

Denise Davis

From: Michael Mossbarger <expressfund@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 23, 2015 1:12 PM
To: Denise Davis
Subject: Attn: Planning Commission, Fwd: Safe Access to Medical Cannabis

Hello Denise,

Can you please make sure all members of the Planning Commission get a copy of this letter before tonight's meeting? It can be made public.

Please let me know if anything is needed from me to facilitate.

Best,

Mike Mossbarger
619.794.6677 mobile

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Michael Mossbarger** <expressfund@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Nov 20, 2015 at 1:41 PM
Subject: Safe Access to Medical Cannabis
To: rmorrison@nationalcityca.gov
Cc: cynara@cannabisprofessionals.org, ilegalsmile@hotmail.com, dr.d.blair@gmail.com

Hi Mayor Morrison,

I wanted to reach out to you to let you know how I feel about medical marijuana (cannabis) as a resident and home owner here in National City. I am a positive member of our community: I'm a former Nuclear Electrician in the US Navy with high level security clearances; I hold a BA in Finance and am working on a master's degree; am a 3-time business owner and dedicated entrepreneur; serve as President of my home owner's association and volunteer as a small business counselor in addition to many other non-profit activities; I have served as an adviser to national and international bodies on cyber security, and have personally visited and advised decision-makers in the DoD and DoT in Washington DC; and am father of two boys in the National School District and husband of 13 years. I call National City home and am dedicated to making it a great place.... I love it here!

I feel strongly that it is vital for National City to embrace the movement toward legalization and safe access to medial cannabis. This means regulation and taxation - not prohibition! I say this from the standpoint of a businessman as much as from the standpoint of an anti-prohibitionist. The end to prohibition is here - it is fact, it is a reality. The people of California have passed anti-prohibition measures by popular vote and more recently the legislature and governor of California have embraced legalization and passes regulatory measures just this year. San Diego has licensed dispensaries. It is important that we acknowledge that there is no longer a question of legalization - it is here regardless of our own personal feelings on the topic. The reality is that people in National City will continue to use medical cannabis in large and ever increasing numbers as is their right under the law.

The question before National City is what will we do in the face of this new reality of legalization? National City has the opportunity to show *leadership* in San Diego county and join the City of San Diego in regulating and allowing legitimate actors in this new industry.

Embracing and regulating medical cannabis will bring massive amounts of tax revenue to the city; will fill vacancies in retail and commercial real estate; will create jobs for service workers and agricultural worker in the city that often pay more than they could earn in other industries; and will draw visitors from affluent communities (that have unwisely banned dispensaries and cultivation) into our city to spend money and pay taxes. Perhaps most importantly regulation and licensing of cannabis facilities and businesses will end the horribly detrimental effect that prohibition has had on our city and will allow ill patients that desperately need access to their medications the safe and legitimate access they deserve. On the other hand If National City caves to fear and chooses to ban this industry from the city then it will have the opposite effect - residents of our city will be forced to spend their money in other cities, giving these cities tax revenue that should rightfully be National City's. Such an unwise move would also deny residents safe access to their treatment as is their right under California law, and perhaps worse would impose an invisible tax on National City patients who would have to travel longer distances to get their medication.

There are many people in National City that feel passionately about having safe access to their medications who will support regulation and safe access in National City; I am one of these people! It is irresponsible and distasteful to me that any body or individual that serves our community to oppose safe access which the voters have passed.

I ask you to learn as much as you can about this safe, legitimate medical substance as well as the businesses that have acted in good faith and with integrity to follow the law in offering cannabis to the patients that need it. There is precedent for regulation and clear road maps our legislators can follow. This is a big opportunity for National City!

I have already appeared at meetings of the Planning Commission and will continue to do so, and I am committed to helping our community better understand this important issue. I was especially disappointed that City Staff recently chose to ignore the Commission's direction to provide advisement on regulation, and chose instead to waste the commission's time as well as the time of attendees by again pushing a prohibition-only agenda. Shame on them!

I'd love to speak with you if you can fit in a little time in your busy schedule.

Additionally - Happy Holidays to you and yours!

Best,

Best,

Mike Mossbarger
619-794-6677 mobile

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Best,

Mike Mossbarger

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