

From: [Ron](#)
To: [Osborne, Jenelle](#); [Ball, Jeremy](#); [Cordova, Gilda](#); [Starbuck, Dirk](#); [Vega, Victor](#)
Cc: [Throop, Jim](#); [Haddon, Stacey](#)
Subject: Written Communication: Putrid odors must be prevented from coming to Lompoc
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 9:35:36 AM

Please accept this as a Written Communication and action request for the December 7th City Council meeting.

I live in Lompoc primarily because of the moderate weather and especially for the clean fresh air that exists in this valley. When two projects about a mile east of the city are complete and in production that may change.

The Lompoc City Council has an opportunity to help resolve this problem before it subjects your constituents to potential physical and mental harm caused by prolonged loss of their quality of life associated with the odors associated with these type of projects.

Our city is surrounded by agricultural operations; there are an abundance of row crops, vineyards and several cattle ranches that dominate the landscape.

In some rare cases one or more of these operations can cause odor concerns; in our area when the broccoli harvest is complete part of the recycling process for vegetation residue is to mow the field and allow the residue to deteriorate for a couple of days and then plow it under to help the soil.

I live over 2 miles from the nearest field and the odor associated with this process is pungent, however it only lasts for a couple of days and I accept that as the cost of living in an agricultural community.

There are two cannabis growing operations currently under development along Highway 246 about a mile east of the residential areas of Lompoc and 10 other cannabis land use permits are being planned less than 2 miles to the west, south and east of town; the odors produced during the growing/harvest period result in a skunk like odor that can cause headaches, sore throats, nausea, and respiratory problems that are intense and can last for up to 15 weeks as the plants mature.
<https://sbcopad.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=f287d128ab684ba4a87f1b9cff438f91>

It is unreasonable to subject the residents of Lompoc to these putrid odors during each growing/harvest cycle especially when technology exists to mitigate those odors at the source parcels.

What will happen to property values when realtors have to disclose to prospective buyers that the town smells like a skunk for several weeks each year?

In recent cannabis project approvals the Lompoc Planning Division has taken aggressive precautions to prevent the escape of these odors from growing operations within the City limits.

The Santa Barbara County 2017 Final Environmental Impact Report for cannabis operations notes the following “Anecdotal evidence suggests that strong cannabis odors can still be detected large distances away from the source. Thus, buffers may be utilized but are likely to be more effective remote areas of the County where larger buffer distances could be implemented. In more urban areas, odor mitigation technologies would be more appropriate as they would significantly reduce odors over a shorter distance.” <http://cannabis.countyofsb.org/asset.c/134>

Since the county has been aware of the discomfort caused by these operations shouldn't public concerns addressed **FIVE YEARS AGO** in the SBCO 2017 EIR be applied to all growing operations within several miles of any urban or suburban residential area?

I urge you to take this matter under consideration and take immediate action to request that the Board of Supervisors resolve this issue promptly.

Ron Fink
Lompoc