From: Kent Mixon

To: Osborne, Jenelle; Cordova, Gilda; Vega, Victor; Starbuck, Dirk; Ball, Jeremy; Haddon, Stacey

Subject: Public Comment #7 Oppose cannabis tax increases

Date: Monday, May 17, 2021 2:05:54 PM

Dear Honorable Councilmembers,

I'm an architect and my firm Andrulaitis + Mixon Architects has processed several cannabis projects over the last couple of years in the City of Lompoc. These are significant projects and involve the areas of distribution, processing, and manufacturing. The construction of these projects has made a big impact on our business and if we are busy the construction industry is directly impacted. The truth is, that these cannabis projects have had a positive impact on the construction industry and the trades that are required to bring them to completion. Once completed it means many new jobs in the City. The fact is that many have benefitted because the City of Lompoc embraced this industry.

Our firm supports the great work of the City staff, but our experience has been that the departments of Planning, Building, Police, and Fire are under-resourced and could benefit from additional resources made available to them or the creation of additional staff positions. Many, if not all, the departments have an opportunity to review and comment on these projects. Perhaps the funding for the additional resources could be accomplished through additional fees that are collected during the planning and permitting processes from each department.

I ask that you carefully consider making any changes to the tax framework that would negatively impact the cannabis industry. This is a new industry and I think we are only seeing the tip of the iceberg of the momentum that is yet to come.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Kent Mixon Andrulaitis + Mixon Architects

__

KENT MIXON, AIA, LEED AP Andrulaitis+Mixon Architects 2040 Alameda Padre Serra, Suite 107 Santa Barbara, CA 93103

kent@andrulaitismixon.com desk: 805-899-2528 ext 1 pocket: 805-689-7641