

To Board of Supervisors:

I would like to commend the Board of Supervisors (BOS) for acknowledging this important topic and I thank everyone who is providing thoughtful input on this matter.

As a land developer and real estate investor I must say that I was disappointed in seeing this 1,000-foot setback incorporated into the amended ordinance this past May. I admit that I did not catch it when it got changed, so I was unable to comment on it at the time. However, that is mainly because this very important material change in the ordinance was **NEVER mentioned by a single BOS member or Planning Commissioner**. To be sure, I had my attorneys review all of the tapes pertaining to the amending of the cultivation ordinance this past spring, and they could not find any instance where this specific change was mentioned whatsoever. This is once again a very frustrating new rule that seemingly came out of nowhere without any public comment or discussion. When things like this take place, it inhibits developers such as myself who would otherwise like to invest in this county, but are apprehensive to since the rules seem to change without much reason or notice. I have spoken to many in my industry who are hesitant to do business in this county for that exact reason, and it is a shame because there is so much potential to be had.

Furthermore, about three or four years ago, there was much deliberation pertaining to the cannabis exclusionary zone which designated safe areas for individuals who desired to invest in land for the purpose of cannabis cultivation. I am curious as to why we are now adding further setbacks to an already well thought out exclusionary zone. If the public, Planning Commission, or the BOS desire to have further restrictions, than I think it is most logical to update the exclusionary map. This would eliminate any doubt for investors, growers, county employees, other officials, and citizens alike on where cannabis can truly be grown in this county. Most importantly, this would minimize the subjective interpretations that frequently occur from an ever-changing Community Development Department, ultimately allowing for more investors as myself to comfortably develop land which consequently adds value and tax dollars to the County as a whole.

This is a beautifully expansive county with enough space to support this growing industry which in turn has the ability to generate large amounts of jobs and tax revenues. Lets please get some clearer direction when it comes to matters as this, as the county is missing out on many opportunities to generate much needed financial gains from eager cannabis cultivators and investors alike.