

TO: Mayor and Council Members
Marlene Best, City Manager
Shawn Hagerty, City Attorney

FROM: Annette Ortiz, CMC, City Clerk

DATE: June 9, 2021

SUBJ: City Council Meeting Non-Agenda Public Comment – June 9, 2021

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT:

The attached correspondence for Non-Agenda Public Comment was received and is being provided for your consideration.



From: Peggy Walker
Sent: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 5:07 PM
To: Annette Ortiz
Subject: City Council comments

Dear Annette Fagan Ortiz,
City Clerk, City of Santee

Just in case you read aloud written comments at City Council meetings, I'd like to submit the following for tonight's meeting (6/09/2021):

Dear Mayor Minto and City Council Members McNelis, Koval, Hall and Trotter:

Regarding your marijuana stance, Councilman Hall was right when he was quoted in the UT, that *'We need to understand what we're voting for.'*

After 20 years in public health I can say mounting, science-based evidence indicates you are voting for more accidental ingestion, poison control calls, overdose, ER admissions and hospitalization, DUI-related injuries and deaths, cannabis use disorder, child abuse cases, youth and young adult dependency, IQ loss, de-motivation and dropout, psychosis, schizophrenia, MJ-related violence from high potency TCH, and suicide.

PLEASE! -- look at the data posted by scientists working to counteract industry falsehoods.

- Just one example: Contrary to industry claims of PTSD relief, researchers found Marijuana use is associated with *worse* outcomes in symptom severity and violent behavior in patients. The Navy will not allow its use for PTSD. (See IASIC1.org)
- Did you know MJ is linked to changes in male sperm DNA, to autism, and testicular cancer? There's so much we've yet to learn! (See IASIC1.org)

This industry stands to gain tens of **billions** of dollars from sales. Its marketeers are masters at buying political favor and using sophisticated techniques to push marijuana as "safe" and "natural." It's neither. Even industry insiders admit lax safety practices abound. False test results hide toxicity and contamination and are overlooked by state regulators. THC dosage is uncontrolled and unclear. Growers today engineer potency far beyond "natural" to increase addiction. Colorado, undergoing a pediatric marijuana crisis, is pushing for THC caps.

Meanwhile, overburdened medical professionals are calling "Time Out." Policy, they say, should be based on *science* NOT anecdotes perpetrated by an addiction-for-profit business.

The tobacco and opioid disasters should teach us something about how damaging corporate greed can be. Please do not make a decision on marijuana without investigation into the real harms, costs and societal burdens of freewheeling marijuana commercialization.

Regards,
Peggy Walker
Coastal Cities Drug Free Coalition

From: [Kelly McCormick](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [John Minto](#); [Ronn Hall](#); [Rob McNelis](#); [Laura Koval](#); [Dustin Trotter](#)
Subject: Non-Agenda Public Comment, 6.9.21
Date: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 5:44:14 PM
Attachments: [IASIC-Advocacy-Letter-.pdf](#)

Good Evening Mayor and City Council Members,

As a parent, and director of a youth mentoring group, I urge the city to resist pressure from the marijuana industry to bring commercialized pot to Santee. In addition to an unnecessary increase in the supply of marijuana, you will see aggressive advertising. As intended, advertising increases demand and normalizes pot use in the eyes of youth.

Mayor Minto has said that he **has a hard time getting over the drug's “correlation with being harmful”**. That's because marijuana IS harmful, particularly for users under 25. Please consider this, from a recent media advisory by The International Academy on the Science and Impact of Cannabis, <http://www.IASIC1.org>.

- Youth marijuana addiction is higher than alcohol and opioid addiction.
- Marijuana/ Cannabis can result in psychosis that can cause permanent schizophrenia based on numerous studies.
- Youth who suffered major depression in the past year were more likely to be marijuana users (24.6% vs 11%).
- Youth who live near cannabis dispensaries use more pot.
- People with a cardiac history should be advised against using marijuana due to risk of heart attack and stroke.

The ISAIC Advisory is attached.

Thank you,
Kelly McCormick



IASIC ADVOCACY

We encourage consideration of the medical implications of increased availability of potent cannabis/ marijuana products on our youth and community.

IASIC, the International Academy on the Science and Impact of Cannabis, are doctors who educate on cannabis. Our international experts provide science, data, plus clinical expertise. We are a non-partisan and non-political group who educate on the harms of cannabis based on science, data and clinical experience. We developed an easy-to-use medical resource library for the general public that includes key findings of over 15,000 medical publications on cannabis/ marijuana. In comparison, the surgeon general issued a warning on tobacco based on only 7,000 publications. Many medical organizations have issued warnings on cannabis/ marijuana. The IASIC resource includes a wide array of medical conditions that affects individuals and public health.

Here is a sample of findings from the medical literature:

- Youth marijuana addiction is higher than alcohol and opioid addiction.
 - At 3 years after trying marijuana 20.1% of kids age 12-17 developed cannabis use disorder compared to 10.6% of kids of the same age who started with opioids.
- Marijuana/ Cannabis can result in psychosis that can cause permanent schizophrenia based on numerous studies.
- Youth who suffered major depression in the past year were more likely to be marijuana users (24.6% vs 11%).
- Youth who live near cannabis dispensaries use more pot.
- People with a cardiac history should be advised against using marijuana due to risk of heart attack and stroke.

We witness daily medical adverse effects of marijuana/ cannabis/ THC. Please consider these facts when making decisions that increase access to these products.

The IASIC Leadership Board

Eric Voth, MD FACP, President
Ken Finn, MD, Vice President
Roneet Lev, MD FACEP, Vice President
Catherine Antley, MD, Secretary/ Treasurer

Visit our website IASIC1.org to see the prestigious IASIC physicians advisory council and use the medical library that is translated for public understanding.

From: [Barbara Gordon](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Re: NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT
Date: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 5:55:20 PM

Could you please distribute my comments to the City Council Members as I will not be able to attend the meeting tonight.

Thank you....Barbara Gordon

My name is Barbara Gordon and as a youth group leader I applaud the City Council vote to not allow marijuana businesses in the city. The appreciated Council members recognizing the decisions they make matter especially when it comes to public policies.

Marijuana is both addictive and harmful to the human brain, especially when used as an adolescent. Marijuana use is at an all-time high especially with our young people.

Marijuana use directly affects the brain, specifically the parts responsible for memory, learning, attention and reaction time. Numerous studies have shown the real and damaging effects it has on the human brain.

Marijuana use is associated with a six-fold risk of suicide and five-fold risk of developing psychosis. The main psychoactive ingredient in marijuana, THC, has shown to cause many different types of mental and physiological health problems—especially in adolescents.

Again, thank you for your leadership on the important issue. Our city leaders should not promote an industry knowing the harms of marijuana. Marijuana businesses are about big money with no concern of the damage it does to people's lives.

Barbara Gordon

Public Health Educator

San Dieguito Alliance

Serving the cities of Del Mar, Encinitas, Solana Beach, and the communities of Carmel Valley, Del Mar Heights, Elfin Forest, La Costa, Rancho Santa Fe, Sorrento Valley

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