

# City Council Hybrid Meeting

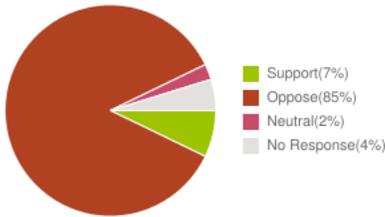
05-24-22 18:00

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
a. REPORT 22-0326 CITY STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS ON CANNABIS POLICY OPTIONS (City Manager Suja Lowenthal)	42	3	36	1

## Sentiments for All Agenda Items

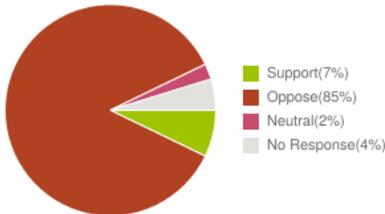
The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

### Overall Sentiment



### Agenda Item: eComments for a. REPORT 22-0326 CITY STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS ON CANNABIS POLICY OPTIONS (City Manager Suja Lowenthal)

### Overall Sentiment



### Tammy Pao

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach

Submitted At: 2:59pm 05-24-22

NO to marijuana dispensaries - we need to maintain our family friendly community by setting the right examples for our children and not give people who do not live our our wonderful community easy access to obtain marijuana that will be smoked on our beautiful beach and throughout our town. There is no amount of revenue worth ruining our community. How can we say we are environmentally friendly when we already have so many people smoking pot around town and on the beach that I feel like I smell it everywhere? This will only be exacerbated if we allow dispensaries. We should not fall prey to partnering with the wealthy cannabis industry.

### Laura Pena

Location:

Submitted At: 2:43pm 05-24-22

Dear Mayor, Council Members, and Staff,

I want to clearly state my opposition for the “Chacker” Cannabis Initiative that will be on the ballot in November. With that said, it is my opinion that in order to defeat this measure one option would be to initiate a City Sponsored Cannabis measure, in addition to a City Sponsored Measure for a Business Tax and allow the community to decide the direction of dispensaries. But, more importantly we need to emphasize and demonstrate the value and importance of clear communication and transparency in our city. In order for our community to provide informed and timely feedback, the results of the survey should have been released in advance of this meeting tonight.

Why Should We Care about the Cannabis Measure? FACT vs. OPINION

If you haven't had the chance to review the “Chacker” Cannabis Initiative or attend one of the ten city meetings discussing the matter you may not be aware of the concerns of residents, our law enforcement, and our city officials. Please note that many opinions are being stated as FACTS when they are actually OPINIONS. It is important to know the difference. I hope that staff and council will provide the FACTS at this evenings meeting so the public can understand what is at stake in our city. In addition, if you choose to develop an informational impact report for educational purposes covering policy, safety, and health considerations please make sure it is fair and balanced.

I appreciate your thoughtful consideration.  
Laura Pena

**Cameron Josephs**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach  
Submitted At: 2:09pm 05-24-22

Please do not bring pot shops to this family town!

**Jennifer Palmieri**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach  
Submitted At: 2:04pm 05-24-22

We do not want pot shops in Hermosa!

**Taiisa Boughton**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach  
Submitted At: 1:42pm 05-24-22

No to marijuana dispensaries in Hermosa Beach. This family friendly, tiny, walking city already smells so badly of marijuana- from sidewalks to beaches, and is getting so out of hand, that it's not even pleasant to be outdoors most places these days. even the beach. The last thing we need is dispensaries so that we bring more marijuana users adding to mix. Not to mention the locations proposed being directly on a "safe route to school" for our kids. I am completely astounded that anyone would think adding dispensaries to a city of this size would be a good idea. I honestly can not think of one way it would have a positive impact on our small community. Anyone wanting to purchase marijuana can get it delivered directly to their homes. Keep the ban.

**Dana Miller**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach  
Submitted At: 12:55pm 05-24-22

I oppose retail cannabis shops in Hermosa Beach for countless reasons. We have a limited police department to cover any security issues. The proposed location (JAMA) is on a safe school route that has many young children from east Hermosa walk past in it to and from school.

**Mike Miller**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach  
Submitted At: 11:46am 05-24-22

1. WHY is our City so hot to bring dispensaries to Hermosa Beach? We barely have enough Law Enforcement and Community Services personnel to properly service our City. Do you think the small increase in business sales tax will offset the cost of enforcement? The City of Palm Springs has 27 dispensaries and one of the main

Community Services responsibilities is policing the dispensaries.

