

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I support the Planning Commission's decision to reject the Major Use Permit UP 20-22 and the Planning Commission's decision to deny the Initial Study IS 20-25. I am in favor of the Board of Supervisors to uphold the commissions decision and deny WeGrow's application at 16750 Herrington Road.

We chose to live in Lake County to help make a positive difference in the community. Seeing the abundance of marijuana grows being permitted in this county is incredibly concerning and disheartening. The one addressed in this letter is the largest concern we have seen due to its proximity to neighborhoods. We recently purchased a home in the Hidden Valley Ranchos as a safe place to start our family. Due to this application we now fear that we purchased in a less than ideal or safe area.

People decide to buy homes in this area for nature and quiet. In subdivisions on 3 of the sides to this property, there are a number of elderly people, as well as families with all ages of children, many of whom can be found playing outside, walking their dogs around the neighborhood and riding bikes. The idea of a commercial operation being built right next door to all of us is literally awful.

We are concerned about the extra traffic we are already seeing in and out of the property and the impact on our local roads. All the homeowners in the north area pay extra on our property taxes for a road maintenance fee. The owner of the Herrington property is not obligated to pay that currently, and yet, they will be bringing all sorts of trucks and traffic in and out of the property. Not to mention, I am concerned for the kids who are out playing in the neighborhood as a number of "workers" are driving VERY quickly up and down the roads, distracted and I am hoping and praying NOT under the influence of the substance that they are cultivating. If they decide to access the property from Stinson, the situation becomes even more dire as that road is tiny and leads to unpacked roads for access.

Already, law enforcement has been out to the property MULTIPLE TIMES where they found a large amount of stolen equipment. If this is how things are starting out, I can only imagine what other issues that will follow! Again, with the amount of children in our neighborhood, I am worried about bringing these people nearby. The safety and security of our community should be a PRIORITY for you as you make your decision. Not to mention the amount of water that will be used - drawing from the water reservoirs and water table that so many local homeowners rely on!

It is astonishing to me that this permit would even be considered after the illegal activity on the property, the lack of large roads for access, the proximity to neighborhoods and parks, as well as the water usage. There are waterways on the property and this is a drought year we are headed into once again. Not only will they be removing ground water that people rely on to live, they will be using fertilizer on the property, which in turn can taint the water for our communities. Any crop on this land would be dangerous due to the waterways and the huge community that depends on clean water from this location.

The bottom line is this: Having a cannabis grow, whether out of sight or not, will still majorly affect the quality of life and the property values for the entire neighborhood affecting hundreds of people, if not more. The water concerns and large amount of oak trees removed alone are enough to stop this permit immediately before people begin getting sick.

In addition, the owner of the Herrington property has already been in violation of county building codes, as I'm sure you know. Code enforcement had to step in to stop illegal

construction already happening on this property. This should be a wake up call to decision makers as to what is to come!

While I understand the county's willingness to work with the cannabis industry, I also think it's extremely important that we don't negatively impact the tax paying residents of the County, especially when so many of the cannabis growers who are benefiting are from out of the area and have no regard for the local families they are affecting. It is apparent that these particular owners have no regard for the rules & regulations in place, nor for the neighborhoods they are affecting. They've been invited to community forums and never bother to attend.

I implore you, as decision makers for this county, to consider how allowing a permit such as this will both set a precedent and also how it will negatively affect the hard-working, tax-paying members of our community. We should not be making cannabis growers a priority in this county - but rather the safety, security & well being of our entire community. This is not the right property for a grow to be taking place.

Again, please DENY the application of a cannabis permit for the Herrington property and the following properties:

16750 Herrington Road Middletown, CA 95461 - APN: 013-060-400-000 – 155 acres – Zone: RR

19678 Stinson Rd. Hidden Valley Lake, CA 95467 - APN: 013-014-110-000 – 107 acres – Zone: RR

17610 Sandy Rd. Middletown, CA 95461 - APN: 013-014-030-000 – 71 acres – Zone: RR

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Kenneth & Carly Sherman