August 20, 2017

City Council members

Re: CF 14-0366-S5

Council Members: Below comments are addressed to the Revised Draft Requirements for Commercial Cannabis Activity in the City of Los Angeles 9/22/17.

Regarding Security pg. 15 - We are concerned that there are no armed guards required on the premises during opening hours.
The alarm system in all facilities needs to be tied to the Police Department or a security service that can respond in less than 10 minutes.
All cannabis businesses must employ a security service that will drive by the business repeatedly during the hours the building is not open or employees are on site.

Page 16 (Item 26) - please see attachment A regarding our proposal for community benefit trust fund for the neighborhood councils.

Page 17 (item 2) - Penalty for conviction for illegal volatile cannabis manufacturing should be no less than 10 years.

Page 22 (Item 2 Signage) - Violation type should be moderate. This is a Quality of Life issue for residents.

Page 23 (Item 20) - A question on the number of loitering signs and the size of the signs.

Page 24 (Item 30) – Absolutely no barbed or razor wire can be used on the perimeter of the property. This is a Quality of Life issue for those living in the neighborhood. These facilities should not look like concentration camps. Violation type should be moderate.

Page 26 (Item 4) – Retailers may only sell cannabis during the hours of 9 am to 9 pm (Pacific Time).
The businesses should not be allowed to open before school children are in classes. They should not have to pass open Cannabis Stores on their way to school. Also, cannabis is now being sold as a recreational pursuit and the assumption is most people will be using it after work after 6 pm and they should not need to make purchases before going to work. Our concern is they may now be using it during working hours.

Page 31 (Item 12 Deliveries) – A delivery employee of a business shall only be allowed to travel from the business premises to three (3) delivery addresses before returning to the business premises. Our concern is if the delivery truck is carrying more than three (3) cannabis deliveries there may be an increased number of high-jacking of delivery vehicles. Only authorized employees of the delivery company can be inside the vehicle. As there are no buffer requirements for these types of business they should only be allowed to deliver within a radius of 10 miles and not outside the boundaries of the city of Los Angeles.

Page 33 (Item 13) – Indoor cultivation types of all sizes shall maximize the number of solar panels used for power on site as well as making sure that wiring in the neighborhood for the grid is of a sufficient size that there will not be an increase in blackouts from power failures. There should be a two-tier system for cost of water in this drought stricken area.

Page 35 (Item 15) – Testing businesses should notify the department within twenty four hours of discovering an unexplained loss of 3% or more of inventory of unpackaged and unused harvest-batch samples.

Page 36 & 37 – If there are violations of any of the items on the inspection pages, what is the violation type? Moderate or serious?

Page 39 – What are the qualifications of a hearing officer for an administrative hearing?

OTHER GENERAL CONCERNS:

Regulation of Edibles: Los Angeles County Health Department needs to be part of regulating these businesses.

Enforcement: In an earlier document there was language specifying that there would be 65 Police officers enforcing this ordinance. That number does not seem to be adequate to oversee an area the size of the City of Los Angeles. We need to allocate a sufficient budget for the number of police personnel and equipment necessary to do this job.

Any cannabis business that has two licenses, one for medical cannabis and one for recreational cannabis, must have two separate and distinct entrances and be completely segregated from each other.

No consumption of cannabis on any licensed cannabis location and all cannabis business.
We request that the City Attorney’s draft pursuant to this item should expand the definition of “Alcoholism or Drug Abuse Recovery or Treatment Facility” to include, “Permanent Supportive Housing Developments where services are provided on site.

We request that the City Attorney’s draft ordinance pursuant to this item should exclude A1 Agriculture Zones and A2 Agricultural Zones from the properties that are eligible for Cannabis Cultivation and Nursery activities.

ADVERTISING:

- No advertising in any broadcast medium known now or developed in the future.
- No advertising in any print medium known now or developed in the future.
- No advertising on Internet Devices or Cell Phones or any similar device known now or developed in the future.
- No Billboard advertising or digital advertising Onsite or Offsite in an electronic medium. No digital advertising.
- No advertising on buses, metro-link, or bus benches and related street furniture.
- No advertising by Trade Associations of any kind of cannabis product.
- No advertising in Visitors or tourist brochures to attract tourists to purchase or use cannabis products.
- No advertising on any commercial vehicle used exclusively for transporting Cannabis or Cannabis products.
- No lighted signs on premises.
- No advertising can be delivered to customers that use a mobile delivery system.
- Advertising can be allowed via printed flyers hand delivered to customers at retail stores.

THIS IS NOT AN EXHAUSTIVE LIST

Thank You

Sincerely,
Sun Valley Area
Neighborhood Council
Planning Committee

Mike O’Gara
The SUN VALLEY Area NC (SVANC) respectfully requests that those Neighborhood Councils that are most impacted by Commercial Cannabis activity within their boundaries have a Community Benefits Trust Fund set up to receive resources from each licensed cannabis business active in their boundaries.

Ideally, resources from these licensed businesses would be deposited into separate interest bearing accounts, one per each affected Neighborhood Council, on a bi-annual basis. These accounts would be held by the City Clerk's office, and the funds would be managed by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment. Neighborhood Councils would be able to draw on these accounts for expenditures related to:

- Large Beautification projects such as developing landscaping on Medians in their boundaries and maintaining the Medians.
- To hire planning experts to educate the Neighborhood Council about Community Plans in General and specifically THE SUN VALLEY—LA TUNA CANYON COMMUNITY PLAN which will be renewed in the next two years.
- Outreach for upcoming Neighborhood Council elections and all other outreach efforts.
- Publish a monthly newsletter as Outreach. Possible 6 mailings per year to stakeholders.
- Graffiti removal and Bulky item removal.
- Purchase of moveable Security Cameras to place in areas where high levels of Waste Dumping and Graffiti occur.
- Purchase and placement of lighting in high crime areas
- Hire experts in Traffic studies to study high impact traffic intersections in Sun Valley where traffic signals or left turn lights are needed.
- Office Rental, Translation Expenses, Clerical Expenses.
- Neighborhood Council Events Such as The Fourth of July, Memorial Day, Earth Day, Veterans Day, etc. (Decorate public areas with Flags)
- To present Workshops at the Sun Valley Library or Sun Valley Parks, such as Literacy for adults, Programs to teach Green Card holders Civics and other related training to pass their Citizenship tests. Also tutoring for school children and Senior’s Programs
- To present Educational Presentations in conjunction with our local parks in such fields as art and astronomy, etc.

These are items that we don’t normally have budgets for and we could be more effective in serving our Neighborhood if we had access to these funds directly for each individual Neighborhood Council.