

**FW: [EXT]Abeyance Ordinance**

Micki Olinger &lt;molinger@co.slo.ca.us&gt;

Thu 1/9/2020 10:24 AM

To: AD-Board-Clerk &lt;ad\_board\_clerk@co.slo.ca.us&gt;

Please add to correspondence for item #41. Thank you.

Sincerely,

**Micki Olinger****Legislative Assistant****5th District Supervisor Debbie Arnold**

(p) 805-781-4339

(f) 805-781-1350

[molinger@co.slo.ca.us](mailto:molinger@co.slo.ca.us)**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS****From:** Patrick McGibney <patindi@aol.com>**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 3:07 PM**To:** Debbie Arnold <darnold@co.slo.ca.us>; John Peschong <john@johnpeschong.com>; Lynn Compton <lcompton@co.slo.ca.us>; Bruce Gibson <bgibson@co.slo.ca.us>; Adam Hill <ahill@co.slo.ca.us>**Cc:** Vicki Janssen <vjanssen@co.slo.ca.us>; Jennifer Caffee <jcaffee@co.slo.ca.us>; Guy Savage <gsavage@co.slo.ca.us>; Blake Fixler <bfixler@co.slo.ca.us>; Nicole Nix <nnix@co.slo.ca.us>; Caleb Mott <cmott@co.slo.ca.us>; Micki Olinger <molinger@co.slo.ca.us>**Subject:** [EXT]Abeyance Ordinance**ATTENTION:** This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

We represent a group of residents in California Valley who for the past few years having been living with a “public nuisance” created by the abandonment of hundreds of illegal cannabis grows that were ignored and thus allowed by the County. There’s blowing trash, deteriorating fabric fencing, trashed cars and trailers and no noticeable promised clean-up happening.

There’s no debating that the County has underestimated the time and cost to clean up our neighborhoods, and overestimated the revenues the Cannabis industry would bring into the County. Consequently, the Sheriff and Code/Cannabis Enforcement have been hamstrung by understaffing and under-budgeting. You have a net loss and are operating in the red, the taxpayers are paying the bills - one way or another. So therefore let it be known:

We oppose a third extension of the Abeyance Ordinance for the following reasons:

1. A third extension would negate the reason to even have an Ordinance.
2. The Abeyance Ordinance came from the Urgency Ordinance, which clearly stated that any investment in Cannabis cultivation would be at the growers’ risk, and that as soon as a Permanent Ordinance was in place, it would supersede the Urgency Ordinance, with no guarantees that the conditions would be the same.
3. Those growers who have completed the permitting process and are now legal, are being disadvantaged by unlicensed grows. There is no “track and trace” in place as required by Proposition 64, with the consequence that non-permitted grows are supplying and supporting a thriving black market.
4. The vast majority of growers are from out of County and out of State. They originate from areas that prohibit or outlaw the cultivation of cannabis. As you may remember, in 2016, California Valley alone had over 300 cannabis growers from areas like Fresno, Bakersfield, Santa Barbara, and other Counties that would not allow cultivation. Other states like Wyoming, Pennsylvania, Kansas, Mississippi were also represented. Most of the growers in San Luis Obispo are not local family farmers and do not represent the residents who make up our communities.
5. Cannabis cultivation is costing the taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars in enforcement and County time in trying to regulate this industry. Public resources have been depleted to such an extent that:
6. The “public nuisance” the County has created by allowing abandoned Cannabis grows to litter California Valley has, after four years, still not been cleaned up.

Agenda Item No. 41  
Meeting Date: January 14, 2020  
Presented By: Board of Supervisors Office  
Received and Posted: January 9, 2020  
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It is time for you, our representatives, to support the people and communities that put you into office as opposed to an industry that is usurping resources and taxpayer dollars. It is time for the Permanent Cannabis Ordinance that went into effect on January 1 to stand, so that the County can begin to regulate this burgeoning industry.

Sincerely,

Patrick McGibney  
Pat Veasart  
Melinda Doud

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