

**June 20, 2012**

**Los Angeles City Council**

**Re: Agenda Item #2 – June 22, 2012**

**CF 11-1737 and 11-1737-S1**

**Honorable City Councilmembers:**

**On behalf of the neighbors in Sunland-Tujunga, I submit the attached letter/petition and signatures urging the closure of Medical Marijuana Dispensaries in our Sunland-Tujunga community.**

**Currently there are at least a dozen MMD's in S-T within a 2-3 mile stretch of Foothill Blvd. The LAPD tells us S-T has more MMD's than all of Foothill Division (Pacoima, Sylmar, Shadow Hills, S-T and Lake View Terrace.) These shops pose a serious threat to our safety and quality of life. There are MMD's located within 600' of local parks and within 1000' of each other.**

**The complaints are many from residents and legal business owners, including a negative impact on commerce, safety risks and increased fear of criminal activity by customers congregating near these shops. These shops are in conflict with the goals of the Foothill Blvd. Corridor Specific Plan and it's Design Guidelines (which are both City of L.A. ordinances.)**

**We urge you to pass the Gentle Ban and enforce Land Use & Public Safety Ordinances. (We would prefer there be no MMD's, but rather the product be controlled by Licensed Pharmacies.) Please support our Law Enforcement Officers by passing this ban instead of continuing the drain on public resources and placing the public at a safety risk.**

**We support the Huizar/Englander motion.**

**Sincerely,**

**Rosalie Blum, Lead Petitioner  
& Sunland-Tujunga Neighbors**

**PETITION AGAINST MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES  
IN SUNLAND-TUJUNGA, CA.**

**Cause of Petition:**

**Federal and State Law prohibit the *SALE* of Marijuana in California. As of April 1, 2012 there are over 10 Marijuana Dispensaries along a 3 mile stretch of Foothill Blvd. in Sunland-Tujunga, Ca.**

**We, the undersigned, expect the following elected officials to take *immediate* action to close these illegal shops and *prevent* any further opening of new shops:**

- **Paul Krekorian – LA City Council Representative for S-T**
- **Carmen Trutanich – LA City Attorney**
- **Members of the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council**
- **Charlie Beck – LAPD Police Chief**

**Our understanding is that these shops 1.) Violate Federal & State Law  
2.) Do not securing proper City Business permits and  
3.) Do not follow City Code requirements.**

**Signature of Lead Petitioner:**

Rosalie Blum

**Address**

- Sunland

**April 17, 2012**

**Re: Petition submitted at the Senior Lead Police Summit**

**To: Paul Krekorian, LA City Council member, S-T Neighborhood Council members, LA City Attorney Carmen Trutanich, and LAPD Chief Charlie Beck.**

**Since I am speaking on behalf of nearly 200 neighbors, I ask to be heard as I read the following statement which will take about 3 minutes.**

**My name is Kathleen Pratt and I've been attending this monthly meeting for over 2 years. I have learned a great deal about our community. I became involved with the Neighborhood Watch program after experiencing a home invasion/burglary.**

**I now act as our Block Captain and tend to 'hear it all' from concerned neighbors. I do my best to present their concerns in a considerate and fair manner. I really appreciate the support and involvement of the many neighbors who participate in our great watch. And thanks to Officer Larry Martinez, I was fortunate to have participated in the 8 week OVB Community Police Training at the Academy where I met many dedicated Officers and citizens.**

**Since we're here tonight to discuss current issues in our community, I present the attached petition on behalf of my neighbors, addressed to the following:**

**S-T Representative Paul Krekorian, members of the S-T Neighborhood Council, LA City Attorney Carmen Trutanich and LAPD Chief Charlie Beck. In just a couple of days, nearly 200 neighbors signed this petition to voice concern over the many Marijuana Dispensaries lining Foothill Blvd.**

**Several neighbors participated in collecting these signatures. The idea came from a neighbor who spoke up and submitted an article to the local 'Good News' newspaper, however, it was not published. (Perhaps the article did not pass for good news.) The article was fair and asked several questions: Why are there so many dispensaries? How do they get approved for permits? How many of these shops are really needed in our community? The article also commented about the concern for increased criminal activity related to these operations. (We are already finding used containers on our streets. And we've been told which Doctor office in the Valley to visit if we need to get our card.)**

**Some of the same neighbors attended a recent community meeting to discuss "What's Wrong with Foothill Blvd.?" This question seems easy enough to answer when the only business in town seems to be the opening of Dispensaries. Maybe we should all agree that for every dispensary in town, we should also get a new book store or garden store, or restaurant or market! As one Wyngate Avenue neighbor remarked: "I need a store where I can buy socks!"**

**The focus of the Foothill Blvd. meeting seemed to get stuck on the Home Depot defeat and several other properties of concern. In a follow up newspaper article about the meeting,**

there was no mention of audience questions pertaining to the dispensaries. And even though these same concerns have been expressed over and over at this monthly meeting, one Foothill Officer recently commented that it's the 'first' he's heard of community concerns about the dispensaries.

