From: Heather Noyes
To: dencc - City Council
Subject: Council Bill: Marijuana Caps
Date: Monday, April 25, 2016 12:26:11 PM

Denver City Council Members:

I oppose the proposed marijuana cap ordinance because it includes the approval of 244 pending applications **without any consideration to location.**

I'm probably not alone in neglecting to fully understand the fine print of tax regulations associated w/ this industry, but I have worked hard in the last few weeks to figure this out.

SCHOOLS: When DPS initiated bond committee hearings in February, I learned that DPS does not benefit from state tax. I thought – how can this be? We are a huge district, with significant needs and outdated facilities. With over 421 current locations – how can our DENVER kids/schools not benefit? Your decision impacts my children – this issue cannot simply continue to be silo-ed as a DPS-only issue. Or a State issue. This is a multi-jurisdictional issue, but your decision TONIGHT will impact the lives of every child who lives in this city and attends DPS.

NEIGHBORHOODS: Our neighborhoods have seen no tangible benefit from an industry and use that permeates the urban fabric of our neighborhoods: there are significant physical impacts, traffic impacts, legal and illegal grows, legal and illegal use. I cannot attribute one single item or neighborhood improvement to taxes from marijuana use/sales. I know the improvements that GoCo/Lotto paid for, I know what Build a Better Denver paid for, but what items – specifically – within our neighborhoods can be attributed to the marijuana tax? Altho an odor ordinance would be most welcome, it is NOT THE END ALL to addressing our neighborhood concerns.

APPLICATIONS: Just because someone submits an application doesn't mean they are guaranteed a permit. While CCD may grandfather in current building permit applications when we amend the zoning code, I argue that there is no precedent for any regulation pertaining to the marijuana industry. We are forging new territory here – we need to get this right.

The two most precious assets of this city – our children and our neighborhoods – see no benefit, whatsoever – from these additional 244 pending applications in 62 locations throughout this city.

I urge you to vote no on this ordinance tonight, establish locational controls for the pending applications, enter into precedent setting discussions with DPS, State Legislature and the Governor to ensure that both our kids and neighborhoods benefit from this emerging and growing industry that impacts every facet of our daily lives.

Thank you for allowing me to express my concerns and opinion.

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