MEMORANDUM

DATE: Thursday, June 11, 2020

TO: Members of the Trinity County Planning Commission

FROM: Kim Hunter, Director of Planning and Building

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 2 – Retail Storefront Ordinance (DEV-20-02)

A total of 36 comment letters have been received in the last 48 hours regarding this item which are attached for your review. Staff has not had time to fully review or consider the contents of these comments at this time and, as recommended in the staff report, that this item be continued to a later date.
Hello Paul,

Thank you for taking the time to submit comments.
Lisa

From: Paul Hauser <hauser9458@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 11:14 AM
To: Info.Planning <Info.Planning@trinitycounty.org>
Subject: ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT - RETAIL CANNABIS STOREFRONT USES (DEV-20-02)

Please accept my comments below for Agenda Item 2 ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT - RETAIL CANNABIS STOREFRONT USES (DEV-20-02):

The ordinance needs opt out areas. Just like with cultivation there are areas where it is not appropriate to have retail cannabis sales. If an area has opted out of cultivation, it should also be opted out of retail sales.

There should by no retail allowed in the downtown historic district or in C-1 or C-2 zones. This is a retail activity that will deter tourists and should be as invisible as possible. It should be limited to heavy commercial zoning.

There should be a cap on the number of retail licenses - 1 retail location should be sufficient for Trinity County. We only have 1 drug store.

The 500 foot setback from churches and schools should be increased to 1000 feet for churches, schools and parks for the protection on kids.

Thank you for submitting my comments to the Planning Commission.

Paul Hauser
179 Rush Creek Drive
Weaverville, CA 96093
Kim Hunter

From:       Lisa Lozier
Sent:      Wednesday, June 10, 2020 12:44 PM
To:        Kim Hunter
Subject:   FW: NO pot shops in Lewiston

From: Julia Mitchell <julesmitchell@mac.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 11:55 AM
To: Info.Planning <Info.Planning@trinitycounty.org>
Subject: NO pot shops in Lewiston

I’m a part time resident in Lewiston for the past 5 years and I do NOT want to see pot shops open up in Trinity county—especially Lewiston. We are a wonderful, small community that has already spoken out numerous times to keep pot out of our area. If an area has opted out of cultivation, it should also be opted out of retail sales!

I chose to buy a house in Trinity because of the amazing river, lakes, forest and wonderful small town living. I do not want to see it destroyed by pot. The environmental effects that pot growing has are extremely detrimental to our wonderful way of life in Trinity. There has been an increase in drug related crime and environmental destruction of our land and animals.

Save our forests, Save our rivers, Save our lakes, Save our wildlife, Save our environment! Please do not allow pot retail shops in Lewiston!!

Best-
Julia
Dear Trinity County Planning Commissioners,

My husband and I are residents of Lewiston and we would urge you to please keep all commercial cannabis activities out of all the Opt Out Areas! Residents shouldn't have to keep coming back to the PC and BOS every time a cannabis ordinance comes up. By keeping all commercial cannabis activities out of Opt Outs will save you time. You will not have to read all these emails and sit thru all the public comments from residents who oppose cannabis activities in their backyards. Please include in the Retail Sales Ordinance the exclusion of retail sales in Opt Out Areas.

We also encourage you to include in the ordinance no retail allowed in any historic district or in C-1 or C-2 zoning. The 500' setbacks from churches and schools should be increased to 1000' and should include parks for the protection of our children.

We understand that it is legal and that is OK, but there is a place for it. And in residential neighborhoods and near where children will congregate is not the appropriate place.

Thank you for your time,

Susanne Risso
Paul Baldwin
From: Janet Castagnola <jcastagnola1@verizon.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 5:49 PM
To: Info.Planning <Info.Planning@trinitycounty.org>
Subject: Keep Lewiston & Weaverville Pot Shop free

Trinity County Planning Commission,

I would like to have my voice heard at your meeting. As a visitor to Lewiston and Weaverville, I would hate to see it become like the bigger cities we need a break from. We come to these beautiful places for the kayaking, lakes, river and fishing. The small town feel is part of the attraction. If pot shops become part of the retail shops, I will have to find new places to visit, and spend my money at. I know quite a few friends of mine that feel the same way.

Please don't give into the retail pot crowd! That is not what you want your towns to be known for. They will become ghost towns.

