



## Fwd: Dispensary in Meyers

1 message

**Planning Department** <planning@edcgov.us>  
To: Julie Saylor <julie.saylor@edcgov.us>

Wed, Apr 21, 2021 at 9:23 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Liz Davis** <lizslt06@aol.com>  
Date: Wed, Apr 21, 2021 at 9:11 AM  
Subject: Dispensary in Meyers  
To: <planning@edcgov.us>

Clerk of the Planning Commission,

As a long time resident of Meyers, I am saddened by the decisions supporting the displacement of a local business gym owner for a cannabis dispensary. Meyers is one of the last real family communities in this area. Our children do not need to see a first stop dispensary for all the tourists coming in to the area when there are 5+ places in town that can serve their needs. Choosing cannabis and money over a family gym that has classes and equipment for all ages and fitness levels is disgraceful and disappointing to say the least. There seems to be a conflict of interest with the people involved.

Proposed Embarc shop is barely 200ft from school bus stop (County Code requires 1,500ft from a school bus stop, County Ordinance 5111, page 3 section C, document # 19-1152 G)

The Building Owner (Greg Daum) was on the MAC (Meyers Advisory Committee) and did not recuse himself when voting to change the zoning (to allow pot shops) which affected his properties. This was a clear conflict of interest, both ethically & legally.

The traffic flow and traffic safety considerations were apparently not part of the scoring matrix but should have been. As presented the goal of a Pot shops in Meyers is to capture tourist business upon entering the Tahoe Basin. For the record there are already a number of pot shops for locals to use within 10 miles of Meyers. As planning is well aware, traffic is already a serious problem in the Meyers area. The potential customers coming into the basin, trying to access the Embarc or the Tahoe Honey locations would have to make a left turn across Hwy 50 (which during snow season would be extremely dangerous due to snow berms and reduced visibility) then make another left turn across Hwy 50 traffic to try and reenter the traffic flow headed towards the stateline area. The Boldwyn proposal is the only one which does not create a traffic flow / circulation hazard.

The Embarc & Tahoe Honey proposals both displace unique ongoing businesses in the Meyers business core, vs the Boldwyn proposal which will utilize a defunct business (wedding chapel) location. The Embarc proposal will displace the Altitude Gym which is a key Meyers community asset (and does not wish to close). The services the gym provides are far more valuable to the community than a pot shop.

The Tahoe Honey proposal would displace Bob Dog Pizza. He is indeed willing to close the Pizza business and sell the building to Tahoe Honey. However the traffic issues which exist for the Gym would actually be worse for this location because the egress from this location requires traversing two residential streets. This is contrary to the intent of keeping dispensaries & their traffic out of residential zones. Then, to get back to Hwy 50 East bound would be very dangerous especially in bad weather or heavy westbound traffic times. The restricted visibility caused by the Agricultural Inspection station exacerbates the danger of crossing WB 50 to reach EB 50.

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced so many businesses, mostly gyms which promotes HEALTH AND

4/21/2021

Edcgov.us Mail - Fwd: Dispensary in Meyers

WELLNESS, to fold, the last thing the county should be doing is encouraging landlords to close viable businesses.

Sent from my iPhone

4/21/2021

Edcgov.us Mail - Fwd: Public Comment - Planning Commission Hearing April 22, 2021, Item 21-0556



PC 4-22-21  
Item #2  
Julie Saylor <julie.saylor@edcgov.us>

## Fwd: Public Comment - Planning Commission Hearing April 22, 2021, Item 21-0556

1 message

Planning Department <planning@edcgov.us>  
To: Julie Saylor <julie.saylor@edcgov.us>

Wed, Apr 21, 2021 at 11:12 AM

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From: **Danielle Frider** <danifrider@gmail.com>  
Date: Wed, Apr 21, 2021 at 11:10 AM  
Subject: Public Comment - Planning Commission Hearing April 22, 2021, Item 21-0556  
To: <planning@edcgov.us>  
Cc: <aross@edcgov.us>

Hi Amanda and team,

I'm writing to add a public comment about the displacement of the local gym in Meyers.

