AM

Dear Adam Ross, Planning & Economic Development Department

Re: Sonoma Patient Group CUP Modification – File Number: CUP18-086

Location: 2425 Cleveland Avenue, #175, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

My name is Sherry Phillips and I am a property owner at 2655 Cleveland Avenue in Santa Rosa which is just four buildings north of Sonoma Patient Group, the cannabis dispensary.

We have a long family history of business ownership in the area. My father-in-law started his dental practice in Coddingtown Mall in 1967. In 1973, he and a partner, an optometrist, had our current building at 2655 Cleveland Avenue erected. While my father-in-law has retired from dentistry, my husband, also a dentist, continues the legacy. Last year we celebrated 50 years of serving our community. I manage the dental practice and the commercial property. The optometric practice still remains in the building. Although it has had changes in ownership, the practice continues to offer optometric services for over 50 years as well. Our newest tenant, a cabinet designer, desired a rental space in our area of town since it is so conveniently located to his other construction partners. The firestorm caused his business to grow, thus he is expanding the hours of his first employee, a female, who at times is the only person working in the building on Mondays.

Per my father in law, homelessness has always been an issue in the area and on Cleveland Avenue and because it has continued to get worse, we have spent thousands of dollars trying to protect and preserve our building for its proper business use of providing services to our community. Many years ago we started by adding gates and locks to block access to the back of our building. More recently, we installed new and improved lighting around the building. We've removed bushes and trees that were being used as shelter. We've redesigned the landscaping to make it less desirable for unwanted guests. We've added locks to our trash and recycling bins. And, we installed nine security cameras that we monitor from our mobile devices. Checking the office cameras for unwanted guests before we go to sleep has unfortunately become a ritual for my husband and I. We see the homeless walking up and down Cleveland Avenue all hours of the day and night. And, yes, sometimes they come onto our property for a host of different reasons (steal property, squat to defecate, do drugs, sleep...)

I understand there are a lot of free resources available in the area. If there were fewer free resources in the area, would the homelessness issue be so prolific?

Because we already have so many other problems, I'm concerned how the cannabis dispensary might negatively impact public safety. We do not have enough parking to accommodate every employee working in our building and still maintain plenty of parking for our patients and customers. As a result, we have set up a schedule for up to four employees to park on the street daily. I have had one of my employees car windows broken into when parked on the street. And, I have staff members that are scared to walk to their car when it is parked off site, especially in the winter hours when it gets dark early. Sometimes employees feel the need to walk in pairs.

While cannabis is now legal in the state of California, there is not enough research as of yet about crimes related to legalized marijuana sales versus crimes related to underground sales. As a surrounding business, I am not in favor of extending the cannabis hours as requested to include 5-7 pm on Saturdays and Sundays. Criminal activity is already a concern. I am concerned about the impact on the neighborhood.

Again, we are trying to transact business and our area is already saturated with the homeless and the associated issues that come with homelessness. The cannabis industry is in its infancy stage and in transition. We don't know the total impact it will have on our quality-of-life and the ability to run businesses in our neighborhood.

I am not in favor of extending the cannabis businesses hours. I am against the dispensary being allowed to extend their hours on the weekends until 7 PM.



## **Sherry Phillips**

Business Manager Girl Scout Leader, Troop 10653 Girl Scout Service Unit 107 Treasurer (707) 480-3703 JandS@sonic.net www.PhillipsFamilyDentalCare.com Like us on Facebook! Love us on Yelp! To the City of Santa Rosa

I am against the allowing the Cannabis Dispensary on Cleveland Ave. to extend its hours of operation beyond 5 PM on weekends. Our neighborhood has had an increase in homelessness and I am concerned that having an increase in the dispensaries hours of operation may cause more problems. You have received a letter from my daughter in law about all the problems we have had and what we have done to protect our building. One item she forgot to mention is the drive by shooting of our front office windows: once for the dental office and another time to the optometrist's office. I appreciate your consideration of our concerns.

Thank You,

Lloyd T. Phillips, DDS



To: Adam Ross, Planning & Economic Development, ARoss@srcity.org 100 Santa Rosa Ave. Room 3 Santa Rosa, CA 95404

File Number: CUP18-086

From: Katherine Phillips, part owner of 2655 Cleveland Ave.

I would like to register my strong opposition to extending the operating hours of the Cannabis dispensary.

Nothing good can come to having cannabis sold in the dark hours of the day!!

There are too many homeless who find the dark hours advantageous to their mischievous behavior, and having something that purposely alters their mind, cannot be good!

Our building with its lovely glass windows in the front has been the object of vandalism. We have had the building since 1973 and it appears that the vandalism has increased.

We do not know what the effects of cannabis will have on the community once everyone has decided that using weed is ok, and well accepted.

Please do not extend the hours of operation for a service that is not accepted by all the community.

Katherine Phillips

Katherine Phillips, Part Owner of 2655 Cleveland Ave. and a business woman in Real Estate since 1976

To the City of Santa Rosa

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Thank You,

Lloyd T. Phillips, DDS

Public Comment to Notice of Application:

George Localis – 2635 Cleveland Avenue Property Owner

Opposed because smoking happens on their property. His property does not have any businesses open on the weekends, which is when they have the most problems with trespassers.

Received May 31, 2018