Thank you,
Janet Castagnola
Retail cannabis sales should only be allowed on a very limited basis in Trinity County, one store per community or maybe via a maximum of 5 or 6 for the whole county. We do not need to allow a wild stampede as was done with cultivation.

In addition, sales should be limited to only properties zone for commercial activity. Since it is a retail business, it should be limited to zones designed to allow retail sales. Under no circumstances should it be allowed on properties zoned for other non-retail uses (residential, recreation, forestry, etc.). Keep it out of the places where our residents live. We do not allow alcohol to be sold by the guy in the house next door. Same should hold for cannabis.

Scott White
1531 Lewiston Road
-----Original Message-----
From: Sue & Gene Dangel <sgdangel@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 3:56 PM
To: Info.Planning <Info.Planning@trinitycounty.org>
Subject: Retail Cannabis Stores

To whom it may concern,

My name is Gene Dangel. We reside in Walnut Creek, California but have been vacationing and visiting friends in Trinity County since 1974. Our children who are now adults enjoyed, and continue to enjoy all of the beautiful things that make the area so special. We bring our nine and eleven year old granddaughters to initiate them in the family tradition.

Several years ago when we were made aware the Planning Commission was considering to allow cannabis cultivation in Lewiston, I communicated my opposition to that proposal. I was pleased to later learn that the Planning Commission saw the wisdom in amending that proposal which allowed Lewiston to become an “opt out area” for cannabis cultivation activities.

As you might imagine, it was disturbing to be notified that the Planning Commission is now considering a zoning change that will open the door to retail cannabis sales in Trinity County. I do acknowledge that cannabis is legal in the State of California and that there are communities where retail cannabis outlets may be appropriate. I strongly suggest that if the decision is to allow retail cannabis sales in Trinity County, that you once again see the wisdom in preventing retail sales of cannabis in those areas, such as Lewiston, that currently fall under the “opt out” provision.

Our family has many years of boating, camping, fishing, and hiking, in some of the most beautiful scenery in Northern California. Like with the previous cultivation proposal, we see no upside to allowing retail sales of cannabis in smaller communities that have chosen to "opt out". As a visitor to the area I am opposed to retail cannabis sales. If I were a resident, I would be vehemently opposed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Gene Dangel & Family
Walnut Creek, California
I'm a retired San Francisco Police Inspector. My wife and I have a home in Lewiston. I was in the Narcotics Bureau for nine years and detailed to the Drug Enforcement Administration for two years. If you let Cannabis come to Trinity expect crime! Nothing more to say. Please turn down this idea.

Respectfully submitted;
Bob & Sharon Brodnik
Please do not allow pot sales in our opt out areas. I have lived here for 20 years and do not want to see our wonderful town allowing this. Don't we have enough crime and problems in our state? Our enforcement people have enough to do without added problems. People here are older and do not need the sales in our lives. Please stop this insidious issue from happening. It only hurts young people now. Thank u. Sandy Reche
Kim Hunter

From: Lisa Lozier
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 4:54 PM
To: Kim Hunter
Subject: FW: Cannibus in Lewiston

From: mizmort <mizmort@wildblue.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 3:19 PM
To: Info.Planning <Info.Planning@trinitycounty.org>
Subject: Cannibus in Lewiston

We do not need or want any retail sales of cannibus in Lewiston. This is a quaint little historic town, with active churches and schools. Please keep this OUT.
PAM and Bob Mordecai

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Good afternoon,

Although I live in San Diego, I do visit Trinity County frequently. I enjoy the river, the mountains, and the open air. I always visit local merchants, both to support the Trinity County businesses and for my own enjoyment.

I understand that the Planning Commission is about to consider a zoning change that would allow retail cannabis in Trinity County. I truly hope this change does not occur. I’ve visited areas that do allow retail stores, and frankly, haven’t enjoyed the experience. The areas I’ve visited that have undergone such a change – really did change, and not in a pleasant way.

I truly believe that passing the zoning change will impact the frequency of visitors to the area who will spend their tourist dollars. I think if you do this, and look back in as little as three years, you will regret the decision.

The area has already opted out of cultivation. I hope you are consistent in your addressing the retail cannabis issue. Thank you,

Teri Robertson
-----Original Message-----
From: Gale & Theresa <teric299@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 1:30 PM
To: Info.Planning <Info.Planning@trinitycounty.org>
Subject: Keep retail stores out of our town

Please look at the damage growing Marijuana has done to Trinity County. Contamination to rivers and streams, uncontrolled illegal grows, more homeless that are attracted to such industry.

