

I have been renting a shop at 575A South State since 1996. I had an open retail store at this location for about 19 years. I am now using the site for a personal art studio as I could no longer keep my store open, due in part to poor parking issues.

J & M Garage, and I and Donna B's hair salon and Haute Mess all share the parking area that is split in half with 527 South State.

This building (527) is currently slated to be turned into a marijuana delivery and dispensery. I feel that this is not a good location for this type of high traffic business. The parking area has a narrow opening and we have had ongoing problems with the past tenants at 527, and their customers blocking the entrance to the parking area.

There is no division in the middle of the parking area and there is very little "extra" room on our side. The way the area and the buildings are oriented, all the closer parking spaces are on our side, all the ones for 527 are located at the back. There have been problems in the past with people using all our parking spaces to go across to 527. Everyone likes to park close it's understandable, but it makes for contention between business operators and makes it hard to get along.

In the past, people who were waiting to go to the clinic that used to be next door would "hang out" and smoke, dumping garbage and ashtray in the parking area. I also had people vandalize my plants out front - breaking or pulling up rose bushes and killing them. My car was hit 2 times in the parking lot, and overtime, when I had asked some one to not park in the drive way, my car was vandalized. When I went back out to where it was parked, it had



have speech written on it with a permanent marker.

I do not have a problem with Marijuana; I feel it is an extremely beneficial plant, I just don't think 527 is the right place for a dispensary. Especially one with delivery cars, as that will eliminate even more parking places.

Thank you for taking the time to read my thoughts.

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