

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers  
Gary Halbert, Interim City Manager  
Shawn Hagerty, City Attorney

FROM: James Jeffries, City Clerk

DATE: June 25, 2025

SUBJ: **Updated Council Meeting Materials – June 25, 2025**

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

- (8) **City Council Direction on the Selection Process, Including Interview Questions, for Phase IV of the Retail Commercial Cannabis Business (CCB) Permit Application Review and Finding the Direction is Not a “Project” as Defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) and Therefore Not Subject to CEQA. (Planning and Building – Sawa)**

The attached correspondence for above mentioned Item was received and is provided for your consideration.

**From:** [Barbara Gordon](#)  
**To:** [John Minto](#); [Rob McNelis](#); [Ronn Hall](#); [Laura Koval](#); [Dustin Trotter](#)  
**Cc:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 7:39:59 AM

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Dear City Council Members,

I'm concerned as a health educator with the growing body of scientific evidence raising serious concerns about the health impacts of cannabis use.

Public health messaging is crucial to educating users about these risks, particularly as the city advocates for this drug by permitting more cannabis businesses.

According to [new editorial](#) published recently in [Heart](#), a peer-reviewed medical journal of the British Medical Journal and the British Cardiovascular Society.

It reports cannabis use has emerged as a significant risk factor for cardiovascular disease, drawing attention from researchers and healthcare professionals alike.

The active compounds in cannabis, particularly THC, can lead to increased heart rate and blood pressure, straining the cardiovascular system.

The potency of cannabis, typically measured by its THC concentration, can significantly affect cardiovascular risk in several ways.

Studies indicate that cannabis users may have a higher risk of heart attack, and stroke, especially in individuals with pre-existing conditions.

Moreover, the method of consumption, such as smoking, can exacerbate risks due to the inhalation of harmful substances that affect lung health.

Understanding the relationship between cannabis use and cardiovascular health is essential for informed decision-making and risk management.

Regards,

Barbara Gordon