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Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 7:12 PM

To: Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>

Cc: Lumm, Jane <JLumm@a2gov.org>; Westphal, Kirk <KWestphal@a2gov.org>; Taylor, Christopher (Mayor) <CTaylor@a2gov.org>; Lazarus, Howard <HLazarus@a2gov.org>

Subject: Comment on Planning agenda items for March 20: medical marijuana provisioning centers

Dear Members of the Planning Commission and City staff,

I write concerning the special exception uses being granted to locations in the City to allow them to operate as medical marijuana provisioning centers.

I would ask that appropriate members of City staff make a personal visit to each applying location both actually to see the location and its surroundings but also to meet, if present, the applicants or their employees. I strongly suggest that at least one member of Planning Commission also visit each location. I have visited one location and, based on what I saw and learned there, I believe such visits would inform your decision making process.

I oppose approval of special exception uses for 603 East Williams Street, 338 South Ashley Street, 700 Tappan Street, and 2460 West Stadium Boulevard until such personal visits have been made.

I am aware, after speaking with City staff member, Brett Lenart, that granting a medical marijuana special exception use now does not imply that, if and when recreational marijuana is legal, the same locations will have to be granted the right to sell marijuana to the public. However, Brett also informed me that we simply do not know what laws the State of Michigan will enact to control the sale of marijuana under that future situation. I am concerned that the current medical marijuana provisioning locations will acquire the right to sell to the public and, if denied that "right," will threaten the City with lawsuits unless given the right. One could argue that these locations will become the "liquor" stores of the future. The experience of California and Colorado is that marijuana is a lucrative business, both for sellers and for the State. The prospective sellers will be able to fund a serious legal challenge to any negative City actions. Historically, the City of Ann Arbor and City Council have been forced, by threat of legal action, to allow large developments that most citizens and even City Council members opposed. I ask staff, Commission members and Council to work to avoid a repeat of that history, this time with marijuana sellers.

I would be happy to discuss this matter further with any interested party.

Jack Cederquist, 2145 Ardenne Drive, Ann Arbor 48105