scheduled time for which this permit will be discussed.

Thank you,

Greta

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Superintendent/Teacher Kneeland School District 9313 Kneeland Rd. Kneeland CA 95549 (707)442-5472 (707)442-7784 fax



County of Humboldt Planning and Building Department 3015 H Street Eureka, California 95501

Email: Planningclerk@co.humboldt.ca.us

Macevedo@co.humboldt.ca.us

Re: Opposition to Commercial Cannabis Cultivation

Record Number PLN-2020-17313; APN 314-311-037

Dear Zoning Administrator

I am writing in strong opposition of the proposed cannabis cultivation site on Cross Creek road. I am a board member for Kneeland School District which is a rural school located a mile from the proposed cannabis cultivation site. The school serves students from ages 4 to 14, grades Transitional Kindergarten to eighth grade. The school is also one of only two community entities for Kneeland – Kneeland School and Kneeland Fire Protection District.

The establishment of the proposed cannabis cultivation on Cross Creek Road will negatively impact the Kneeland community and Kneeland School. Kneeland School's funding relies on the average daily attendance of students. Rezoning parcels on Kneeland Mountain removes the opportunities for families to move in and establish homesteads thereby directly affecting Kneeland School's enrollment.

The planning commission did not lawfully notify the district of this rezoning proposal. The disregard for following legal procedures for notifications should negate the proposal completely. The school keeps thorough records of all cannabis proposal plans and responds to each proposal promptly. There is no record of this proposal, and there is no proof provided that Kneeland School District was notified, nor that the school responded. Had the committee followed procedures, the school would have provided information regarding a bus stop that has been utilized since 1995 within immediate proximity of the above proposed site.

According to Ordinance 2599 (Adopted May 18, 2018), the Board of Supervisors' intent in amending this ordinance was "to ensure the public health, safety and welfare of residents of the

County of Humboldt . . . [and] to protect the environment from harm resulting from cannabis activities, including but not limited to residential neighborhoods, schools, [and] community institutions. . . ." This project threatens the existence of our school and community institutions, and violates the County's own ordinances.

The proposal outlines an extensive development of thousands of square feet of land which will require an abundance of vehicles and equipment to travel up and down Kneeland Road, directly in front of the school, but also simultaneously with our school bus. There are only two paved roads in the immediate vicinity of the school: Kneeland Road and Barry Road. Both of these roads are utilized by our school bus, and both of these roads are narrow without a shoulder on either side of the road. Large vehicle traffic on these two roads will pose a real danger for transporting our students to and from school. Beyond the development of the cultivation, the vehicles required to transport workers to and from the location, and the large trailers required to transport the product will pose additional threats to the safety of our students.

The amount of water that the cultivation proposes to use annually is an exorbitant amount of water that will directly threaten the sustainability of water resources for the school and for the community. The school monitors water levels and has a licensed water specialist on site to maintain the water system at the school. When the school's water specialist informs the staff and board of low water levels, the school minimizes water usage beyond the necessities required to keep our students safe. The depletion of Kneeland's water shed by the amount proposed by the cultivation will be detrimental. The school currently has a waiver to avoid costly water testing for contamination of chemicals commonly used in commercial agriculture because there is no commercial agriculture within two miles of the campus. This cultivation will be 1.2 miles away from the school and will likely cause a loss of that waiver, forcing the school to implement costly water testing for agricultural pollutants leaching into the water shed.

Kneeland School strongly opposes the zoning and construction of the proposed cannabis cultivation development.

Sincerely,

Linda Lorvig

Kneeland School Board of Trustees member