

**Public Comment #15**

County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

**BOS Rcvd. 4-11-2022****Item 22-0444****Lee Tannenbaum** <lee.tannenbaum@gmail.com>

Mon, Apr 11, 2022 at 10:09 AM

To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

Dear Supervisors,

On February 9th 2022 the Agricultural Commission voted to recommend that the Board of Supervisors change EDC ordinances to make it explicit that commercial cannabis cultivation is a compatible activity within existing Williamson Act contracts.

As you know the Williamson Act is designed to provide property tax relief for agricultural properties in return for their continuing agricultural activities.

It is not easy for agricultural operations to be economically viable in El Dorado County. Several folks with Williamson Act contracts would like to get commercial cannabis licenses. These folks are all long-time El Dorado County Agricultural farmers. Making it explicit that cannabis is a compatible activity will help the agricultural community in our county to survive.

From a common-sense point of view, there are no arguments for why a cannabis crop that is considered an "Agricultural Product" under state law (Section 26060 a(1) BPC) would be incompatible with agricultural activity. One can stop growing cannabis one day and plant some other crop, for example, sunflowers another day. The Williamson Act is designed to stop development such as housing projects and strip malls from taking agricultural lands.

El Dorado County has lost 50% of its agricultural lands in the last 20 years. Cannabis helps property owners to have the economic means to continue working in agriculture.

Please amend county code consistent with the Agricultural Commission's recommendation that commercial cannabis is compatible with existing Williamson Act contracts.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Lee Tannenbaum

CEO Cybele Holdings, Inc/Dexie Holdings, LLC

650.515.2484



County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

---

## Item 15 File 22-0444 Cannabis Compatibility With Existing Williamson Act Contracts Tuesday April 12 2022

---

**El Dorado Growers Alliance** <eldoradogrowersalliance@gmail.com>

Mon, Apr 11, 2022 at 11:15 AM

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us, The BOSFIVE &lt;bosfive@edcgov.us&gt;, The BOSONE &lt;Bosone@edcgov.us&gt;, The BOSTHREE &lt;bosthree@edcgov.us&gt;, Ron Briggs &lt;bosfour@edcgov.us&gt;, Kitty Miller &lt;bostwo@edcgov.us&gt;, Charlene Carveth &lt;charlene.carveth@edcgov.us&gt;

Cc: David Harde &lt;davidharde123@gmail.com&gt;, Michael Pinette &lt;michaelpca@gmail.com&gt;, Thomas Van Noord &lt;tom@tvnlaw.com&gt;, Laurel Brent-Bumb &lt;chamber@eldoradocounty.org&gt;, Lee Tannenbaum &lt;lee.tannenbaum@gmail.com&gt;, Christa Campbell &lt;rainboworch@gmail.com&gt;, Crystal Basin Cellars &amp; Bistro &lt;mike@crystalbasin.com&gt;, Farm Trails &lt;grhelm@grhelm.com&gt;, greg@boegerwinery.com

Supervisors:

On February 9th, 2022 the Agricultural Commission voted to recommend that the Board of Supervisors change EDC ordinances to make it explicit that commercial cannabis cultivation is a compatible activity within existing Williamson Act contracts.

As you know the Williamson Act is designed to provide property tax relief for agricultural properties in return for their continuing agricultural activities.

It is not easy for agricultural operations to be economically viable in El Dorado County. A number of folks within Williamson Act contracts would like to get commercial cannabis licenses. These folks are long-time El Dorado County Agricultural operations. Making it explicit that cannabis is a compatible activity will help the agricultural community to survive.

From a common-sense point of view, there are no arguments for why a cannabis crop that is considered an "Agricultural Product" under state law (Section 26060 a(1) BPC) would be incompatible with other agricultural activity. One can stop growing cannabis one day and plant some other crop, for example, sunflowers another day. The Williamson Act is designed to reduce development such as housing projects and strip malls from taking agricultural lands.

El Dorado County has lost 50% of its agricultural lands in the last 20 years. Cannabis helps property owners to have the economic means to continue working in agriculture.

Changing the code to allow cannabis compatibility will be revenue positive because of the county cannabis taxes. A change to the code is consistent with the will of the voters.

Please amend the county code consistent with the Agricultural Commission's recommendation that commercial cannabis is compatible with existing Williamson Act contracts.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Rod Miller  
Executive Director  
El Dorado County Growers Advocacy Alliance  
[eldoradogrowersalliance.org](http://eldoradogrowersalliance.org)  
530-503-9078 Office  
530-748-9822 cell