



P.O. Box 34055

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Old Granada Hills Residents' Group Position Statement: Medical Marijuana Dispensaries

WHEREAS, in 1996 California voters approved the Compassionate Use Act that is in direct conflict & violation of the Federal Law – marijuana is still classified as a Schedule I substance under the Controlled Substances Act. Patients requiring medical benefits of marijuana already have access to the prescription form of medical marijuana - Marinol;

WHEREAS, press reports and coverage indicate that some MMDs are supplied by marijuana illegally smuggled in from Mexico and South America - controlled by drug cartels/gangs;

WHEREAS, in the City of Los Angeles MMDs have been allowed to illegally operate on a for profit basis, and it is illegal distribute medical marijuana to those who are not chronically ill, including underage youth (who in turn use marijuana for illicit purposes);

WHEREAS, MMDs have been allowed to proliferate with minimal regulation. In the past and in the future there will never be adequate law enforcement to effectively monitor these establishments so that they do not threaten surrounding neighborhoods & businesses;

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles has a compelling interest to ensure the safety and wellbeing of its residents. And to date, City officials have failed to protect residents and business against crimes that are directly related to MMDs. LAPD reported; 200% increase in robberies, 52.2% increase in burglaries, 130.8% increase in burglaries from autos, and 57.1% increase in aggravated assaults in areas near and adjacent to MMDs (*information from LAPD Detective Dennis Parker*);

WHEREAS, in Old Granada Hills, near and around MMDs, there has been dramatic increase in commercial & residential burglaries (including 5 gang members charged with attempted murder and take over of Golden State Collective), robberies, open drug deals in residential areas, takeover of foreclosed homes for purposes of illicit marijuana/drug use, significant increase in graffiti, underage youths loitering, and adjacent businesses being forced to move due to intolerable circumstances;

THEREFORE, WE, The Old Granada Hills Board of Directors unanimously voted that the City of Los Angeles, along with 100 California cities & 7 counties consider an outright ban and prohibit the operation of Medical Marijuana Dispensaries, altogether.

Dave Beauvais, President
Old Granada Hills Residents' Group

Date: 11/23/09

Maria Fisk, Zoning and Density Committee
Old Granada Hills Residents' Group

Date: 11/23/09