

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

FROM: Annette Ortiz, CMC, City Clerk

DATE: December 8, 2021

**SUBJ: UPDATED COUNCIL MEETING MATERIALS – DECEMBER 8, 2021**

**NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT:**

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



**From:** [Rebecca Rapp](#)  
**To:** [John Minto](#); [Rob McNelis](#); [Laura Koval](#); [Ronn Hall](#); [Dustin Trotter](#); [Clerk Info](#)  
**Subject:** Mayor and Council- Comments for tonight's council meeting  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 8, 2021 3:02:33 PM

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Mayor and City council, my name is Becky Rapp, I'm writing to you as I'm unable to appear in person at tonight's city council meeting. I'm a parent and youth group mentor concerned for the mental health of our young people. I recently read an article from CNN speaking to a study that suggests that using marijuana during pregnancy is now linked to major mental health issues for children.

The study shows that in utero exposure to marijuana has the opposite effect on children, causing them to have increased levels of anxiety, aggression, and hyperactivity.

This study is personal to me as I am raising a child who was born to a mother who relied heavily on marijuana during pregnancy as well as the first six months while breast feeding him.

Sadly, he is paying the consequences for his birth mothers' decision to use marijuana. This child suffers from the inability to focus and concentrate. He has severe ADHD and relies heavily on medication to help him focus and get through the day. He has shown destructive behaviors and has a difficult time maintaining relationships. This has been extremely difficult for our family to navigate as we want to provide the best opportunities in life for this child.

Former US Surgeon General Jerome Adams issued a statement advising against the use of marijuana during pregnancy. I quote, "Recent increases in access to marijuana and in its potency, along with misconceptions of safety of marijuana endanger our most precious resource, our nation's youth."

I ask you to please help educate our city on the misconceptions of marijuana, protecting the most vulnerable, the unborn child.

**From:** [Kathleen Lippitt](#)  
**To:** [Clerk Info](#); [John Minto](#); [Rob McNelis](#); [Ronn Hall](#); [Laura Koval](#); [Dustin Trotter](#)  
**Subject:** Please accept my non agenda comment when considering marijuana  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 8, 2021 3:06:24 PM

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Good evening Mayor and councilmembers,

Kathleen Lippitt here, As a public health practitioner and advocate of sound public health policies, I hope you will consider the marijuana industry's past and present advocacy on behalf of permitting and regulating their industry.

A recent article in the Guardian, a respected English newspaper, highlighted many of the marijuana legalization problems in CA over the last 5 yrs citing expert testimony that "Experts that 80-90% of the marijuana market remains underground." This on-going problem is primarily due to a combination of failed enforcement efforts, the absence of sufficient deterrent effects, and the naïve hope of regulating an industry that profits from drug abuse and addiction.

Marijuana businesses, unpermitted and permitted, use their deep pockets to influence local, state, and federal govt leaders as well as the regulatory support structures behind them. Today's illegal marijuana industry is now the 5th largest economy in Ca. Over time the profits they've amassed have enabled them to become deeply capitalized, to purchase legally permitted businesses, to influence public electeds and the city staff that serve them.

Today state-licensed businesses state they must keep one foot in the illegal, unlicensed market to stay profitable, an assertion never supported by evidence. Social and racial justice strategies were embraced ostensibly to assist those previously convicted of drug crimes, but we should never forget the first order victims were the young, the marginalized, and the low income minority communities devastated by those convicted of drug crimes such as drug trafficking and dealing as well as those who ended up experimenting, abusing and becoming addicted to those drugs. We should remember that today's pot shop applicants still prefer going back and re-victimizing the same low income and minority communities they favor.

Please stand firm in your efforts to oppose marijuana interests exploiting your communities and gaining political influence over the staff who serve you and those without the fortitude or ethos to resist financial lobbying. Please recognize that every city who has found itself in the same position of facing the threat of a marijuana industry initiative that has waited until the initiative materialized and THEN made sure to inform their constituents of the city's position has prevailed. City's that capitulated find themselves dealing with on-going marijuana issues and litigation in perpetuity. The city will be rewarded by freedom from the most litigious of industries and the gratitude of your residents who trust your opinions far more than the

opinions of carpetbaggers and others with economic conflicts of interest.

Kathleen Lippitt, MPH  
Public Health Practitioner and Public Policy Advocate  
Coastal Communities Drug Free Coalition  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Cell: [REDACTED]

**From:** [Terri-Ann Skelly](#)  
**To:** [John Minto](#); [Rob McNelis](#); [Laura Koval](#); [Ronn Hall](#); [Dustin Trotter](#)  
**Subject:** Please read out loud tonight in Public comment 12/8/21  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 8, 2021 1:40:11 PM

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Good evening city council. The Union Tribune article on November 28 entitled "County focuses more attention on mental health" caught my eye. Especially its' announcement to work with Rady Children's Hospital to treat young people with mental health issues through a plan to establish a "youth hub".

As you know Rady Children's Hospital had opened a 24 bed inpatient mental health unit three years ago which has been full nearly from the beginning. During the pandemic, a new psychiatric emergency room, called the Copley Psychiatric Emergency Department was added.

The Union Tribune also quoted a volunteer with the San Diego chapter of National Alliance of Mental Illness, a nonprofit advocacy group that provides resources and counseling to families affected by mental health issues. She called out the intensive need for care after mental health hospitalization, and the enormous task that care is.

For those of us, family members, who are on the front line of children's mental health care, we must not under estimate the role that marijuana plays in exacerbating mental health problems for children and their families.

Any marijuana storefronts will have an unfortunate impact on children, by promoting and normalizing its use.

Thank you for your consideration because our children and you can ill afford more adults insensitivity to mental health needs of our youth.

Terri-Ann Skelly  
