

Public Comment re: Highland Farms Appeal/ BOS meeting January 14, 2025

I first wrote a public comment in opposition to the Highland Farms project and in support of the appeal on its approval on August 11, 2024. Everything I said in that comment still holds. I live adjacent to an approved cannabis project and have experience with odor problems affecting our quality of life and the seeming inability of the CDD to help us. The Highland Farms project is too close to a valuable county asset which is the Highland Springs Recreation Area and I don't have confidence that the County of Lake has the resources or determination to make sure that the serpentine on the property is handled properly nor does the county have the necessary tools and processes in place to adequately monitor the existing cannabis projects in our county, much less one of this size and this location.

My concern has increased as I have observed the handling of this appeal. I understand the need to be even-handed in dealing with all parties involved. However, I have had a growing sense of unease that there is behind the scenes dealing to make the project more amenable after Planning Commission approval which doesn't seem proper and may be the cause of the delays in the appeal. These delays are very hard on the appellants, who are not a large company but concerned residents of the area. It also makes it very hard for concerned citizens who are trying to monitor the issue while still going about daily lives. Please grant the appeal and withdraw approval of the Highland Farms project. Then let's focus on getting good processes in place so that we as a county are prepared to make sound decisions on commercial cannabis projects without risking our quality of life.

Thank you for your attention.

Lucinda Wilson