2. WHY has the former Jama car lot already been chosen as the possible first dispensary site in the City?? The property may say 7th St and PCH but it extends all the way to 8th St. which is a major school crossing for the City. Dozens of children cross PCH and 8th St morning and afternoon. \*\*The 2nd recommendation by the Cannabis Advisory Commission is to have "Restrictions regarding density and proximity to schools, as well as routes to schools." \*\* Children will be walking within feet of the dispensary front door!! Come on! The City needs to be smart about legalizing Cannabis Dispensaries.

### **Lee Schantz**

Location:

Submitted At: 11:24am 05-24-22

In recent weeks our local schools have been hosting webinars on the increasing dangers of drug abuse facing our kids. A city council - you think - would take a supporting stance on wanting to also do all it can to protect its youth. But instead members of it want to reverse the ban and allow marijuana dispensaries to open throughout Hermosa Beach.

How refreshing it would be to see common sense prevail and focus on what truly matters to this city and its residents. A focus on crime - which will only increase should this initiative pass. A focus on the homeless; some of whom we literally have to step over because they are passed out on our streets and beaches. The absence of retail cannabis sales in Hermosa is a good thing. Please keep it that way.

### **Michelle Smith**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach

Submitted At: 9:42am 05-24-22

I am completely against having marijuana dispensaries in my small town of Hermosa Beach. I have 4 boys ages 17, 8, 6 and 3 and we moved to this town to raise our family here because it's such a safe, non-smoking, family community. I have seen first hand family members in communities in Colorado decide to move out of their towns once dispensaries came in. It's so sad we even have to decide on something like this! PLEASE PLEASE LISTEN TO ALL OF US in opposition of bringing this to our neighborhood!! My father has 3 types of cancer and his doctors recommended getting medical grade marijuana and he said he couldn't believe how many dispensaries there already are near him in Orange County!! We don't need anymore and if it's money you're seeking for the city please reach out to me personally and I'll raise the funds needed through my family and friends!! HARD NO ON MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES!

### **Derek Johnson**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach

Submitted At: 9:17am 05-24-22

A dispensary attracts the wrong type of crowd and devalue home prices in the area. I had this same issue in Santa Monica when I lived there for four years with an increase in crime and theft in the area.

### **Mel Guerry**

Location:

Submitted At: 9:08am 05-24-22

While I oppose "a formal City Council action to oppose the cannabis industry sponsored initiative", I support the addition of a "ballot measure to the voters at the General Municipal Election to be held on November 8, 2022, adding a business license tax on cannabis sales should the ban be lifted". As Governor Newsom said, NIMBYs are ruining California and the opposition to lifting a ban on cannabis sales consists of arguments based on NIMBYism. It is also based on incorrect data regarding the relationship of crime and retail sales. This "reefer madness" needs to end.

### **Dean francois**

Location:

Submitted At: 8:29am 05-24-22

Naturally, the cannabis industry initiative is required to be on the ballot. We have no choice.

We should support the advisory committee recommendations.

It makes common sense to have a tax initiative as well should any cannabis industry initiative ever pass.

The council would then take a position to oppose the industry initiative and favor the tax initiative.

I am puzzled that there is mention of a survey, but the steps and findings of a survey, whatever survey it may be, have not been fully addressed.

**Connor SwanSmith**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach  
Submitted At: 7:44am 05-24-22

Keep the ban on marijuana

**Denis O'Reilly**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach  
Submitted At: 7:03am 05-24-22

We do not need this in Hermosa. Please don't let this happen, more DUI's in Hermosa is not a good idea. Many shops have armed guards because criminals target them. Does Hermosa want an armed security guard outside of the shop? Do not turn Hermosa into Venice it would be destructive. You can still buy pot it's not far away from our city. This will not help our Hermosa.

**Alexander Clark**

Location:  
Submitted At: 10:02pm 05-23-22

Legalizing cannabis sales in the city is the right thing to do and the city should put on the ballot a measure to regulate and tax cannabis stores in the city. Hermosa Beach is heavily reliant on tourism to fund city services and many tourists are dismayed to learn they cannot purchase cannabis in the city. Legalizing and regulating retail sales will help draw more tourists to the city. Moreover, for residents who use cannabis, they would prefer to support local businesses and pay taxes to Hermosa Beach instead of going to other cities. For people worried about kids living in a city with cannabis retailers, that's up to parents to teach children to not use drugs and newsflash to those people, teenagers and underaged people will find cannabis if they want to. It's safer to have legal, regulated cannabis sold in the city that won't be laced with other drugs. It would be unwise to not approve another measure to put on the ballot that would properly regulate and tax cannabis stores.