We hear neighborhood council members complain about the lack of representation from Paul Krekorian's Office, and that he's a "lame duck." Well he's still our duck! So let's hold him accountable to speak up for us! S-T Neighborhood Council members serve in mandated and city funded council positions, so the community holds council members accountable to listen and speak up for our community! When's the last time you got out from your meeting and walked the neighborhoods and knocked on doors? Let's move on from discussing Home Depot and the vacant- lot- eye- sore we're left with.

Neighbors now ask - Just what sort of coordination, if any, is there between our local and City offices? Between the council and police, between Senior Lead Officers and Foothill Supervisors? How are landlords allowed to rent to and open businesses? We hear that merchants are told a new business is to open and then it turns out to be a dispensary? Does anyone follow honest business practice any more - for the good of the community? And speaking from a business perspective - isn't the marijuana market totally saturated? So why do the so-called caregivers want to have Foothill Blvd. lined with dispensaries? Isn't it better to be the only choice in town? Then again, maybe the thought is there's a huge market here since our neighbors in Glendale and Burbank outlaw these shops.

We do not debate the medical need for such a product. Some of us actually support it! However, we might add that less than a handful of neighbors commented on loved ones who actually use medical marijuana. (Just how many sick people are there in S-T?)

We do not debate the current mess of City, State and Federal politics surrounding the issue. The police continue asking for our support and they have it! We are doing our part! However, without a Senior Lead Officer for S-T (also a mandated position), our community, as another neighbor put it, "continues to get the short end of the stick."

We are tired of hearing the excuses about the budget, re-districting, all the petty small town politics and disputes between the local newspapers. We say to Chief Beck and the Mayor; we need a dedicated Senior Lead Officer for Sunland now, not a rotating cop every two months! Find a way, make it happen! Crime happens here too, not just in Glendale and on the west side! Where's our fair share of resources?

Lastly, we end with a quote from our neighbors' unpublished news article: "Help keep this community one that encourages viable business to come to and a place to raise our children without fear."

Thank you

**Signatures of Other Petitioners**

Sr. No.	Name	Address	Signature
1	SEAN SHAMIM	10	
2	Rima GRIGORYAN		
3	Zhozef Keshishyan		
4	ALBERT FEDMAN	10	
5	Mr. and Mrs. F.J. Lennan		
6	RIMA EVANS	8	
7	Steve Curry	8	
8	Evelina		
9	Michael Harding	10	
10	CRAIG WOODRUFF SAIT	10	
11	Nancy Martin	10	
12	Brad Huncovsky	10	
13	ALBERT NIKALOSHAN	10	
14	Fi ARCHER	10	
15	JAMES O'BRIEN	10	
16	Brenda Kader	10	
17	Theresa Carstens	10	
18	Trisha Herkey	10	
19	Mark Herkey	10	
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Signatures of Other Petitioners

Sr. No.	Name	Address	Signature
1	Brian Dunlop		
2	Dahlene Thompson		
3	MICHAEL THOMPSON		
4	VIRGINIA BELLONI		
5	PERRY MARTIN		
6	LINDA KESSELMAN		
7	PAUL WALKER		
8	GAY GRATT		
9	Cecilia Loya		
10	Justin Loya		
11	Elizabeth Midgeley		
12	JOSEPA THOMPSON Donna L Thompson		
13	Ghazarian Hasmik		
14	Ghukasian Masis		
15	Kris Yelton		
16	Kristine Arsenian		
17	Ieron Frankyan		
18	Garyam Karapetian		
19			
20	JAWICE Cull		

91040

**Signatures of Other Petitioners**

Sr. No.	Name	Address	Signature
1	B. KILGORE		
2	Susan Kilgore		
3	Nina Banna		
4	Hilda Murem		
5	Thomas Ryan		
6			
7	Oslin Josefo		
8	Linda VanZotphen		
9	<del>John Turzay</del>		
10	Lidia Hernandez		
11	Eliza Francisco		
12	J Beck		
13	Ryales		
14	Dawn Greene		
15	DANIEL QUICK		
16	Michael Redaniel		
17	Paul Panyik		
18	Reef Hubback		
19	Nancy Habas		
20	NICHOLE Jumbati		

