

## LARA WEISIGER

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**From:** Serena Chen <serenatchen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 07, 2018 1:56 PM  
**To:** Trish Spencer; Jim Oddie; Frank Matarrese; Malia Vella; Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft; LARA WEISIGER  
**Subject:** Removal of Item 5 M from consent calendar for public comment

Dear Mayor Spencer and Members of the Council,

I am deeply concerned about the decision to add two full-service recreational marijuana dispensaries to the previously approved two at the Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> city council meeting. This decision was made after public comment was closed and, in my opinion represented a significant departure from the item as detailed in the staff report which described the proposed dispensaries as Delivery-Only and closed to the public.

From the 10/16/2018 staff report:

**Conditionally Permit Delivery-Only Dispensaries (closed to the public) in the C-M Zone**

Allowing delivery-only dispensaries as a conditionally permitted use in the C-M district would be consistent with the underlying intent for that zone. The nature of delivery-only dispensaries would be no different than other distribution or warehouse uses that already exist in those locations. With all cannabis businesses, the City has the ability to impose conditions of approval to address potential impacts through the use permit process.

Please remove Item 5M from the Consent Calendar so that the public will have an opportunity to make comment and hear the council's rationale for doubling the number of dispensaries allowed, especially since there has been little interest so far in such businesses wanting to locate in Alameda.

Moreover, I would like clarification as to how the term "youth centers" is being interpreted by staff? I've been informed that 50-100 children and youth are enrolled in classes at the International Chi Institute which is located on Webster next door to the proposed location of a cannabis dispensary. Youth students often comprise over half if not more of all the students studying martial arts.

Why would a martial arts school which holds classes for youth 7 days a week, after school, on weekends, and camps during the summer not be considered a "youth center" as defined in the ordinance (and the state) and thus be covered under the buffer zone (away from dispensaries) as stipulated in the ordinance?

From the ordinance:

"Youth Centers" means any public or private facility that is primarily used to host recreational or social activities for minors, including, but not limited to, private youth membership organizations or clubs, social service teenage club facilities, video arcades, or similar amusement park facilities. Youth Centers shall also mean any facility determined by the Alameda Recreation and Parks Department to be a recreation center in a City park.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best Regards,

*Serena*

Serena Chen