**Traudi Weber**

Location:  
Submitted At: 9:47pm 05-23-22

No Pot Shops equals -No Increased Crimes, No Increased Opioid Deaths, No Increased Robberies, No Additional Impaired Car and Electric Bic Driving ,No Increased Learning Problems in our Schools and I could go on. Haven't we learned enough from Colorado?!

I am Strongly Opposed to Legalize Cannabis Dispensaries in Hermosa Beach.

**Karynne Thim**

Location:  
Submitted At: 7:28pm 05-23-22

I am strongly opposed to allowing cannabis dispensaries in Hermosa. They would negatively impact the quality of life and safety of residents, and be harmful to neighboring business. A quality retailer or other business wouldn't want to be located next to a dispensary so it would create a blight condition or an area of seedy businesses.

**Scott Hayes**

Location:  
Submitted At: 5:32pm 05-23-22

I am opposed to legalizing retail cannabis in Hermosa Beach. I will be voting against any proposition or initiative that seeks to overturn Hermosa Beach's ban on retail cannabis sales.

With that being said, the issue before Council this week is not as simple as a yes or no vote on legalizing retail cannabis sales. No matter what Council decides, the Chacker initiative to legalize pot shops will be on the ballot.

The sponsors of the initiative were easily able to get the required signatures and we will be voting on it in November.

If council puts a measure on the ballot that simply reaffirms the ban on retail sales of cannabis and the Chacker initiative is approved by voters then we get the worst of both worlds. We will end up with retail cannabis without any City regulation or taxes. When Prop 64 legalized cannabis in California it was approved by Hermosa Beach residents with 71% of the vote so it is not unreasonable to think that the Chacker initiative is likely to pass.

Even though I will vote against it, I believe that the Council should put a competing initiative on the ballot to properly tax and regulate retail cannabis if the initiative is approved by the voters. I think that there is a good chance that the voters will approve retail cannabis and we should do whatever we can to mitigate the risk.

Although I support Council creating a competing ballot measure, I hope that everyone will vote against both initiatives.

If you support legalizing cannabis in Hermosa Beach, I hope that you would also support a competing initiative so the shops can be properly regulated and taxed.

### **Robin Bosmajian**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach  
Submitted At: 4:18pm 05-23-22

Please don't allow marijuana shops in Hermosa. We are a 1 sq mile town, many kids walk to school from all over Hermosa and this would make it less safe for them to do so. Almost every night on the news you hear of someone shot or the place robbed. People can have marijuana items delivered so no need to have a physical location in our small city.

### **Kelsey Moss**

Location: 90254, Hermosa beach  
Submitted At: 3:48pm 05-23-22

This location is directly across the street from my house. I would be concerned that a dispensary would bring some lingering people (possibly homeless) that hang out outside my house. I like to walk around the neighborhood and would not feel comfortable going out by myself if there were homeless people hanging out by the dispensary and intimidating me. Parking is already not great on the street and I would worry that there would be an influx of cars trying to get street spots.

### **Howard Laddendum**

Location:  
Submitted At: 3:00pm 05-23-22

Selectively adding Supplementals to the posted agenda's included Reports, while not placing all Supplementals, available at the time of posting others will very likely result in your final actions being challenged in court for unfair equal treatment of available information. This seems to be the method of operation with your contract city attorney services, to ensure more billings, from sloppy, very likely intentional, City Management / City Council operations designed to reduce or even eliminate transparency. Do not place a costly competing 'Pot Shops' measure on the ballot. Concentrate on defeating the 'Pot Shops' pushers initiative already on the ballot.

### **Megg Sulzinger**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach  
Submitted At: 2:55pm 05-23-22

Weed is legal in California already and is already being delivered to Hermosa residents. Not putting up a competing initiative is a mistake because people will vote to legalize it and allow a monopoly. Put up an initiative that allows regulations and the city to receive the tax dollars.

### **Howard Ladditional**

Location:  
Submitted At: 2:49pm 05-23-22

I noticed that a "Supplemental" from City Manager Suja Lowenthal is now attached to the Staff Report of this 'Pot Shops' item.