As a fairly new resident of Meyers (October 2020) I haven't yet had the chance to try out the Altitude Training Center, but it's a 9 minute walk from my house or a 2 minute drive and was a factor in my decision to buy here.

Having been forced into quarantine for so long, I was really looking forward to joining the gym as soon as my partner and I were fully vaccinated, in just a few weeks.

We're both in our mid 20s and we chose to buy a home in this part of Meyers specifically because of how walkable it is to great pizza and Mexican food, a local bar, a lovely golf course, a community park, a healthy grocery store, and a gym!

We also bought here because of how walkable it is to the Environmental Science Magnet School for our future children. My partner and I are not against legal cannabis, but it's incredibly alarming to see our council approve a cannabis retail store this close to where children attend school (less than a 15 min walk away). Cannabis culture is certainly not something I want to expose my future children to on their way to school and I imagine you wouldn't want that either for your own kids.

I also wanted to raise the issue of displacing a local business that is in the outdoor recreation space. The Meyers plan, which we looked at with such excitement as we were considering moving here, specifically states there will be efforts to preserve and add outdoor recreation opportunities in Meyers. The Altitude Training Center is an outdoor recreation business and so it seems to be protected under the planing documents you've published.

Forcing it to close to replace it with any type of retail goes completely against the existing plans for our town. How do you justify that?

As a concerned resident who lives within minutes of the impacted property, I hope you as my representative council will uphold your duty to represent me and my fellow residents. I hope you will uphold the plans you've publicly published to develop our community into a healthy, walkable paradise.

I don't see how this eviction fits your goals or the goals of the people you represent and I hope you will use the power we have bestowed upon you to reverse this decision.

Sincerely,  
Danielle Frider

PC 4-22-21

Item #2

Julie Saylor &lt;julie.saylor@edcgov.us&gt;

2 pages



## Fwd: NO pot shop in Meyers!!!

1 message

Planning Department <planning@edcgov.us>  
To: Julie Saylor <julie.saylor@edcgov.us>

Wed, Apr 21, 2021 at 2:27 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Diana Woodbury** <diana.sapphira@gmail.com>  
Date: Wed, Apr 21, 2021 at 2:25 PM  
Subject: NO pot shop in Meyers!!!  
To: <planning@edcgov.us>

I have lived in this area for over 25 years and am horrified to hear that our local gym will be replaced by a drug shop which will destroy our community and be a danger to all of us!

1. Car accident fatalities doubled in Colorado the year after marijuana was legalized. The traffic in Meyers is becoming ridiculous, even without the added danger of having drugged out marijuana smoking idiots driving in our neighborhood!
2. Marijuana is even more deadly than tobacco. Only a fool would not bother to look up the Inside Legacy Tobacco industry documents or listen to the scientific evidence proving that marijuana is even more destructive in many ways than tobacco. More brain destroying chemicals, much higher tar content when smoked = more heart disease, emphysema, psychosis, etc....in those of us who are not blessed with perfect indestructible genes...and we won't even mention the secondhand smoke issues. Isn't it enough that 63,000 Americans die from secondhand tobacco smoke each year?
3. The only reason marijuana is even legal is because Big Tobacco, murderers of over 7 million people each year, are using the same disgusting sales tactics and limitless amounts of money to trick the uneducated and unknowing into believing it's safer than tobacco. "Medical tobacco" and "more doctors smoke Chesterfields", etc....same tired BS all over again! The tobacco industry is waiting impatiently for it to be legalized at the federal level with their greedy unethical fingers, warehouses filled with "Marijuana Gold" cigarettes, ready to go on the market.
4. The proposed Embark shop is barely 200 feet from a school bus stop (County code requires 1500 feet from any school bus stop, county ordinance 5111, page 3, section C, document #19-1152G).
5. The building owner, Greg Daum,, was on the MAC (Meyers Advisory Committee) and did not recuse himself when voting to change the zoning (to allow pot shops) which affected his properties. This was a clear conflict of interest, both ethically and legally.
6. The traffic flow and traffic safety considerations were obviously not part of the scoring matrix, but should have been. As presented, the goal of pot shops in Meyers was to capture tourist business upon entering the Tahoe Basin. There are already a number of pot shops for locals to use within 10 miles of Meyers, and as planning is well aware, traffic is already a serious problem here. The last thing we need is a bunch of pot smoking, mentally unstable people driving "under the influence" creating even more of a problem, and (like Colorado) causing car accidents, more congestion, possible deaths, and permanent injuries to children and locals!
7. Altitude Gym is a key Meyers community asset (and does not wish to close). The services the gym provides are far more valuable to the community than any drug/mari pot shop! See study:

## Dispensaries associated with increase in crime

In their study, the researchers looked at both medical and recreational dispensaries from 2012 to 2015 (Colorado legalized marijuana in 2014). They examined the extent to which dispensaries were associated with neighborhood crime and disorder independently of other characteristics of the neighborhoods (e.g., socioeconomic disadvantage, concentration of high-risk commercial establishments such as check-cashing stores and tattoo shops).

Measures of crime and disorder were drawn from the Denver Police Department and included aggravated assault, auto theft, burglary, drug and alcohol offenses, murder, public disorder, robbery and theft from a car. Measures of other neighborhood characteristics were based on 2013 estimates of characteristics of Census block groups, which researchers applied to 3,981 equally distributed geographic areas in Denver. Information about marijuana dispensaries was obtained from government agencies.

The study found that except for murder, the presence of at least one medical marijuana dispensary was associated with a statistically significant increase in neighborhood crime and disorder, including robbery and aggravated assault. The study also found a relatively strong association between medical marijuana dispensaries and drug and alcohol offenses,

8. Please see the FACTS on the impact of marijuana in ALL categories! Including, health, environmental, and crime.
9. Far from the goals of Keep Tahoe Blue, the environmental impact of marijuana is horrific! See: <https://www.gaiaca.com/environmental-impact-of-marijuana/>

Also see the detrimental health effects to the children who will be exposed to marijuana sales in our small community (which, like tobacco, KILLS when used as intended):

<https://www.cdc.gov/marijuana/health-effects.html>

And the secondhand smoke issues:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK224396/>

**Please do NOT allow any pot shops in Meyers!!! Especially, replacing my favorite pizza restaurant Bob Dogs, or the healthy community gym! And definitely not at the chapel, which is on my bike route!!! I get sick from the stench of marijuana smoke to the point of dizziness, nausea, and become short of breath! I've had a difficult enough time fighting to breathe through clouds of toxic secondhand tobacco smoke. The last thing we need is the addition of more miniature toxic waste dumps in the form of marijuana! Diana Woodbury**

530 416 2833  
PO Box 550252  
S Lake Tahoe, CA. 96155

Sent from my iPhone

4/21/2021

Edcgov.us Mail - Meyers Commercial Cannabis Retail Selection & Award Procedures - File No. 21-0556



PC 4-22-21  
Item #2  
Julie Saylor <julie.saylor@edcgov.us>  
3 pages

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## Meyers Commercial Cannabis Retail Selection & Award Procedures - File No. 21-0556

1 message

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**Julie Snyder** <Julie@fimmtahoe.com>

Wed, Apr 21, 2021 at 3:06 PM

To: "jvegna@edcgov.us" <jvegna@edcgov.us>, "cheryl.bly-chester@edcgov.us" <cheryl.bly-chester@edcgov.us>, "john.clerici@edcgov.us" <john.clerici@edcgov.us>, "james.williams@edcgov.us" <james.williams@edcgov.us>, "aross@edcgov.us" <aross@edcgov.us>, "julie.saylor@edcgov.us" <julie.saylor@edcgov.us>  
Cc: Lewis Feldman <Lew@fimmtahoe.com>

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Attached please find Lewis Feldman's letter to you dated today regarding the above-referenced matter. Should you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact Lew directly.

