



C I T Y O F H E R M O S A B E A C H
M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: March 22, 2022

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Suja Lowenthal, City Manager

SUBJECT: 3/22/22 AGENDA, MUNICIPAL MATTERS ITEM XIVa - SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMARY FROM CANNABIS ADVISORY GROUP

At its March 21, 2022 meeting, the Hermosa Beach Cannabis Advisory Group participated in an informal poll regarding key issues as they move toward a final recommendation to City Council. With one member absent, the eight remaining members unanimously indicated opposition to the Cannabis Initiative filed by Colton Chacker.

The group was split on a question regarding support for upholding the current ban, with a slight majority in favor of keeping the current ban in place. Although most members are in favor of upholding a ban on cannabis sales and delivery, the members present were unanimously in support of including a standalone tax measure on the ballot in case the Cannabis Initiative filed by Colton Chacker were to be approved by the voters.

The group was also polled regarding its support for a possible competing measure should Council to determine that approach as the best course of action for the community. A slight majority was supportive of a competing initiative with significant regulation to protect community interest. Some of the considerations offered included: a 1,500 foot minimum distance from schools; density and proximity to schools and routes to school; prohibition of retail in the area surrounding the Pier; prohibition of billboards for advertising; restriction on flavored products and combustibles; and the exploration of a regional agreement with neighboring cities. It was even suggested that a competing initiative to allow for legal delivery only, with no retail storefronts, be considered.

The group will continue to discuss their concerns, as well as possible elements of a competing measure, if they should so choose to make that recommendation, at their next meeting scheduled for March 29, 2022.