

From: Joey Shepp
Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2017 5:42 PM
To: Lazar, Steve; Ford, John; Planning Clerk
Subject: Concerns Regarding the Draft Commercial Cannabis Land Use Ordinance (CCLUO)

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is **Joey Shepp**. I am a landowner in Southern Humboldt, an applicant for existing cultivation and employee of a local cannabis company. I'm writing today to express concerns regarding the draft Commercial Cannabis Land Use Ordinance (CCLUO), published on November 10, 2017. As a landowner in Southern Humboldt, applying for existing 'open-air' cultivation, I look forward to engaging in the newly regulated cannabis market place and potentially investing in other local cannabis related businesses.

As I work my way through the application process in preparation for January 1, 2018 State licensing, I am experiencing a number of challenges with the draft language. The restrictions on ownership, the County's resistance to issuing provisional permits and the newly proposed restrictions on flammable solvent manufacturing pose significant challenges to Humboldt County's local cannabis farmer and the regulation of commercial cannabis.

1000 foot setback

Additionally, the County's proposed 1000 foot setback for open air cultivation and flammable solvent extraction facilities, stands to disqualify most properties from continuing the open air cultivation activities and renders most HM zoned parcels that would otherwise qualify for the Adaptive Reuse provisions, excluded from housing these much needed facilities. While it is understandable that the County would like to find a solution for odor related complaints while addressing safety concerns it is important that the Commissioners and County Staff consider the potential environmental consequences associated with encouraging enclosed cultivation and the limitation of jobs if flammable solvent extraction facilities are zoned out of existence.

Four Acre Per Person Limit

In closing, I'd like to mention that the County's proposed permitting limit of four acres of cultivation per person, poses challenges to both farmers and other license types in regards to receiving local investment money. The current definition for 'person' is so broad that applying the four acre limit to cultivation related permit types could severely limit the ability of farmers to invest in much needed facilities such as nurseries, centralized processing and manufacturing, and distribution. Restricting the ability for locals to invest in much needed local facilities could have the unintentional consequence of encouraging investment from out of the area. I'd like to respectfully request that the Commissioners and County Staff consider eliminating the restriction on permit amounts completely, thereby allowing local applicants to invest in additional local facilities ultimately encouraging local money to stay local.

I want to thank the Commissioners and County staff for considering the concerns expressed in this letter. Please see the following pages for language specific concerns and suggestions.

Sincerely,

Joey Shepp
SunFed Inc. CFO
Humboldt's Finest President