

Dear Lompoc City Council Members,

My name is Christian Garner, and I am Head of Facilities and Security with Headwaters. Previously, I spent time in the 75th Ranger Regiment as a junior team leader before joining Headwaters. Since joining Headwaters, I have been working closely on our Jalama B1 project in the city of Lompoc.

In regards to the proposed tax changes, we do not support any changes to the Cannabis Manufacturing/Distribution Tax. Under the current ordinance that was approved in 2018, Headwaters, among other cannabis companies, has created more jobs, stimulated local business, and increased tax revenue for the city of Lompoc. The existing tax structure is what brought Headwaters to Lompoc, and to alter it before we are operational would be detrimental to our operations, as well as others in similar situations.

Instead, please consider allowing the current tax ordinance to unfold before making drastic changes that could potentially hinder future tax revenue. If changes need to be made, Headwaters would not be opposed to increasing the Commercial Cannabis Use licensing fees or other associated permits/fees.

Additionally, we would request the City allow this new industry to mature so that we can provide educated, future insight on proposals such as these.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Christian Garner