

**From:** Nikky Creager

Dear Carol,

Below is my original email to the Board of Supervisors that I sent on June 1. I would like to know why myself and many of my neighbors were not included in the public comment on the agenda for Appeal (AB 21-01). We want our voices heard. We are very concerned tax paying citizens that feel our quiet community is being threatened and not to mention the drought we are facing this summer. The water usage for this kind of cannabis grow is astronomical and not wise.

Dear Supervisors:

RE: Appeal (AB 21-01)

As you know there are three kinds of large-scale grows in Lake County.

1. Local residents who are also engaged in cannabis cultivation
2. Non-residents purchasing land for the sole purpose of large scale grows
3. Illegal grows that may seek to get licensed run by larger suspicious or criminal owners

In addition, I am sure you are aware there are life-long residents along with newer residents who are not happy with some of these grows.

I know there are many applications that come before you; I have heard over 300, so far. I know that while these applications and businesses bring money into our local economy, upsetting and losing long-time residents who contribute to our community and civic life is a detriment. Sustainability and growth in our community is dependent first and foremost on the people who make up the community.

Although funds are necessary, and we certainly could use more to bolster coffers at the public level, there are ways to rework the ordinances so that more people are happy. These large commercial grows in residential neighborhoods impact country roads both private and county, or bring odor and noise disruption into residential areas, long-time residents are not happy. Owners of these large grows are taking advantage of lax laws, and the county is taking advantage of the demand... but your constituents are not part of this equation.

No doubt some of your constituents have benefited from current ordinances. Most of these people have settled here and are integrated into our communities through schools and other community activities. But many come here from out of state to benefit from the current lenient ordinances and do not live here or plan to live here. They do not hire local and do not give back to our community. They destroy our land, deplete their well of water and move on to the next piece of land. Please see how Sonoma County is reassessing their ordinances to benefit both the people they serve and people they will serve with new growers moving to the area.

**Press Democrat** <https://www.pressdemocrat.com/article/news/sonoma-county-supervisors-pull-back-from-revised-cannabis-cultivation-ordin/>

**Sonoma West** [https://www.sonomawest.com/sonoma\\_west\\_times\\_and\\_news/news/county-s-cannabis-conversation-gets-a-reset/article\\_2aa67aec-b840-11eb-a04c-2bc651d3f7df.html?utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=email&utm\\_campaign=user-share](https://www.sonomawest.com/sonoma_west_times_and_news/news/county-s-cannabis-conversation-gets-a-reset/article_2aa67aec-b840-11eb-a04c-2bc651d3f7df.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share)

The people who elected you, who you serve, want their voices heard and acted upon. The ordinances can restricting you from taking action. It is time to revisit and change the ordinances. And it is urgent. Every year, less water is available and residential wells are drying up.

I ask that you revisit the ordinances to support existing communities and small local growers who are part of our community first.

Sincerely,

Jason & Nikky Creager