

**From:** [noreply@granicusideas.com](mailto:noreply@granicusideas.com)  
**To:** [City Clerk; citycouncil@hermosaeach.gov](mailto:cityclerk@hermosaeach.gov); [Suja Lowenthal](#); [Ann Yang](#)  
**Subject:** New eComment for City Council Hybrid Special Meeting (Closed Session - 4:00 P.M. and Open Session - 6:00 P.M.)  
**Date:** Sunday, December 12, 2021 7:16:09 PM

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## New eComment for City Council Hybrid Special Meeting (Closed Session - 4:00 P.M. and Open Session - 6:00 P.M.)

Carolyn Petty submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Hybrid Special Meeting (Closed Session - 4:00 P.M. and Open Session - 6:00 P.M.)

Item: b. REPORT 21-0781 CONSIDERATION OF THE CITY'S OPTIONS IN LIGHT OF THE CANNABIS INITIATIVE FILED BY COLTON CHACKER WITH THE HERMOSA BEACH CITY CLERK ON NOVEMBER 17, 2021 (City Attorney Michael Jenkins and Deputy City Manager Angela Crespi)

eComment: The Hermosa Beach City Council needs to say a firm NO to Cannabis in Hermosa Beach. No studies, no analysis, no discussion, just NO. The city should NEVER partner with groups whose goal is to addict residents, including our youth. The Cannabis initiative being circulated provides minimal protections for the community – and that is the point. The safety and welfare of our community is NOT the goal of the cannabis industry. Their goal is to sell their product. No City Council should ever partner with an industry whose product endangers the health and safety of residents. No City Council should use a poorly drafted initiative as the excuse to legalize dispensaries under the guise of “controlling” the industry. This industry is not controllable – they are creative enough to constantly find ways to evade, avoid and innovate. The Cannabis industry has spawned a variety of high potency products that endanger the health and safety of residents as well as children. Their packaging is designed to entice youth – be it candy packaging or cookies or gummies, just to name a few. In the 1990s, THC levels ranged from 2% to 5%. Now there are high potency products with THC levels approaching 90%. Many of these products can create tremendous harm to the user, including psychotic episodes, mental illness, paranoia, anxiety, panic attacks, and hallucinations to name a few. Children are now using high potency marijuana through the use of dabbing – another high potency product that can approach 99% THC levels. They do this with pens and other instruments designed to avoid recognition by parents. A few reasons (but not all) why it is important to understand what is being proposed with this initiative: 1. The primary purpose of this initiative as stated is to provide mentally ill people with cannabis. While we all view mentally ill people with empathy, this endangers the residents of Hermosa Beach as it will create gathering places specifically catered

towards to the mentally ill population. And in what world do you enable mental illness with more addictive substances? 2. This would also permit cultivation, manufacturing and processing on the premises. 3. The operators would be chosen behind closed doors, with no public vetting or review 4. They would operate by right, with no conditional use permit. They would operate under fewer conditions than liquor serving establishments 5. If any aspects of this initiative are challenged in court, the city would foot the legal bills for the author of the initiative as well as any appeals. Why should taxpayers fund the legal costs of cannabis dispensaries? Some people have a laissez fair attitude towards marijuana. That mindset is dangerous and ill informed. It has been statistically proven that marijuana use increases when a dispensary is located within 4 miles of a community. ER visits increase, impaired driving increases and crime increases. Illegal marijuana flows through and is sold through the legal dispensaries. For the people who think there is money to be gained from allowing cannabis shops in the community – since when does Hermosa Beach put a price tag on someone’s health and well being? The answer is – never in the past have we done that in our town. As a matter of fact, not only is smoking banned, but there is a future agenda item to even ban tobacco sales in Hermosa Beach. I encourage everyone to become educated on the proposed initiative and to not sign this. People need to truly understand the impacts of what is being proposed and should tell their neighbors so they are aware of the risk to our community. Everyone should pressure the Hermosa Beach City Council to stay far away from these cannabis companies, and let the people decide what is in the interest of our community. Learn more here: [www.NoPotShops.com](http://www.NoPotShops.com)

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