

**PROTECT OUR NEIGHBORHOODS 2020 PETITION**

**Sonoma County Citizens for a Ban on Marijuana Operations in Residential Areas,  
Including the current proposed location at 2300 Bethards Drive, Santa Rosa, CA**

**To:** Santa Rosa City Council and Planning Dept., Sonoma County Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission

**From:** Residents of Bennett Valley, in the City of Santa Rosa, and other areas in the City of Santa Rosa and surrounding neighborhoods throughout the County of Sonoma.

**Petition to Ban Commercial Sales, Delivery or Consumption “Lounges” of Recreational Marijuana or other THC\* containing products (aka “Cannabis”) in Bennett Valley and any residential neighborhoods in the City of Santa Rosa or Sonoma County, including any proposed sites within 1,000 feet of child occupied residences, daycare centers, preschools, or any school property with children:**

The residents of the Bennett Valley Neighborhood in the City of Santa Rosa, along with many other City and County residents, demand taking back control of our County and City governments from the Marijuana “Industry.” We are opposed to the proposed placement of a Marijuana and THC\* products retail dispensary and delivery operation at 2300 Bethards Drive, on the corner of Yulupa Avenue (hereafter referred as the “Operation”) by a Marin based owner (the “Operator”). We are also opposed to any additional THC/marijuana related activity at the site, including delivery of such products and/or the consumption of any THC/marijuana containing products on the premises, including but not limited to dabs, tinctures, and edibles. We are opposed to the City or County approving any such Operations to be located in residential areas and/or within 1,000 feet, or less, of child occupied residences, daycare centers, preschools, or any school property with children throughout the City or County.

**The 2300 Bethards Operation site is a totally inappropriate location for multiple reasons, including:**

- 1) **Neighborhood Incompatibility:** Operation abuts residential homes and nearby child occupied residences.
- 2) **Increased Crime:** Same Operator had armed robbery at their other location. Delivery vehicles and building are targets.
- 3) **Threats to Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety:** Single narrow driveway crosses heavily used sidewalk/bike lane.
- 4) **Significant Increased Traffic and DUI Risk:** Significant increase in out of area traffic. Stoned drivers?
- 5) **Violation of Zoning:** Fundamental change in building use next to child occupied residences.
- 6) **Public Health Danger to Children and Adults:** Widely known health dangers for children & youth.
- 7) **Negative Impact Potential on Property Values:** Significant increased traffic & crime risk = negative impacts.

The Operation intends to be open 9am - 9pm, 7 days/week, a fundamental change in the building’s use and established zoning. This building sits next to residences and its narrow driveway crosses the sidewalk and bicycle lane. The petition addendum contains detailed descriptions and supporting data/research on all the public health and safety threats listed. This is not compatible with the neighborhood.

**Accordingly, the residents and signers of this petition demand the following:** 1) the City Council deny any permit for any Marijuana/THC Operation at 2300 Bethards Drive, whether to this applicant or any future applicant wanting to do the same; 2) the City Council and the County of Sonoma both codify rules to deny the permitting of any Marijuana Operations placed next to or in residential zones, and no less than 1,000 feet from child occupied residences, daycare centers, or schools; 3) the current “caregiver grow” loopholes must be removed - no large pot sites at private homes in residential neighborhoods; 4) any of these Commercial Marijuana Operations should be placed in high density commercial zoned areas and not near children or quiet residential neighborhoods; 5) A complete rewrite of both City and County Marijuana Ordinances to reflect these demands, with newly created CAGs (citizen advisory groups), comprised entirely of non-industry related citizens to advise on policy, these CAGs to be entirely independent from the industry groups now advising.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Voter registration address \_\_\_\_\_

Email (optional: for receiving updates) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Voter registration address \_\_\_\_\_

Email (optional: for receiving updates) \_\_\_\_\_

\*THC: delta-9-Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) is the main psychoactive ingredient in marijuana and its derivative products. THC can induce hallucinations, change thinking, cause psychomotor impairment and delusions for many hours, DUI hazards are increased.

**Return signed petitions via mail to:** Protect Our Neighborhoods, 2777 Yulupa Ave, PMB 258, Santa Rosa, CA 95405,  
**OR, Email scanned signed copies to:** ponpetition@outlook.com