Please keep out retail sales We live in Lewiston which is supposed to be an opt area by popular demand, yet still a number of growers are still growing in the opt out zone.

It appears the growers and sellers are getting just about any rezoning or consideration they want no mater what the long time residents think.

PLEASE no on retails sales or rezoning at least until the rest of the illegal operations are taken care of and opt out areas are protected.

Look at the added cost the marijuana industry has given Trinity County already.

Thank you for your time

Gale & Theresa Ickes  (530) 778 0807
Kim Hunter

From: Lisa Lozier
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 2:45 PM
To: Kim Hunter
Subject: FW: Cannabis stores

From: Pamela Johnson <pj61298@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 2:12 PM
To: Info.Planning <Info.Planning@trinitycounty.org>
Subject: Cannabis stores

As a former 13 year resident of Trinity Count (Lewiston), and a former non uniformed Law enforcement employee at CHP under the leadership of your current Sheriff, Tim Saxon, I am not in favor of any drugs, whether being grown or manufactured, being available for purchase at a store. As far as I know, there is already a drug problem in and around Trinity County and I would hate to see it become worse than it is. The only drugs I advocate for are the ones legally prescribed by a legitimate, honest physician. I consider Trinity County God's country, and it is too beautiful to ruin.
Dear Sir and/or Madam,

As a person who grew up in Trinity County (Lewiston and Hayfork) I have retained a love for this beautiful area. I love to return each year to Lewiston to relax, fish and meet with my old Trinity friends. I have noticed in the past few years the proliferation of marijuana growing especially in the Hayfork and Lewiston areas. While it may seem that legal cannabis cultivation can add to the economy of an economically depressed county. I caution you to not be fooled into thinking that more pot cultivation and/or dispensaries will improve the quality of life of people who reside in this beautiful county. It won’t. I live in Butte County where cultivation of marijuana has been common for years. With this long experience Butte County leaders have decided to limit the cultivation to recreational uses and have not allowed dispensaries. This has been good for the county I believe. Most importantly, while I am not against personal marijuana use, we are only beginning the discover the long term effects of this drug and it’s possible links to depression and psychosis. Only time will tell. In the mean time it is evident that coexisting with marijuana grows is clearly problematic for neighboring residents. Please, I encourage the powers that be to not rush into expanding marijuana grows and allowing dispensaries. I encourage all interested parties to watch the Netflix documentary “Murder Mountain” for an enlightening story of the county to your Northwest: Humboldt.

Sincerely,
Robert Karch (1964 TCHS alumni)

Sent from my iPhone
Trinity County Planning Commission: Please consider our input, as we are unable to attend the meeting of July 11, 2020.

We own property and have been living part time in Lewiston for the past 18 years. We selected Lewiston due to the responsible community, beauty, safety and recreational opportunities. Our children, grandchildren and numerous friends also love the Lewiston area.

We are strong supporters of the current OPT-Out policy for growing and selling of all marijuana products in the Lewiston OPT-OUT Zone. We are vehemently opposed to any consideration of changing the zoning that would allow retail selling, growing, processing of any cannabis (marijuana) products in the Lewiston OPT-OUT zone in Lewiston, California.

Furthemore, we believe:

The ordinance needs opt out areas. Just like with cultivation there are areas where it is not appropriate to have retail cannabis sales. If an area has opted out of cultivation, it should also be opted out of retail sales.

There should be no retail allowed in the downtown historic district or in C-1 or C-2 zones. This is a retail activity that will deter tourists and should be as invisible as possible. It should be limited to heavy commercial zoning.

There should be a cap on the number of retail licenses - 1 retail location should be sufficient for Trinity County. We only have 1 drug store.

The 500 foot setback from churches and schools should be increased to 1000 feet for churches, schools and parks for the protection of children.
Respectfully,

Daniel J. Foley & Joanne R. Foley
551 Lewiston Turnpike Road
Lewiston, California 96052
I have heard that you are facing a decision about whether to allow retail cannabis sales in Trinity County and I want to encourage you to not go down that path.

I lived in Trinity County, in Lewiston, for 10 years and have been returning often as a visitor for 40 years. During that time I've been associated with your tourism industry and have watched as the influence of cannabis use and cultivation has negatively affected how people view your county. It should be seen as one of the most beautiful places in the world yet there is an element of fear that comes from encountering those associated with using and illegally growing cannabis.

