

>>> David Delatorre <David.DeLaTorre@psterminals.com> 11/13/2009
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Re: For Council File No. 08-0923 regarding the Marijuana Collective Ordinance to be included in the council file and distributed to the members of the committee/council.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion on the above referenced Marijuana Collective Ordinance before your committee/council. I have been actively combating the undesired consequences of the current dispensary policy in Elysian Valley (i.e., increased crime, nuisance, (including loitering, indecent exposure, trash, increased traffic, illegal assembly, building safety, sites within close proximity of residential homes, day care facilities, schools, churches, etc.). So knowing well that these complaints are not new to you, following are my suggestions/recommendations:

1. The City of Los Angeles should close all "medicinal marijuana dispensaries" on the grounds that they are in strict violation of Federal law.
2. Put in place a permanent ordinance forbidding any new dispensaries pending a Federal decision.
3. Any permissible marijuana dispensary should be conducted under the watch of a doctor (it must be a physician with a history in treating the would be patient). If the intended purpose is medicinal, it has no place elsewhere and should be regulated as a controlled substance (i.e., morphine). Have it be a covered item under people's Universal Health Care plan or private insurance. Make sure it goes through the bureaucratic process of pre-approval before dispensing and have the dispensary be the pharmaceutical establishments (i.e, CVS, Rite Aid, etc.)-not the for profit dispensaries currently in place.
4. Medicinal marijuana should be limited to patients having terminal

conditions and dispensed only after all other alternative treatments have been exhausted. The burden and liability to rest with the prescribing doctor.

5. Force any dispensaries allowed to remain open to relocate to non-residential areas (they should not be permitted in business/residential shared districts nor anywhere near a school, church or place where children, youth and families gather (say within a 10 mile radius).
6. Establish a marijuana district where these businesses can operate under the above restrictions (I recommend the Mojave Desert). If it worked for Vegas, it will work for them. If medicinal marijuana is that indispensable for someone, they will have not trouble driving long distances to get it. Alternatively, they can have it shipped via the many mail service options (UPS, U.S. Post Office, DHL,, Fed Ex., etc.) direct to people's homes.
7. NIMBY (Not In My Back Yard)

We have over 600 signatures opposing a marijuana dispensary in our area and would be more than happy to pass them on to you.

Best regards and thank you for your attention to the aforementioned.
David De La Torre