

## Ann Yang

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**From:** City of Hermosa Beach <webmaster@hermosabeach.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 7, 2022 5:31 PM  
**To:** Ann Yang  
**Subject:** City of Hermosa Beach: Press Release | CIVIC-MINDED RESIDENTS AND BUSINESS OWNERS INVITED TO SUBMIT STATEMENTS OF INTEREST FOR HERMOSA'S CANNABIS ADVISORY GROUP

### Press Release | CIVIC-MINDED RESIDENTS AND BUSINESS OWNERS INVITED TO SUBMIT STATEMENTS OF INTEREST FOR HERMOSA'S CANNABIS ADVISORY GROUP

#### Submission Deadline is January 13, 2022

*The City of Hermosa Beach announced today that it is seeking statements of interest from civic-minded residents and business owners who are interested in serving on Hermosa Beach's Cannabis Advisory Group.*

**Post Date:** 01/07/2022 5:20 PM

**HERMOSA BEACH, CA** – The City of Hermosa Beach announced today that it is seeking statements of interest from civic-minded residents and business owners who are interested in serving on Hermosa Beach's Cannabis Advisory Group. The City is establishing the group in response to the Hermosa Beach City Council's request for input on whether Hermosa Beach should modify its ordinance that bans cannabis sales in the City limits.

Petition organizers that represent the cannabis industry are currently seeking signatures to qualify an initiative for the ballot that would change the City's ban on cannabis sales and would allow for the establishment of up to two retail cannabis operations in Hermosa Beach.

The Cannabis Advisory Group will examine whether the City should change its current ban on cannabis sales and, if so, whether cannabis retail operations or delivery sales should be permitted in Hermosa Beach. The Cannabis Advisory Group will also study how a change in the ordinance would impact law enforcement and the community.

Members of the Cannabis Advisory Group should be available to participate in at least four or five public meetings of at least two to three hours in length. The meetings will be conducted by teleconference and will include testimony from the public.

Per the Council's instructions, the Cannabis Advisory Group will include representatives of the Hermosa Beach City School District, Hermosa Beach Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau and Beach Cities Health District. The six other members of the Cannabis Advisory Group will be drawn from the community.

Hermosa Beach residents and business owners who are interested in serving on the Cannabis Advisory Group may submit their statements of interest to [anny@hermosabeach.gov](mailto:anny@hermosabeach.gov). The deadline is January 13, 2022. In your submission, please include your contact information including phone, address and email. Also please include information about your qualifications, including any experience you have with cannabis and what, if any opinion, you have about cannabis sales in Hermosa Beach. For additional information, please see the Cannabis Advisory Group's workplan at <https://www.hermosabeach.gov/our-government/city-manager/community-advisory-groups>.

**From:** Andrea Valcourt

**Sent:** Thursday, January 13, 2022 5:51 PM

**To:** Ann Yang <anny@hermosabeach.gov>

**Subject:** FW: City of Hermosa Beach: Press Release | CIVIC-MINDED RESIDENTS AND BUSINESS OWNERS INVITED TO SUBMIT STATEMENTS OF INTEREST FOR HERMOSA'S CANNABIS ADVISORY GROUP

Hi Ann,

I am interested in participating in the Cannabis Advisory Group. As you know, I have participated in several advisory groups in the past, including ones to develop the 20 Year Plan and whether or not to go with LA County Fire. Both assignments required me to compile data and submit the results in either Word or Excel and/or paper format.

I believe that my good communications and writing skills will be an asset to the team. I come to this with an open mind and no preconceived notions, which I believe is a good starting point. In my experience in software development and as a telecom project manager, it is always good to have the "new kid" on the team to bring a fresh perspective and to ask the question others might not think are necessary. I look forward to working with the team.

Thank you for your consideration,

Andrea Valcourt

**From:** Cammie Herbert  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 13, 2022 4:49 PM  
**To:** Ann Yang <anny@hermosabeach.gov>  
**Subject:** Cannabis advisory committee interest

Hello Ms. Lowenthal,

As a parent, and resident of this city for 24 years, I am very interested in the Cannabis committee being formed to "study" if the city should change its plan for the sales of Cannabis in the city. I have been on a couple of committees so I understand the research, study and thoughtful contemplation needed to go into a report for the city.

I have not had any experience with cannabis, just reading articles about affects on children, and listening to attorneys and police discussions about the dangers of marijuana. But I do know that cannabis is not just smoking marijuana.

I am not in favor of any cannabis stores in the city. This opinion is not just because I have not had experience with cannabis.

The form is still down online so thought I would email that I hope you will consider me.