A retail storefront is a billboard to promote the use of cannabis, a product that though legalized in California is still illegal federally. The product is controversial just as smoking and vaping are controversial. Warning labels are placed on cigarettes because of health concerns. Do you really want this to be what you are known for? Is the money from taxation going to offset the harm you will do by incurring more law enforcement expense to regulate this? Will it make people want to come to Trinity County or keep them away?
We appreciate that most of the Lewiston area is considered an “opt out” where commercial cannabis cannot be grown. Retail cannabis stores should certainly be kept out of any of the “opt out” areas, particularly the historic districts.

I encourage you to think about the thousands of people who want to enjoy and appreciate your county instead of catering to an industry of questionable ethics.

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Karen Jernigan, 206 North Mildred Avenue, King City, CA 93930
831-385-6112  karenjernigan2007@gmail.com
From: Jeff Hutchinson <jeff.hutchinson@att.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 1:12 PM
To: Info.Planning <Info.Planning@trinitycounty.org>
Subject: No retail cannabis in Lewiston!

Hello,

I am a frequent visitor to Lewiston and Trinity County. I really do not want to see retail cannabis stores in the Lewiston Community or in any of the historic parts of Trinity County. The ordinance needs to NOT allow retail stores in opt out areas. If an area has opted out of cultivation, it should also be opted out of retail sales.

Thank you
Jeff Hutchinson
My name is Henry Kemper. I and my wife Dixie own a second home in the Lewiston area. We live primarily in Sonoma County. We do not want to see a retail pot shop in our adopted town of Lewiston. I hope that you will consider the wishes of the many people in our town that want to maintain the historical charm of our community. Thank you Henry Kemper.

Sent from my iPhone
To Whom It May Concern
We do not live in your area but instead live in a metropolitan area outside of California. We frequently visit Lewiston mainly to experience and enjoy the calm peaceful open space. We love the beautiful clean river and lakes, the opportunity to see and hear birds and other wildlife in their natural setting. We appreciate the relaxed friendly feeling we experience every time we visit. We just heard the county is considering allowing not just the cultivation of more cannabis but also permitting retail locations for the sale of recreational cannabis. This is very distressing to us. Redding is a short drive away with plenty of retail opportunities. Please don’t allow this change to Lewiston or Trinity County. We are sure many other visitors to your area feel the same way we do. We come to your area for the beautiful scenery but also for the relaxed and rural atmosphere. Please don’t destroy this by allowing the retail sale of cannabis in Trinity county.
Sincerely
Dennis and Peggy Prestidge
Portland, Oregon
Sent from my iPhone
From: Bob Logan <surferacs@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 12:52 PM
To: Info.Planning <Info.Planning@trinitycounty.org>
Subject: I am opposed to having commercial cannabis stores in Trinity County

For over 30 years I have been involved in the Trinity County community. I love the beauty, cleanliness, diversity and people of the county. Please listen to your constituents when they seek to keep the quality of life as it has been by not allowing cannabis Retailers in.
Robert Logan
I am voicing opposition to any zoning changes that would allow retail stores selling Cannabis in the Lewiston community. I am a frequent visitor to Trinity County and in particular Lewiston. Not only frequent, but long time. My family has been frequenting Trinity County since 1975. We particularly have enjoyed the rivers and the friendly Lewiston Community. Where the areas have opted out of cultivation, they should also be opted out of retail sales. I thank you and my family thanks you. Phil Fay.
From: LAUREL EDWARDS <27clearh20@gmail.com>  
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 6:47 AM  
To: Info.Planning <Info.Planning@trinitycounty.org>  
Subject: Keep Cannabis Out of Lewiston (and Trinity County!)

Dear Planning Commission,

Please do not allow cannabis retail businesses in Lewiston! It would wreck the small town family-friendly aspects that we now have. As I drive through Oregon and Washington, I have noticed the cannabis retail businesses are on busy streets with many commercial stores surrounding it. We don't have that in Lewiston, nor do we want it. In addition, the stores I've seen have darkened windows, obnoxious neon light signs, and exteriors with bars on the windows and doors. These, too, do not fit in with the welcoming sign at the entrance to Lewiston, which says' "Welcome to Lewiston: Gateway to the Trinity's Lakes and Mountains."