Why is Lowenthal's "Supplemental" already attached but the Supplemental Emails and these Supplemental e-Comments are not attached?

Council why are you permitting a double standard for your \$350 Thousand Per Year city manager Lowenthal? Why are you so weak-as-water to never do anything but patronize this woman who's wrecking transparency and the city staff day by day or is that what you are paying her to do?

Do not place a competing 'Pot Shops' measure on the ballot to confuse the City's voters on the issue and virtually guarantee 'Pot Shops' being in Hermosa Beach. Don't be absolute stooges to the need-for-greed 'Pot Shops' industry.

Don't let Lowenthal and her Long Beach learned tactics wreck Hermosa Beach further while she lives in the lap of luxury high atop Rancho Palos Verdes, over-looking Long Beach, and while your 'no-bid contract City Attorney Michael Jenkins for now 28 years' makes even more money from your votes, while living in Manhattan Beach. What is the matter with your thinking? Five of you need to think and vote as five individuals. Not as an afternoon coffee-clique.

### **Kristina O'Brien**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach  
Submitted At: 1:35pm 05-23-22

Please, please, please keep pot shops outside of Hermosa. I have 3 young kids and we do not want to see this or drive by this! Our town is small and lovely. Please keep drugs out of it. We are against this measure!!!! No to drugs in hermosa! I'm a 20 year resident! Let's keep our community clean and healthy!

### **Joanna Anderson**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach  
Submitted At: 1:03pm 05-23-22

No pot shops in hermosa beach. Love our beach town because it's such a safe and friendly place to raise children and for families.

### **Joseph Swan**

Location:  
Submitted At: 12:40pm 05-23-22

The ban should be kept in place. We already do not seem to enforce even the laws already on the books. For example, public use of pot is common at the beach. The last thing we need is an even more permissive law.

### **Eloise O'Donnell**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach  
Submitted At: 11:33am 05-23-22

Please please do not remove the ban on cannabis in our community. I'm a homeowner and a mother and I really don't want cannabis to be available for sale in our charming and safe community. Please keep the ban.

### **Howard L**

Location:  
Submitted At: 2:40am 05-23-22

As directly related to this 'Pot Shop' ballot measure issue, note that the very organization of the meeting's Agenda, which format in the past has always been set by the City Council, was suddenly at the last meeting (the original meeting for this 'Pot Shop' issue) announced as changed, therefore preventing residents, when reviewing the agenda, from immediately seeing the amount of interest a particular item had, basis the listed written testimony attachments added to the Agenda-Face, and which had been done for decades. Now those Supplemental written testimonies not only are not posted on the agenda face, but are not even posted with the staff report until minutes before the meeting. This was announced by City Manager Suja Lowenthal as being "for the public benefit", after the fact, without inquiring in a public meeting of the stakeholders or of the

Councilmembers for input. - - - - - This is what Lowenthal has brought to the City; filthy, rotten, deceitful, sneaky government. - - - - - Lowenthal was never a real City Manager before being de facto hired and over compensated by councilwoman Stacey Armato and former councilman Jeff Duclos, 4 years ago as a trainee City Manager. It has been all downhill ever since, with the departure of many long-term employees, and replacement of those having left with de facto trainees beholden to Lowenthal. It is without question, IMV that Brown Act violating, illegal serial meetings are being routinely conducted by Lowenthal with individual members of the City Council for virtually everything going on in the city. Decisions are being made before matters even appear on a posted agenda. Lowenthal needs to be DUMPED by (her employer) the City Council, for the benefit of the city. The sooner the better! - - - - - This 'Pot Shop' matter has been brought to Hermosa Beach IMV in no small part of the very presence of this former 12-year politician of Long Beach, Lowenthal. She married into the political Lowenthal family of Long Beach and she's now morphing all the stuff she learned in Long Beach to Hermosa Beach. Long Beach is the 2nd largest city in Los Angeles County; and not at all a city to model Hermosa Beach after. - - - - - A competing 'Pot' ballot measure placed by the Hermosa Council which has a tax provision requires 4 votes of the City Council. Any councilmember voting to place a competing measure on the ballot that results in that measure passing will be remembered primarily for bringing 'Pot Shops' and all their negative impacts to Hermosa Beach. It's that simple. - - - - - 'Pot Shops' operate significantly on a cash base. Cash businesses attract criminals. Cash businesses are difficult to audit. Criminal activity requires costly local policing and degrades the number one revenue source of Hermosa Beach; residential property values. - - - - - Taxes are not permitted on medical Pot. Token city revenue raised from 'Pot Shops' will be more than gobbled up by policing costs, and the expensive city bureaucracy. Of course that's what Lowenthal is about; building the biggest most bloated bureaucracy reporting to 'Queen Bee' Lowenthal, who needs to be replaced with a real City Manager. - - - - - The Hermosa Council needs only take a strong position toward defeating the 'Pot Shops' initiative petition already on the ballot rather than guaranteeing that 'Pot Shops' are passed by the people confused by the Council 'Pot Shops' measure. - - - - - Tiny 1.3 sq-mile Hermosa Beach does not need 'Pot Shops' to degrade residential property values. Pot is readably available. You can smell it wafting in the winds everywhere in city. Thus why bring the criminal element in by in anyway encouraging establishment of 'Pot Shops' in the City. Do not place a costly competing tax measure on the ballot. Push to defeat the existing 'Pot Shops' measure. This has nothing to do with people's choices to use or not use Pot. It has everything to do with placing attractive-nuisance 'Pot Shops' in tiny Hermosa Beach. Don't be stooges by playing right into the hands of the 'Pot Shop' initiative pushers by guaranteeing 'Pot Shops' are in the future of Hermosa Beach with a City Council 'Pot Shops' ballot measure.