Cammie Herbert

## SUBMISSION FOR HERMOSA BEACH CANNABIS ADVISORY COUNCIL

From Heidi Anderson-Swan

I educate about the mental health harms of marijuana. Last year, I taught continuing education webinars for both [lawyers](#) and [professional fiduciaries](#). As far as I know, these are the first of their kind.

Additionally, I give presentations about a Young Adult book/film/play I wrote with my brother called [A Night In Jail](#). It is a fictional story illustrating the short and long-term risks of youth marijuana use. Utilizing this material, I have spoken for the [2nd Annual Teaching Cannabis Awareness & Prevention Virtual Conference](#), [Smart Approaches to Marijuana](#), National Alliance on Mental Illness ([Long Beach](#) and Solano County), [Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Providers of New York State](#), [Community Coalitions of Virginia](#), and others.

I have been interviewed on several podcasts/radio shows. [NBC-LA](#) reported on a screening of our short film, *A Night In Jail*. They covered an event co-sponsored by [MBSafe](#) (a local, private organization that helps the homeless). As a board member of Parents Opposed to Pot, I was recently interviewed by [Fox.com](#) about the prospect of marijuana legalization at the federal level.

There are two other nonprofit organizations where I serve on the Board/Advisory Council: [Every Brain Matters](#) and [Johnny's Ambassadors](#). Locally, I am involved in The Prevention Community Council through Behavioral Health Services and a member of Rethinking Access to Marijuana.

Because I have so many relationships with prevention organizations in California and across the country, I am regularly updated about the science on marijuana and the consequences of its normalization and commercialization. My involvement as an educator and advocate makes me uniquely qualified to serve on the Advisory Council in Hermosa Beach.

## **MY PERSONAL EXPERIENCE WITH MARIJUANA:**

As teenagers, my brother and I used marijuana. It was the late 70's—the height of youth marijuana use in our country. In this era, the potency of THC (the psychoactive ingredient) was about 5%. One time, I was using it with my best friend, and I suddenly did not know who she was or where I was. She was fine. But I was not. I did not like losing touch with reality, so I stayed away from the drug.

My brother really liked “the fun house experience” it gave him. He used a little bit, every day, all the way through high school, college, and graduate school. After graduation, he went on to cocaine and then crack. In short order, he was homeless or in jail.

10-15% of the population is predisposed to psychosis and most of us don't know it. Marijuana, even at very low potencies (2-8% THC), is an environmental risk factor for a psychotic reaction. My own experience illustrates this: I never lost touch with reality before or after I used marijuana. Only that one time. And, as I said, my friend did not have this reaction at all.

Today's products are anywhere between **10-20 X stronger** than what my brother and I were using. Like most people I know, I was unaware of the ultra-high potency products when we voted for legalization.

Young people are increasingly using ultra-high potency THC dabs & vapes. There are no long-term studies on the risks of these products. To make matters worse, many parents assume the relatively low risks of old-fashioned, low-potency-weed apply to these new, ultra- high-potency fruity marijuana vapes, THC suppositories, tampons, dabs, shatter, creams, candies, cookies, oils, etc. They simply haven't been updated about the short-term risks that include paranoia, hallucinations, vomiting, psychosis. The lack of basic awareness makes these products even more dangerous.

## **OPINION ABOUT SALES IN HERMOSA BEACH**

I voted for legalization in California. My reasons for doing so were primarily to keep some people out of jail. Another reason I voted for it was because we, as a community, were promised we could decide if we want to have retail sales or not. The assumption that Hermosa Beach voters want legal outlets simply because we voted in favor of Prop 64 is, at least partially, erroneous.

There is a large amount of data to show harms to communities that have any legal retail. Because of this, I am strongly against legal retail sales of any kind in Hermosa Beach.

Some harms to a community include but are not limited to: increase of marijuana-impaired driving fatalities, increased crime, increase of illicit products/activities, increased youth use, lowers property values and increases homelessness and more. Much of this data can be found at [www.NoPotShops.com](http://www.NoPotShops.com)

These harms will be costly to Hermosa. How will we pay these extra expenses? The industry is demanding tax reform; Governor Newsom, and some in the Legislature, support this.

Legal Cannabis is a cash-only business, known for murky bookkeeping, that admits to doing business with the illegal market.

How can Hermosa Beach shake hands with such an industry and allow it closer access to our youth?