As it stands, now, there are too many commercial grows here, in or too close to areas that are zoned residential. I'm wondering how that happened. As a long-time (30+ years) resident and employee in the town of Lewiston I've seen many negatives because of the increased cultivation allowed in recent years. As an employee of Lewiston Elementary School, working with young children, I've noticed that the number of learning problems exhibited in children is disproportionately larger among those whose families are in the cannabis business, compared to those whose parents work in other businesses. Recent research proves that the use of cannabis alters brain development. We must not support this type of business!

I would like to invite you, individually, or as a group, to let me lead you on a tour of Lewiston and show you the town that my husband and I thought we would spend the rest of our days in. I will show you how it has changed over the years and how commercial cultivations have contributed to the poverty we see in our school and the destitution that our families with young children are faced with. Please stop this cannabis madness now! Do not promote unhealthy lifestyles, learning difficulties, and economic poverty by allowing retail cannabis to occur in Lewiston, or anywhere in Trinity County.

Sincerely,
Laurel Edwards
Kim Hunter

From: Lisa Lozier
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 7:45 AM
To: Kim Hunter
Subject: FW: Retail Cannabis

From: STEVE EDWARDS <jeepw ranger49@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 7:37 AM
To: Info.Planning <Info.Planning@trinitycounty.org>
Subject: Retail Cannabis

Dear Planning Commission:

We need to rethink land use and commercial businesses that deal with cannabis grows and distribution in Trinity County. I feel there has been no advantage in this county by the legalization and/or distribution of cannabis. It has created more problems than our county has been able to regulate and control. I don't think it will help tourism in our county; in fact, it can be a deterrent to tourism. A no vote that does not allow retail of cannabis is a vote for the good of all.

Sincerely,
Steve Edwards
From: Sherida Bush <rscribe@pacbell.net>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 1:36 PM
To: Info.Planning <Info.Planning@trinitycounty.org>
Subject: Zoning Change

Dear Commissioners:

My family and I are frequent visitors to Trinity County and enjoy its natural beauty and small towns. I love the Lewiston area in particular, where a friend resides.

I oppose a zoning change to allow retail cannabis, as I believe it would change the character of your communities. Or at least the zoning change should allow areas to opt out of both retail and cultivation if the will of the community is to do so.

Please consider the income visitors bring to your beautiful county before voting for this ordinance. The income to communities from cannabis has been shown to fall far short of expectations, and its impact on county tourism could be much more significant.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Sherida Bush

Sherida Bush
Martinez, CA
925-372-5479
rscribe@pacbell.net
Dear Planning Commission:

We need to rethink land use and commercial businesses that deal with cannabis grows and distribution in Trinity County. I feel there has been no advantage in this county by the legalization and/or distribution of cannabis. It has created more problems than our county has been able to regulate and control. I don't think it will help tourism in our county; in fact, it can be a deterrent to tourism. A no vote that does not allow retail of cannabis is a vote for the good of all.

Sincerely,
Steve Edwards
In light of the fact that Lewiston has opted-out of cannabis activity, I strongly urge the planning commission to also opt out of retail connected activity as well.

Sincerely a Lewiston resident-
From: Trent Tuthill <tutsplace@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 8:53 PM
To: Info.Planning <Info.Planning@trinitycounty.org>
Subject: Public Comments on cannabis retail sales

The following comments are provided for the planning commission to consider:

- The ordinance needs opt out areas. Just like with cultivation there are areas where it is not appropriate to have retail cannabis sales. If an area has opted out of cultivation, it should also be opted out of retail sales.

- There should by no retail allowed in the downtown historic district or in C-1 or C-2 zones. This is a retail activity that will deter tourists and should be as invisible as possible. It should be limited to heavy commercial zoning.

- There should be a cap on the number of retail licenses - 1 retail location should be sufficient for Trinity County. We only have 1 drug store.

- The 500 foot setback from churches and schools should be increased to 1000 feet for churches, schools and parks for the protection on kids.

Thank you for taking my concerns and suggestions into consideration on this important topic.