### **Nick S**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach  
Submitted At: 8:52pm 05-22-22

Pot smoke is everywhere. This would make it worse.

### **Leif Quinlan**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach  
Submitted At: 6:42pm 05-22-22

As a right, though I do not use cannabis myself, I support legalization; however, Hermosa Beach is little more than one large neighborhood filled out by the shops and restaurants that support it. A cannabis shop in Hermosa is not only unnecessary but contrary to the architecture of the community. Specifically for the upcoming vacancy at Jama Auto House at 7th and PCH, the neighborhood surrounding would be far better served by a restaurant or local-serving small business

Please do not allow a dispensary at this location or anywhere else in Hermosa Beach. That type of business is better located in a larger metropolitan area

### **Sandy Hernandez**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach  
Submitted At: 6:33pm 05-22-22

There is no need to have a cannabis shop in a town that isn't even 2 square miles. I have no qualms about individuals using cannabis, but would prefer not to have a cannabis shop in our area. I feel a business like this would take away from the charm that makes Hermosa the wonderful town it is today.

### **Joann Miya**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach  
Submitted At: 6:23pm 05-22-22

This would be a negative impact on our neighborhood bring in criminal element, heavy traffic which we already have right there on PCH and bring undesirables to AA hi caliber Beach area would drop property values I am highly opposed to having a dispensary at the Jon Miya location or anywhere in Hermosa Beach.

**Robert Scheerle**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach  
Submitted At: 4:41pm 05-22-22

We do not need this type of business which will be a magnet for drug use, homelessness and crime in our beach community.

**Charles Gronbach**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach  
Submitted At: 3:17pm 05-22-22

I oppose selling drugs in Hermosa. The last thing we need is to have out-of-city drug users driving to Hermosa for their stash. If revenue is your main objective, find other ways to get it. Stop the slide towards decay!

**Heather S**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach  
Submitted At: 3:13pm 05-22-22

I am opposed to the Hermosa City Council placing a city sponsored initiative on the ballot to legalize cannabis dispensaries in Hermosa Beach.

**Anthony Higgins**

Location:  
Submitted At: 8:23am 05-22-22

It's a stain that many prima donna residents of Hermosa are ok with shifting cannabis shops into poor neighborhoods- they have kids too.

**Francoise Ravel**

Location:  
Submitted At: 7:11pm 05-21-22

Pot shops will increase crime.

**Carolyn Petty**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach  
Submitted At: 7:00pm 05-21-22

I am opposed to this City Council placing a city sponsored initiative on the ballot to legalize cannabis dispensaries in Hermosa Beach. Since the decision was made years ago to disallow dispensaries in our town, not one resident has ever complained or insisted that we needed these in our town.

Dispensaries attract crime – for anyone who doubts this, read about the armed robbery two nights ago at a Pasadena dispensary, or the one in Tarzana in which one person was shot and killed. It would be naïve to think that this would not happen here.

