

Lauren Davidson

From: Michael McNutt <michael@farmwest123.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 8:14 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Oppositon to 17A.290 and other restrictions to MJ operations in Okanogan County

Dear Commissioners

I am an owner of a 502 compliant farm in Omak and am writing to ask that you please reconsider the zoning changes currently being drafted in OCC Title 17A.290 that are negatively impacting Marijuana Operations. I hope you will change your position and support this emerging industry. I am among many others who have invested many thousands of dollars to build sustainable agricultural operations in Okanogan county. We have employed local people who otherwise would not have decent, living wage employment, and have patronized many local businesses with our custom as we find our way in this new industry.

Please implement the following:

- **Maintain the current definition of Marijuana as an agricultural crop** with the right to farm (17A.020.060 Agriculture)
- Include the definition of farm to include marijuana (17A.020.370 Farm)
- Do not require conditional-use on marijuana operations (17A.290.030)
- Allow permitted use across all zones (pg 106 of OCC 17A Zoning)
- **Eliminate the Amortization Period** to require permitted, unpermitted, or legal pre-existing marijuana operations to cease operations on January 1, 2017.
- Eliminate additional conditions that would increase operational costs or inhibit business development (17A.310.100 Potential Conditions)

I also ask that you help the effort in asking your fellow Commissioners to repeal the moratorium, which prohibits the siting of new producers, processors, and retail operators. (Resolution 17-2016).

Sincerely,

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