Thanks
Trent and Andrea Tuthill
1586 Poker Bar Road
Members of the Trinity County Planning Commission:

The ordinance referenced above to be considered tonight must have OPT OUT areas. IF there are areas where residents have created OPT OUT CULTIVATION zones...it is NOT APPROPRIATE to have RETAIL CANNABIS SALES in these areas. The Weaverville Downtown Historic area ...along route 299...is NO place for retail cannabis sales. NONE either should be allowed in C-1 or C-2 zones!
CAP on the # of retail licenses: ONE location, located miles AWAY from the Weaverville Business District centers (AND schools, churches and parks), should be sufficient for any retail sales location. THIS IS A COUNTY OF BARELY OVER 13,000 residents, after all.
Trinity County is NOT Las Vegas, nor any other glitzy Mecca for tourists, and this type of ersatz 'business' entity must be necessarily OFF center, in a location 'off the beaten path'...far from major business districts, hospitals. SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, and PARKS should be OFF LIMITS for the protection of Trinity County YOUTH and ALL citizens (and travelers) who abhor this type of addiction/use or practice,...whether for personal, social or 'therapeutic' practices.
Trinity County relies on 'real' recreationalists, and those who truly appreciate the beauty of this county for tourist visits and dollars;...and families/individuals do not wish to be faced with Recreational Drug Sales/Use/Users in any capacity. 'Dirty Linen'...no matter how state voters have classified its existence..., NEVER needs to be flaunted. This practice belongs on the OTHER SIDE of town....wherever that might be.
We taxpayers, who chose to retire here and have built our 'dream homes' here,...pay thousands of dollars each year for property taxes;...and get NO 'county-wide' Sheriff Dept. support for robberies in our neighborhoods,...for which we have supplied photos and ID's of the thieves. The 'good Ole Boy System' prevails, and we solid citizens and taxpayers are swept under the Emerald Curtain.
Please get REAL: setbacks from schools, churches and parks MUST be increased to 1000 feet. ERR on the side of Right and Common Sense, and relegate this 'industry' to the "Other Side of Town" (wherever that might be). WE do not deserve to have to put up with the SMELL, the robberies and the 'attractive nuisance' this 'industry' attracts;...and there is SO Much of this, that the Sheriff's Dept. does not address,...for every kind of excuse,... that Inquiring Minds and Tax Paying Citizens must ask: WHAT are we getting for our tax dollars in Trinity County???? 350' setback exemptions: Please...consider your taxpaying base...on the whole!
There are SO MANY illegal pot grows on Fountain Ranch Road alone,...that this whole pompous discussion is laughable. YOU members of the Commission, are sworn to uphold the rights of all citizens and the regs and zoning laws of this state and county.
Thank you for your service, members of the Commission; and for rational and intelligent regulations to zone an 'ersatz industry' to locations where it belongs.
At our age, we cease to have patience with 'users' of any kind. WE pay for all their exigencies....through one Federal, State, County fund or another.
In the Best Interests of the Citizenry of Trinity County,
Marilee and Bruce Taylor
Salyer, CA (the forgotten sector of this fine county)
Dear Planning Commission,

Please do not allow cannabis retail businesses in Lewiston! It would wreck the small town family-friendly aspects that we now have. As I drive through Oregon and Washington, I have noticed the cannabis retail businesses are on busy streets with many commercial stores surrounding it. We don't have that in Lewiston, nor do we want it. In addition, the stores I've seen have darkened windows, obnoxious neon light signs, and exteriors with bars on the windows and doors. These, too, do not fit in with the welcoming sign at the entrance to Lewiston, which says "Welcome to Lewiston: Gateway to the Trinitys' Lakes and Mountains."

As it stands, now, there are too many commercial grows here, in or too close to areas that are zoned residential. I'm wondering how that happened. As a long-time (30+ years) resident and employee in the town of Lewiston I've seen many negatives because of the increased cultivation allowed in recent years. As an employee of Lewiston Elementary School, working with young children, I've noticed that the number of learning problems exhibited in children is disproportionately larger among those whose families are in the cannabis business, compared to those whose parents work in other businesses. Recent research proves that the use of cannabis alters brain development. We must not support this type of business!

I would like to invite you, individually, or as a group, to let me lead you on a tour of Lewiston and show you the town that my husband and I thought we would spend the rest of our days in. I will show you how it has changed over the years and how commercial cultivations have contributed to the poverty we see in our school and the destitution that our families with young children are faced with. Please stop this cannabis madness now! Do not promote unhealthy lifestyles, learning difficulties, and economic poverty by allowing retail cannabis to occur in Lewiston, or anywhere in Trinity County.

