

LATE MATERIAL
PASSED OUT TO PL. COMMISSION
1.25.23

**ZA_2022-0519 – Public Comment opposing expansion of marijuana dispensaries and retail stores
Betsy Strasburg**

Per CCMC 18.02.075:

A Zoning Map Amendment or Zoning Code Amendment may be initiated by a majority of the Commission or Board, or an owner of real property. The Director shall investigate each application to assure that the proposal is consistent with the requirements of this title.

This application do not show ownership of any parcel. The Planning Dept. and the DA's office have stated that have reviewed Mr. Adler's application and feels that it satisfies the requirement of ownership. We, the taxpayers, have a right to know as do you, Commissioners, that the first condition of an ordinance change has been met. It is public disclosure of staff findings. Please address this first. If this is not correctly applied, the rest of the discussion is moot.

1. Board of Supervisors approved the increase from 2 to 4 marijuana stores reliant on the other existing codes. Supervisor Giomi made a motion to require the DA's office to look at the regulations. Had it not been the need for expediency desired by the Mayor and the hesitancy of the DA's office to commit to a quick turnaround due to resource constraints, the motion would not been withdrawn.
2. The 6 supplementary standards w.r.t Marijuana stores are inadequate. Example: 300 feet from a residential property is insufficient.
3. Just because the Planning commission can vote on a SUP should not be used as a justification to expand location limitations, equivalent to kicking the ball down the road, without due consideration of additional regulations. This justification is used for condition 2 and 3.
4. State Regulations do not surpass local regulations – Douglas County has no marijuana stores.
5. There are no basis to say that 6 years of experience sufficient? The Sheriff has provided testimony that he had no problems with the two marijuana stores. He did not, and cannot, testify on the impact of marijuana on our community. There are no tests to detect marijuana. The Legislature has conducted a meeting on marijuana usage among pregnant women. There is trend towards high potency marijuana. **With all these factors, to say 6 years is sufficient to determine adverse impact on public health, safety or welfare under condition 3 is far-reaching.** We do not need to be leading edge of experimentation in our community.
6. The entire Carson Street corridor from Winnie to Medical Parkway is used for the expansion zone to avoid being a cluster of cannabis stores. How can there be a cluster when marijuana stores are 1 to 2 miles apart. Just as Supervisor White and Jones said that **they should not protect profitability** of existing marijuana stores by **NOT increasing the # of stores**. The City should not **eliminate location limitations** to protect profitability as well.
7. **I request the Commission to reject this application until the DA's office can provide additional regulations to protect the community as Supervisor Giomi was trying to do and only if the applicant is an owner of a parcel and can request an ordinance change.**