

Jack Smith, just north of Ocean on Elm in the East Village, District 2

I am a board member of and speaking on behalf of the Long Beach Central Project Area Council.

At our recent monthly meeting we discussed the medical marijuana ordinance. In addition to LB CPAC members there were residents, bar owners and members of the marijuana industry.

LB CPAC agrees that medical marijuana, when distributed and used appropriately, can be effective medicine for seriously ill people.

We have 4 primary goals:

1. Provide community input to City staff, appointed officials and elected officials.
2. Ensure marijuana is used strictly for medical purposes to treat serious illnesses.
3. Ensure appropriate mechanisms are in place to safeguard that marijuana sold for medical purposes is NOT subsequently used casually or recreationally.
4. Minimize any adverse effects on the community, neighborhoods and residents of providing Medical Marijuana to Long Beach's serious ill patients who need it.

We divided the discussion into 9 topics.

**1. DEFINITIONS** of medical marijuana and Cannabis

**2. ELIGIBILITY**

Who determines that? ("physician" or "treating physician")

How many eligible patients are there in Long Beach?

**3. REGULATION**

Should it be very similar to the regulations for bars?

**4. GROWING**

Where can it be grown and what sort of increased security is required there?

What are the health and safety rules?

## **5. DISTRIBUTION**

How many stores are allowed and where can they be?

The # in the draft is completely arbitrary.

And, it's not fair to allow almost all of them to be in the City's western and northern Council districts.

Who can own, manage and operate the stores?

Ban marijuana farmers markets.

What sort of advertising, if any, is to be allowed?

What special security arrangements are required?

## **6. EDIBLES AND INFUSED Drugs**

Who has jurisdiction over these products?

Will the Health Department be involved?

Should there be dosage limits for these? One dose is often 1/10<sup>th</sup> of a cookie – does anybody cut their cookies into 10 pieces?

## **7. PUNISHMENT**

Are the punishments in the ordinance appropriate?

What are personal and employment related legal consequences?

What about the dangers of second hand smoke?

## **8. ENFORCEMENT**

Who enforces? Should it be like the ABC?

Should there be a separate City department dedicated to these businesses? – especially a special CUP investigator.

Who should pay for that?

Have the police been included in the discussion?

The Task Force should be 9 people not 7 = 5 from neighborhoods, 3 from stores and 1 patient. That better protects the interests of the neighborhoods and community.

## **9. INSURANCE**

The requirements in the draft ordinance are way too low.

We've been studying this draft in detail and <<wave pages>> have 9 typed pages of notes – so far. We're very willing to work together with marijuana business representatives and go through the ordinance line by line.

We ask you to embrace our 4 goals and to direct Staff and the City Attorney's office to meet with representatives from LB CPAC, marijuana businesses and others – all together – for a working session to hammer out a good recommended ordinance to bring back to you.

Thank you.