Sincerely,
Laurel Edwards
As a many-years-property owner/resident of Lewiston, I see Lewiston's future as a lovely community again under threat from the ubiquitous cannabis industry.

I do not want Commercial Cannabis business in our town or outlying areas. I request an increase to 1000 foot setback near schools & churches. Having a neighboring property owner who has illegal growing and I'm sure drug production (a young girl I know used to go there to buy drugs), makes my awareness acute.

I sent in a complaint probably one or two years ago, through the county complaint site re: a large grow on the mountain west of the Lewiston valley. The property is lit up like a landing field each night. It is clear there are lights in their temporary hoop houses, which from my reading of the regs, is illegal. "No mechanical, electrical or plumbing devices used in or around the hoop-house. 3. Extension cords are NOT allowed. 4. Artificial lights are NOT allowed in the hoop-house".

My complaint had the parcel number or close to it. There are at least 4 large hoop houses reflecting the sun during the day and bright "city lights" at night. It is obvious. Nothing changed after my complaint.

As noted in the paper recently, often the growers push for more, threatening lawsuits to get more, more, more. Similar to a baby whining when it does not get its way.

I'm thankful Kim Hunter is going by the regs.

Thank you.

Becky Duncan
Lewiston CA
jalopy.fun@gmail.com

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What is life? It is the flash of a firefly in the night. It is the breath of a buffalo in the wintertime. It is the little shadow which runs across the grass and loses itself in the sunset. ~ Crowfoot
To The: Trinity County Planning Commission

Lewiston opted out of commercial cannabis grows – we want to opt out of all Commercial Cannabis activity, including retail cannabis sales. The ordinance needs to not allow retail stores in opt out areas. If an area has opted out of cultivation, it should also be opted out of retail sales and all commercial cannabis activities.

There should be no retail allowed in the downtown historic district or in C-1 or C-2 zones.

The 500 foot setback from churches and schools should be increased to 1000 feet for churches, schools and parks for the protection of kids.

We don't need retail cannabis sales in Trinity County!!

Lewiston, fortunately, was able to opt out of commercial cannabis growing. We certainly don't want cannabis sold in a store on our streets.

We have family and friends that enjoy coming to Lewiston to enjoy the fresh air and beautiful pristine surrounds. They will not visit and spend their money in our beautiful town if they have to smell and see cannabis stores.

Stop allowing POT GROWERS to make our County's Decisions, Rules and Regulations!!

Regards,
Gerald & Joyce Wilhite
Property Owners and Tax Payers
in Trinity County Since 1987
Trinity County Planning Commissioners,

Lewiston opted out of commercial cannabis grows – we want to opt out of all Commercial Cannabis activity, including retail cannabis sales. The ordinance needs to not allow retail stores in opt out areas. If an area has opted out of cultivation, it should also be opted out of retail sales and all commercial cannabis activities.

There should be no retail allowed in the downtown historic district or in C-1 or C-2 zones.

The 500 foot setback from churches and schools should be increased to 1000 feet for churches, schools and parks for the protection of kids.

Not every corner of our county needs to be taken over by the Cannabis. Please help keep parts of our county open for people to be able to choose to live and visit in an area of our amazing county without being impacted by the smell, sight, traffic and environment that comes hand and hand with commercial Cannabis.

Thank you,

Jenni Brookins
Subject: Retail sales planning commission meeting 6/11/2020

Hello all, we hope this finds you all in great health and spirit. Surely you are. As we wait with patient endurance for our OPT OUT to be finalized for Rush Creek Estates and surrounding hills, similar concerns are also relative to retail cannabis in Trinity, not being allowed just anywhere.

If there is to be retail sales, an ordinance needs include opt out areas as well, just like cultivation, it’s not appropriate anywhere and everywhere. If an area is opted out of cultivation it should also apply to retail sales. We concur with Exclusion in hi density populated areas, downtown historic district and C1 and C2 zones. That would be a negative effect on tourists, so if it’s deemed necessary it should be limited to heavy commercial and invisible as much as possible.

The idea we have one pharmacy should also be sufficient for retail sales. One. The current setback should also be doubled to 1000’ from churches, schools and parks for the protection of children and community members. Especially in light of the May 3rd violent home invasion in Hayfork.

Thank you for your consideration

Steve Rhodehouse
Carolyn Fencil

Sent from my iPad
Will this work?

