

Planning Department <planning@edcgov.us>

Support for Embarc Meyers

1 message

Jude Wood <jwood@bgclt.org>

Wed, Sep 7, 2022 at 9:44 AM To: planning@edcgov.us, jegna@edcgov.us, anevis@edcgov.us, john.clerici@edcgov.us, Daniel.harkin@edcgov.us,

Good morning,

kpayne@edcgov.us

I would like to submit the following public comment for tomorrow's El Dorado County Planning Commission meeting.

Speaking as someone who was initially very skeptical about the introduction of cannabis businesses into the South Tahoe region, I can now wholeheartedly endorse Embarc as a business that benefits our community.

I first encountered Embarc when I sat on the City Cannabis Ordinance Advisory Committee and was impressed that they too wanted strict regulations, especially over issues that could impact children, and their willingness to partner with youth serving and drug prevention organizations.

Since winning one of the City licenses, Embarc have proven their word. They have donated a wide range of activities from TRTA backpacking trips, to the softball league, and been a major donor to our Building Bright Futures campaign. But most importantly, our local youth counselors and social workers are not reporting any increase in youth access to cannabis since retail started in the City, and Embarc have proven their dedication to keeping cannabis out of the hands of children. This fall, with their assistance, we are piloting a resiliency program at the Club to help children better cope with the pressures around bullying, vaping, drug use, and peer relationships.

I am empathetic with the concerns over the business being opposite a bus stop used by middle and high school students. However, we would be naive to think that the mere visibility of the store would encourage drug use. Under age youth will not be allowed in the premises, unlike in super markets, pharmacies, bars and restaurants where alcohol and other drugs are much more accessible to youth.

I believe that the City of South Lake Tahoe took the right approach when they chose to make their cannabis retailers partners in projecting a professional business, keeping our youth safe, and supporting the local nonprofits and organizations who provide youth with activities and experiences to enrich their lives and keep them on the right path. I hope that the County will take the same approach and support a local business with a proven track record.

Thank you for your time.

Jude Wood

Executive Director Boys & Girls Club of Lake Tahoe jwood@bgclt.org (530)-542-0838 www.bgclt.org

PC 09/08/2022

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Planning Department <planning@edcgov.us>

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1 message

Terri Cherry <terricherry7@yahoo.com> To: planning@edcgov.us Wed, Sep 7, 2022 at 12:24 PM

September 7, 2022

El Dorado County Planning Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to express my full support for Embarc Meyers and their proposed retail cannabis dispensary in Meyers.

As a longtime Meyers resident (35+ yrs) and advocate for the education and protection of our youth, I understand the importance of getting this right for our community. In knowing the Embarc team and working with them to deliver drug prevention and education opportunities to Tahoe's youth, I am confident that Embarc will be an engaged and beneficial addition to the Meyers community.

As a member of the Tahoe Alliance for Safe Kids (TASK) Executive Committee, I have been working with Embarc over the past few years, and they have been steadfast partners to TASK and our work to support and educate youth and parents about the dangers of underage substance use. From day one Embarc has gone above and beyond in their support and engagement - from providing grants to re-launch Friday Night Live at South Tahoe High School, to helping TASK with our rebranding, logo, and website design. An Embarc representative has regularly attended our meetings to hear about current local issues with youth substance use and to provide valuable input - they are always seeking to be part of the solution.

Embarc has served as an engaged, responsive and involved steward of the cannabis industry in Tahoe and has delivered tangible benefits to the community. I have no qualms about their presence in Meyers.

Embarc has earned my respect and trust and I urge this commission to approve their Conditional Use Permit and move forward with this process.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Terri Cherry, Executive Committee Tahoe Alliance for Safe Kids (TASK)

(530) 314-9500

PC 09/08/2022

Planning Department <planning@edcgov.us>

Comments for Planning Commission 9/8/22 #22-1542 & #22-1543 1 message

Kathi Lishman <kathilish@yahoo.com> To: "planning@edcgov.us" <planning@edcgov.us> Wed, Sep 7, 2022 at 3:54 PM

Dear El Dorado County Planning Commissioners,

The Commercial Cannabis Use Permit will most likely be approved. I understand the landlord of the property is highly thought of and the business will give back to the community. But as a homeowner in the Meyers area, I feel compelled to say what a terrible location I think the cannabis business will be in.

It is directly adjacent to US Hwy 50. Most of the traffic is coming and going from Tahoe. Encouraging drivers to take some for the road, doesn't seem like a good message. It is interesting there are no liquor stores in Meyers, inviting drivers to stop and shop.

Meyers should be known for other things than a cannabis business. The building could have been put to a better recreational use (or other use) for the community and its visitors.

I would like to share some quotes from the Meyers Area Plan, as there is so much more Meyers could be.

"The stretch of US 50 traversing Meyers is designated as a scenic corridor."

"Meyers functions as the primary gateway into the Lake Tahoe Basin (Region) with more visitors entering the Region through Meyers than through any other entry point."

"Meyers is an ideally situated, spacious, historic, and walkable mountain community that values sustainability, health, wellbeing and the natural environment. Uniquely concentrated with year- round outdoor sport and recreational opportunities, the Meyers mountain culture is the hallmark of our thriving local-based economy boasting a diverse commercial and retail environment, welcoming visitors and providing residents with an extraordinary place to live, work and play."

Sincerely, Kathi Lishman