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To: [CannabisEIR <CannabisEIR@santacruzcounty.us>](mailto:CannabisEIR@santacruzcounty.us)  
Date: 10/30/2017 5:48:23 PM  
Subject: county commercial cannabis cultivation

Dear County Supervisors,

I am sending you this message to voice my concerns regarding how marijuana, the new agricultural product to our area, will be regulated. I have lived in various areas of Santa Cruz county since attending UCSC in 1970; I owned my first home in Davenport in the 1970s, moved to the Seabright area, then Live Oak and have lived in Aptos for the past 30 years. I've witnessed many changes during this time. I've seen the significant growth and the changes and impact associated with that growth: some changes I'd say for the good; some not so good. It makes me think how nice it would be if the clock could be turned back and some previous decisions redone. But we know that will not happen so I ask you to take the time to look closely how to proceed. Check other areas who have gone down this path seeing anticipated huge tax revenues and realizing other unforeseen costs and conflicts.

The new industry developing around marijuana is unlike any other ag change we've seen occur. It is not like changing from apples to berries or almonds that are food products which are regulated for health and safety reasons. Let's face it, marijuana is a drug which while having medicinal benefits for some people has been primarily used as an illegal substance that has like alcohol brought severe heartbreak to many families and posed a serious crime problem for society at large. Marijuana use and distribution is supposed to be regulated.

Just as importantly, growing and cultivating marijuana needs to be very strictly regulated and monitored. Like other agricultural products, where it can be grown should be identified as strictly agricultural use and the activity should be closely monitored. Neighbors know to expect the dust, odors, noise and commercial traffic associated with agricultural business. And that's just what this is, Business, and it needs to be zoned and treated as such.

We hear to frequently about the problems associated with the marijuana growing business in various areas in the "country": crime, shootings, heavy unregulated water use, erosion and fires. I'd feel more comfortable knowing this new industry will occur in areas such as south county already identified as ag zoning and handled by people who have history respecting and complying with ag regulations.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my concerns as you decide how best to proceed in governing the use of this change,

Dan Davis

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