Signatures of Other Petitioners

No.	Name	Address	City
1	Margo Shaverdy	7011 V	
2	Young Min Song		
3	MATT HENRICH		
4	<del>TRAVIS TNAI</del> Vance Gibbs		
5	ALISON BLANCHARD		
6	CHRISTOPHER MERCY		
7	Dave Arcell		
8	Anant Oganya		
9	Vartan Mecoyan		
10	UGSDEH SOJANMA		
11	ROB VEZINA		
12	Karmela Andyan		
13	Roni Avetyan		
14	Sonia Martinez		
15	Alex Martinez		
16	R. Mooling		
17	J. Quintana		
18	Mark Jardiun		
19	JOAO CEPERO		
20	Jane Dunlop		



Signatures of Other Petitioners

SR. NO.	Name	Address	Signature
1	LEO SONGCO		
2	Ryan Cox		
3	Diana Crook		
4	Ben Wallace		
5			
6			
7	Lisa Lee		
8	Ruth Cisneros		
9	Lily Heidt		
10	GIANPAOLA MANIAS		
11	Ruby Hoyng		
12	Karen Lundquist		
13	L. Lundquist		
14	Jennifer Jones		
15	Bobbie Jensen		
16	ACBCTR TUSIAK		
17	Walter Vire		
18	Ann Perez		
19	Ann Perez		
20	Jim Sanderson		

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Signatures of Other Petitioners

SR. No.	Name	Address	Signature
1	Esther C. Day		
2	Kenny Kishimoto		
3	Pamela Attea		
4	Joseph Altan		
5	Garnet Gonsalves		
6	JAMES CORCORAN		
7	Alma Martinez		
8	Renee Unland		
9	Martina Gevorgyan		
10	WANDA FRIEDMAN		
11	<sup>Maria</sup> Esther Leon		
12	Veronica Webb		
13	Josh Pitman		
14	TRENT ALEXANDER		
15	Debby Pierson		
16	Sean O'Donnell		
17			
18	Robert Torres		
19	Janice Ray		
20	Elizabeth Meindeth		

Signatures of Other Petitioners

1	Bob Weber
2	Diane Mora
3	Oscar Muck
4	Elizabet S. Berto
5	Loel Manki
6	Lois Melro
7	DONNA REINHARD
8	Donna Reinhard
9	Tom Cahero
10	Cheryl Darley
11	7107 Valmont St Tujunga, Ca 91042
12	Stephanie Blon 8837 17th
13	John Littlelin
14	JENNIFER MEXIA
15	PETER PALUTIKOF
16	Angela Hanger
17	Lisa Blomley
18	MARY MARIANO
19	MARY L BURCK
20	PAUL BROWN

Handwritten marks on the right margin, including vertical lines and a signature at the bottom right.

**Signatures of Other Petitioners**

Ser. No.	Name	Address	Signature
1	Lori Brown		
2	CAROL SIMONSON		
3	BOB VICKOVIC		
4	Robert Melgar		
5	Tami Walker		
6	SUE HICKEY		
7	Kathleen Pratt		
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Signatures of Other Petitioners

No.	Name	Address	Signature
1	Randi Cacciadori		
2	Carol Hunter		
3	(CAROL HUNTER)		
	Megan Merriman		
4	Gina Costi		
5	Megan Sanchez		
6			
7	Joanne Brookfield		
8	(Joanne Brookfield)		
9	Charlene L. Rhyne		
10	Mary Newhauser		
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### Signatures of Other Petitioners

Sr.No.	Name	Address	Signature
1	BARBARA CRONE	91040 SUNLAND	
2	DAVID CRONE	91040 SUNLAND	
3	Cathy Bell	ve 91040	
4	Rosemary Schmitz	ve. 91040	
5	Scott Ballard	91040	
6	Michelle Kautson	71047	
7	Carol Hutchinson	91040	
8	Susan Mona	2 Ave 91040	
9	Anna Alopaya	ve 91040	
10	Steve Proudman	= Ave	
11	Arlene Proudman	- 91040	
12	Kathryn Antablian	ve 91040	
13	Vivian Antablian	ve 91040	
14	Brian Miller	AVE	
15	Kelly Miller	ve 91040	
16	Susan Abbott	ve 91040	
17	Robert Connell	VE SUNLAND	
18	RONALD G. MURPHY	Ave Sunland	
19	Debbie Pierson	SUNLAND	
20	CHUCK PIERSON	SUNLAND	
21	Kary Williams	Ave Sunland	
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