Considering the staff report points to a city goal of transparency: (Goal 1. A high degree of transparency and integrity in the decision-making process.) Maintain the community's trust by holding meetings in which decisions are being made, that are open and available for all community members to attend, participate, or view remotely. It is disturbing that a survey was conducted of the residents, without any of this being public knowledge. That is not "transparent". Suja still refuses to release the survey questions and as such, is forcing a lengthy and expensive public records request, knowing that she could stall as long as necessary to ensure residents had minimal information prior to this meeting.

This discussion was supposed to have been held at the May 10 meeting - Justin was insistent to the point of even trying to create a subcommittee ahead of a vote - so why was this pushed to May 24? I believe Suja and Justin have spent the last two weeks lobbying Mike Detoy or Stacey Armato to become their 4th vote. That is the opposite of transparency, so why maintain that pretense for everyone?

The residents have weighed in that they do not support this, so please stop trying to wear everyone down. Educate the residents on the harms of cannabis and dispensaries, and let the residents vote on one measure, not two competing measures.

### **Brian Waldman**

Location:

Submitted At: 5:04pm 05-21-22

Please keep the ban on selling recreational drugs in Hermosa Beach. Selling recreational drugs is not something that is good for families raising children. There are no areas in Hermosa that would not be visible to our kids. Opening up a shop means sending a message that doing drugs for fun is supported by our town, city council and residents.

### **Testing TestingD**

Location:

Submitted At: 3:10pm 05-21-22

a b test

### **Heidi J. Swan**

Location:

Submitted At: 1:26pm 05-21-22

Since legalization, there is a lot of new data about the harms to a community. These issues must be addressed. How will Hermosa mitigate the harms? To keep Hermosa safe, we should be against normalizing drugs of all kinds.

-The mayor of the 2nd largest city in Colorado said last month, "The vast majority of the money raised goes to regulation, police dealing with illegal grows, homelessness, impaired driving, and a litany of other problems made worse by recreational marijuana," Suthers said. "A small amount goes to school construction, but not nearly what was promised."... "All they tell us is how much the state is making," the mayor said. "It's a pittance compared to the social and environmental damage."...

Suthers calls pot legalization a gateway policy with deadly results.

"It led our legislators to think it's OK to decriminalize all drugs. Once you tie drug use to government revenues, politicians want more," Suthers said. "We pass laws that encourage early age drug use, then we are shocked, shocked, shocked that we have serious drug use across the board."

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/pots-broken-promises>

-The mayor's comments about other drug use are supported by this recent studying showing in areas where marijuana has been legalized opioid deaths have gone up (not down, as proponents promised).

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0027968422000529?dgcid=author>

-LA's CBS 2 News did a report on adults purchasing marijuana for teens. This shows that it doesn't matter if everyone is following the law and ID's are checked. The closer a pot shop is, the more normal it looks to youth. How will our police be able to keep up with this? <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?extid=NS-UNK-UNK-UNK->



**From:** gary brown <[thesmithy@hotmail.com](mailto:thesmithy@hotmail.com)>

**Sent:** Friday, May 6, 2022 7:58 PM

**To:** City Council <[citycouncil@hermosabeach.gov](mailto:citycouncil@hermosabeach.gov)>; City Clerk <[cityclerk@hermosabeach.gov](mailto:cityclerk@hermosabeach.gov)>; Suja Lowenthal <[suja@hermosabeach.gov](mailto:suja@hermosabeach.gov)>

**Subject:** Marrijauna in our city [the initiative]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

Council members:

Our neighbors to the north have initiated one and perhaps two initiatives in order to stave off the possibility of one or more “pot stores” opening in their city, If the current ballot initiative is passed by the voters [heaven help us]! At least these council members are united against the harm pot stores will inflict on all of us. We, therefore, should feel obligated to join this fight in earnest. “United we stand, Divided we fall.”

There are no benefits to be gained by making “weed” easier to obtain. Regulation will be a nightmare. What tax money you receive is really “blood money”! Even if they would accept the huge taxes, illegal pot growers will exploit this and find ways to make a profit by other means.

Our obligation, first and foremost, is to do what is right and good. Setting a precedent of giving in on what we know to be harmful to our community is not the example our children would expect.

A few weeks ago, the Council seemed to be in a rush, however, the survey, completed quite some time ago, has yet to be shared with the community. This lack of transparency is troubling.

Respectfully,

Gary Brown Hermosa resident since 1971