

Monday, July 1,2018

Mendocino County

Jessie Davis , Mendocino County zoning staff,

JUL 1 0 2018

Ref : U_2017_0039
Type CA Use permit

Planning & Building Services

I am writing this letter today on behalf of myself, Lia Kohler. I am doing so for you to get a idea of who I am as a person and a farmer before the hearing on July 12,2018.

I would like to first and foremost start by expressing my sincere gratitude to those peoples who took the time, energy and effort in creating the guidelines of the Cannabis Cultivation Project in Mendocino county. I know that it has not been easy and that you have been met with many obstacles, challenges and resistance. I appreciate the opportunity to step in to the light to work and be recognized as a contributing member of society. To run a legitimate business recognized in the eyes of the government and law. It has been a long time coming and I hope you applaud yourselves for being part of changing history.

I have had more than twenty years hands on experience with plants and horticulture including landscaping, nursery, floristry, small scale agriculture and food production. I have completed education in classes such as Soil Structure, Pest Management, Responsible Water Conservation, Native Plant Restoration and most recently graduated the 2016 UCCE Master Gardener program.

Four years ago my husband and I moved to Mendocino County from our native home of Santa Cruz County to start a homestead and farm. We bought a five acre farm here in Fort Bragg. Over these years we have work hard and carefully to build a sustainable self sufficient working farm. Attacking invasive exotics, planting many drought tolerant natives, working in several types of farming techniques including Hugenculture, Permaculture and dry farming. Since being here we have also successfully started two local businesses , Coast Flower Farm (bearded iris) and California Live Fish a fishing business my husband runs.

In regards to the requested permit Id like to emphasize the total requested square footage of project is less that 500ft. Not even of a quarter of the smallest permit issued by Mendocino County. I don't believe bigger is better. I don't believe more is more. I believe in a small footprint. I believe in keeping our neighborhood beautiful and responsibly managing our farm. I respect our neighbors and community and this way of life. I believe in quality over quantity and producing the best possible product for the consumer and in doing so will find my greatest success. I thank you for the opportunity and I thank you for your time.



Lia Kohler

In response to approval with conditions to be met. There are two conditions that I wish for the zoning committee to take into consideration:

Exhibit A Conditions of Approval: Section 13.

"The access road and interior circulation routes shall be treated with a dust suppressant and maintained in such a manner as to insure minimum dust generation subject to the Air Quality Management Districts dust regulations."

I would like Zoning to consider the size and use. With less than 500 total square feet I am able to maintain my project solely and require no additional labor or employees. There is no additional traffic on our road other than my husband and myself and no more than any normal residential situation. We also do not intend to sell any product produced on our land at the project site and have absolutely no additional traffic using our road for that purpose.

Additionally I have spoken to two residents of our street both are opposed to using any products on our entire road. They feel due to our size it will not have a negative affect as well as being uncertain about chemical and or products being used.

KEY ISSUES: Section 2.B (end paragraph 1)

"In response from the Mendocino County Department of Transportation , The proposed project would require a standard private road approach onto Pudding Creek Road(CR 421) to ensure adequate access."

Exhibit A Section 20 Transportation:

"The applicant shall obtain an encroachment permit from the Mendocino County Department of Transportation and construct a standard private road approach onto Pudding Creek Road (CR 421), to be surfaced with asphalt concrete, With a minimum width of 18 feet and length of 20 feet from the edge of the county road, per County of Mendocino Road and Development Standard No A51B."

If possible I would like for the zoning department to reconsider this condition for approval as the size of our proposed project being less than 500 total square feet. Myself being the sole operator and needing no additional staff or employees. Causing no additional traffic on our road, no additional wear and tear and absolutely no heavy equipment. Additionally we have a informal road association on Pudding Creek and within the last year have re-graded and resurfaced the entire road.

I feel as though these are both blanket conditions and if possible could be considered for exemption on a case basis.