

May 8, 2022

Board of Supervisors
County of Lake
California

Re: We Grow Cannabis Cultivation Project

Attention: Board Members,

We are writing to request that you deny the appeal of the proposed
WeGrow Cannabis
Project at 16750 Herrington Rd. Middletown for the following reasons:

It should be well noted that the reapplication submitted to the Planning
Department and
the Planning Commission did little to satisfactorily address the issues
originally raised
with this project regarding the negative ways it will impact the environment
and the
overall quality of life of the residents in the area. It is important to note that
at the last
Planning Commission hearing, the lawyer for the project was very
dismissive of the
concerns raised by the community and stated that the need for an
Environmental Impact
Study of the project was not necessary as "Nothing had changed".

The bottom line is that this project is NOT RECOMMENDED for approval by
the
County Planning Department and The Planning Commission.

The following are the specifics regarding this project which are of grave
concern:

a) Environment - Tree Removal-The growers stated that they will have to
remove up to 130 mature Oak trees in order to make room for the green
houses.

We are all already experiencing the negative effects of climate change, why
would
one want to contribute to this situation by removing so many healthy trees?
To

substitute plastic green houses for green trees is not only aesthetically
unpleasant for those of us who can view the area from our homes it will

beyond contribute to a worsening of the climatic changes we all are experiencing. Replacement of these trees will take generations for maturity, certainly our life span.

The b) Water - The growers state they will have one well for their water supply. use of to 5 million gallons of water annually from one well is not feasible especially during the drought which we are now experiencing.

growing Incidentally, I am hearing of some of the homes located at Rim Rock are already running out of water due to dry wells. which Secondly, the run-off of pesticides and other chemicals used in the process has the potential to contaminate the underground water system on is the source of water for all Hidden Valley Lake Rancho residents who rely wells for their water supply.

the c) Air - The odor generated from processing is unpleasant and will destroy good clean air that the residents currently enjoy. There is no provision for mitigating this. The emissions from up to 80 vehicle trips per day will be an additional source of air pollution.

destroy d) Noise Pollution - The noise created from the use of generators will the quiet and peaceful atmosphere in which residents currently live and which was one of the reasons many of us chose to live in the area in the first place.

encourage e) Economic Impact - The proposal states that one of its goals is to the overall economic and social growth of the County while maintaining the quality-of-life standards. Not only will this project negatively impact the quality-of- life of the residents of the surrounding area, if approved, it will lower the property values of these residents. This is unfair to the residents who have invested considerable money in the development of their homes and property. It will also discourage potential new residents to the area. be For the County, a decrease in revenue from property taxes in favor of taxes to irrational gained from the cannabis business is questionable, highly speculative, and in our view, especially since the industry itself is admitting that its profitability is

declining.

Finally, according to the Lake County Ordinance Chapter 21, Article 27, the reported felony violation that occurred at the beginning of this project should be a viable reason for not granting an approval permit. Growth yes, but through responsible People who demonstrate respect for the law and for the citizens of the area.

As responsible and committed residents in the area, we ask that our concerns and the concerns of all the residents in this area be included in the Public Record and be given serious consideration. We urge you to support the rationale of this County's Planning Department and Planning Commission and DENY the We Grow permit.

Yours Truly,

Sheila Manderson
Neville Manderson
Hidden Valley Lake Rancho