**From:** Matt Cottrell

**Sent:** Thursday, January 13, 2022 12:27 PM

**To:** Ann Yang <anny@hermosabeach.gov>

**Subject:** Submission for Hermosa Beach Advisory Panel for Cannabis

Attention City Managers Office,

My name is Matt Cottrell. I am a long time resident of Hermosa Beach and am interested in serving on the Hermosa Beach Cannabis Advisory Group. I have spent the last 9 years immersed in the State Licensed Cannabis Industry as a multi-state operator in both Arizona and Oregon as a retailer and a manufacturer. I have first hand experience with the licensing procedure in both states including the transitions from Medical Marijuana programs to Adult-Use (recreational) in each state respectively. I have personally experienced the downside of poorly executed municipal MMJ programs and have also experienced first hand the benefits of a well thought out, and properly executed MMJ program as well. I can not emphasize enough that there is a VAST difference between the two. Hermosa sits in the fortunate position of being able to explore which municipalities have done things that have benefited their communities, and which have been abject failures. I do not see Hermosa's "wait and see" approach as a hindrance in the least. Waiting has allowed the Hermosa Community to build a program that encompasses the strongest attributes of the most successful programs while avoiding the pitfalls that so many municipalities have experienced.

In addition, over the last 9 years, I have worked hand in hand with law enforcement including: the creation of security plans, community outreach programs, analyzing crime statistics and the effect that cannabis has had on the community and surrounding areas, working with Community Safety Officers, working with State Marijuana Enforcement Officers and Inspectors for both the Arizona Department of Health Services and the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission, and have deployed measures to mitigate any potential adverse effects that cannabis related businesses would have on the community at large.

The current proposed ballot initiative for Hermosa should be explored objectively to avoid such pitfalls and the current draft language is problematic to say the least. The language in these initiatives must be scrutinized and the public needs to be made aware that the authors of this language are at the very least attempting to create a monopoly within the city limits with zero benefit to the community via city taxes. If the voters agree to this, they must be given the chance to do so only after having been fully informed.

To be clear, I am not a cannabis user. But I have seen, first hand the benefits of cannabis use and I am an advocate for the legal sale and distribution of it. The current situation that the Hermosa Beach Community finds itself in is one where black market operators are continuing to thrive.. Some of these operators may even look like legitimate delivery services but I can assure you, they are not. Contrary to popular belief, most of the app's where people go to, to find delivery services do not perform any sort of scrutiny as to whether an operator is operating within the parameters of the state licensed system or are even licensed operators at all. And the fact that they are mobile, and not at a fixed location, makes enforcement even more difficult. This is a massive problem which allows the black market to thrive in the Hermosa Community while providing zero upside to the community as a whole.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my information. I respectfully request to be considered for inclusion in the Hermosa Beach Cannabis Advisory Group.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Matt Cottrell



**From:** Tribble, Nathan  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 13, 2022 11:41 AM  
**To:** Ann Yang <anny@hermosabeach.gov>  
**Subject:** Cannabis Advisory Group

To Whom It May Concern,

Please consider this message my indication of interest for a position on Hermosa Beach's Cannabis Advisory Group. I have studied the cannabis space from a business perspective for over a decade. While at Morgan Stanley, I was responsible for significant research into the cannabis legalization efforts in Oakland beginning in 2007. Additionally, I believe my public speaking and policy research background compliments my experience in finance which can offer a useful perspective for our city council and residents. I do not have a set or specific agenda or opinion with regards to cannabis sales in our city. Instead, I believe the city should take a measured, data-driven approach toward understanding and balancing the risks and rewards from inviting cannabis businesses into our community. As this change in Hermosa law has the potential to have far reaching impacts in the city, it is imperative that members of this group are comfortable working with complex data and are sensitive to the concerns of our fellow residents.

Thank you for your consideration, I have included my CV as an attachment and more information about my professional background can be found at <https://www.linkedin.com/in/nathantribble/>. Thank you for your time and consideration please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly by responding to this email, my cell phone or via post.

Best regards,

Nathan Tribble

**From:** Russ Gilbert  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 12, 2022 10:02 AM  
**To:** Ann Yang <anny@hermosabeach.gov>  
**Subject:** Cannabis Advisory Group

Hi Ann,

I'd like to submit myself for consideration to the Cannabis advisory group.

Beyond occasional recreational use when I was younger I'm not a regular cannabis user currently, but the vast majority of the people I know definitely are.

I'm of the opinion that with legalization at the state level and the likely pending legalization at the federal level that we'd be foolish not to set up a legal framework locally to benefit the city and residents. Letting a resident craft the initiative on behalf of a special interest org instead of the city also seems like a poor strategy.

I don't have any specific civic experience but I've worked at large companies at the executive level for many years and have received various training in group dynamics, communication, and collaboration.

Let me know if/how I can help!