Julie

Julie Snyder

FELDMAN THIEL LLP

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P.O. Box 1309

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Lewis S. Feldman  
Kara L. Thiel  
*Of Counsel*  
Catherine L. DiCamillo

April 21, 2021

El Dorado County Planning Commission  
Planning and Building Department

Attn: Jon Vegna, District 1 – [jvegna@edcgov.us](mailto:jvegna@edcgov.us)  
Cheryl Bly-Chester, District 2 – [Cheryl.bly-chester@edcgov.us](mailto:Cheryl.bly-chester@edcgov.us)  
John Clerici, District 3 – [john.clerici@edcgov.us](mailto:john.clerici@edcgov.us)  
James Williams, District 4 - [james.williams@edcgov.us](mailto:james.williams@edcgov.us)  
Amanda Ross, District 5 – [aross@edcgov.us](mailto:aross@edcgov.us)

2850 Fairlane Court  
Placerville, CA 95667

Re: Meyers Commercial Cannabis Retail Selection & Award Procedures  
File No. 21-0556

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This firm is counsel to LAD Sierra, LLC (“LAD”), owner of the commercial real estate located at 3008 US Highway 50, Meyers, California (the “Property”). This letter is submitted in support of El Dorado County Staff’s determination that the single retail Cannabis Permit allocated to Meyers be awarded to Embarc Meyers LLC and that the appeals prosecuted by Tahoe Honey Company, Inc. and 2020068 420-0001 LLC (collectively, “appellants” and/or “runners-up”) be denied.

Much like a sports competition, competitors that finish second or third are disappointed in their scores. Unlike such competitions, however, the runners-up in the cannabis permit competition challenge the scoring and look to you to overturn Staff’s thorough, reasoned and comprehensive determination rather than graciously accept defeat. For the reasons set forth below, LAD respectfully submits the record supports Staff’s determination and that the runners-up have failed to demonstrate otherwise:

First, no credible evidence has been introduced supporting appellants’ claim that Staff deviated from the prescribed process, abused its discretion, or was biased;

Second, the undisputed evidence demonstrates the runners-up do not have site control and, therefore, do not have standing to contest Staff’s determination;  
and

Third, while appellants and perhaps some others prefer the Property to be leased and operated as a gym, this use has terminated and LAD has no obligation or intent to resurrect such use of its Property.

Significant public and private time and resources have been committed to assure a transparent, fair and objective process to award the Meyers Retail Cannabis Permit. Staff is to be commended for doing just that, necessitating denial of the appeals and confirmation of the award to Embarc Meyers LLC.

Thank you for your consideration of the foregoing.

Sincerely,

FELDMAN THIEL LLP

By: 

Lewis S. Feldman

LSF/jps

cc: LAD Sierra, LLC  
Julie Saylor, Clerk of the Planning Commission – [julie.saylor@edcgov.us](mailto:julie.saylor@edcgov.us)



4/21/2021

Edcgov.us Mail - Fwd: Application to operate cannabis retail business in Meyers



PC 4-22-21  
Item#2  
Julie Saylor <julie.saylor@edcgov.us>

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## Fwd: Application to operate cannabis retail business in Meyers

1 message

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**Planning Department** <planning@edcgov.us>  
To: Julie Saylor <julie.saylor@edcgov.us>

Wed, Apr 21, 2021 at 3:18 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **SUSAN Earnest** <auntuzin@sbcglobal.net>  
Date: Wed, Apr 21, 2021 at 3:15 PM  
Subject: Application to operate cannabis retail business in Meyers  
To: <planning@edcgov.us>

I am sending this to protest approval of a proposed cannabis retail business at the site of a former locally owned business in Meyers. I object on two counts:

- 1) the proposed site for the cannabis dispensary is far less than 1,500 foot distance from a school bus stop as is required by Eldorado County code. This proposal is in clear violation of county code.
- 2) post-COVID I believe it is the moral duty of county officials to do all that is in their power to support local businesses.

Sincerely,  
Susan B. Earnest  
Meyers, CA  
Sent from my iPad