Thanks always

On Thu, Jun 11, 2020 at 4:05 PM Sally Barrow <bearcreekfamily@gmail.com> wrote:
Comments regarding Retail Cannabis Ordinance

Because a provision for creating new opt-out areas was not included in the Commercial Cannabis Ordinance, my neighbors on Bear Creek Road, Rush Creek Estates and the neighborhoods near Trinity Dam Blvd. are engaged in an uphill battle to regain the right to determine what our residential neighborhoods should look like.

Please include an opt-out provision as you establish the ordinance controlling cannabis retail storefronts. Established businesses, representing enormous financial investment and untold hours of hard work, should have a right to object to a retail cannabis storefront in their area if they feel it would be detrimental to their business. Concerned citizens should also have a voice in individual locations being considered. Since the Historical District of Weaverville, C-1 and C-2 zoning areas depend on families and tourists for their success, these zones seem particularly unsuitable for the cannabis retail storefronts.

Thanks for considering this.

Sally Barrow
DELIVERED VIA E-MAIL & US MAIL

Trinity County Planning Commission
C/o Kim Hunter, Director
Trinity County Planning Department
P. O. Box 2819/61 Airport Road
Weaverville, California 96093

Re: Proposed Cannabis Storefront Retail Sales Ordinance

Dear Planning Commissioners:

My office represents Trinity Action Association ("TAA"). As you may know, TAA is a local organization with County-wide membership, whose stated mission is to, among other things, promote and support economic development of all legal and environmentally-responsible industries, including the cannabis industry, in an orderly manner and in accordance with sound planning principles, including compatibility with the land use priorities of existing neighborhoods.

With the foregoing objectives in mind, TAA is submitting these written comments concerning the proposed cannabis storefront retail ordinance to be considered by your Commission at its meeting of June 11th, 2020.

1. Opt-Out Areas - The proposed ordinance includes no opt-out out areas, and should. Just like with cultivation there are areas where it is not appropriate to have highly visible retail cannabis sales. If an area has opted out of cultivation, it should also be opted out of retail sales. This would leave ample locations throughout the county for storefront retail cannabis sale activities.

2. Limitations in Specified Zoning Districts - There should be no retail allowed in the Downtown Historic District in Weaverville, nor in C-1 or C-2 zones. This is a particular retail activity that will likely deter tourism and should therefore be limited in location so as not to have a negative impact on Trinity County's important tourism economy. Some TAA members, at the very least, are advocating for an ordinance change to require applications for such activities within the herein referenced districts are made subject to a conditional use permit to be approved by the Commission and made appealable to the Board of Supervisors.

3. Larger Setbacks from Sensitive Adjoining Uses – The proposed 500 foot setback from churches and schools, and similar sensitive adjoining land-uses, should be increased to 1000 feet. There will be ample areas of proposed storefront retail cannabis sales, and the County should affirmatively limit proximity to sensitive neighboring uses, and particularly those involving children.
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Some TAA members also think that a numerical cap on the maximum number of licenses to be issued for storefront retail cannabis sales makes sense. It is noteworthy that there is only one (1) drug store in all of Trinity County.

Thank you for considering the foregoing requests as your Commission considers public input and resulting recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

James M. Underwood

Cc: Trinity Action Association
We have been to Lewiston, Weaverville and other beautiful areas in Trinity County. The beauty of floating down the river, exploring the country roads, and enjoying the small towns is what makes these mountain areas so unique and special.

Lewiston where we have visited the most is an area that opted out of growing cannabis commercially. Since the residents didn't want commercial growing of cannabis, it doesn't make sense to allow retail stores to become part of the community setting.

Accordingly, we oppose this zoning change.

Carole and Bob Self
San Diego, California
Ladies/gentlemen:

I am a long-time property owner in Trinity County and current resident in Lewiston. Many times in the past I have welcomed friends and relatives to my home for visits. I love living in a "clean" area and have been able to report to others that this is an area they can visit for outdoor recreation. I have hated the advent of cannabis growers and their stinky crops. I am thankful that Lewiston opted out.

Now these growers want retail sales of their dangerous product. Please help keep retail sales out of Lewiston and Weaverville. Both are lovely historic places with impressionable children, recreational and tourist offerings, churches and, hopefully, growing populations.

Keep cannabis growers and retail sales out of our area, please!

Dee Howard, Lewiston

Sent from my iPad