

**Sara Rosene**

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**From:** Merrit Linke <mlinke@co.grand.co.us>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 14, 2020 11:17 AM  
**To:** Sara Rosene  
**Cc:** Christopher Leahy; Richard Cimino; Kris Manguso  
**Subject:** Fwd: [External Sender] Marijuana Dispensary location

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Due By:** Saturday, August 15, 2020 9:00 AM  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Please add the following letter to the public hearing file.

Thanks

Merrit Linke  
Grand County  
Commissioner District II  
970-531-4304

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Susan Baird  
**Date:** August 13, 2020 at 3:43:06 PM MDT  
**To:** "mlinke@co.grand.co.us" <mlinke@co.grand.co.us>, "KManguso@co.grand.co.us" <kmanguso@co.grand.co.us>, "rcimino@co.grand.co.us" <rcimino@co.grand.co.us>  
**Subject:** [External Sender] Marijuana Dispensary location

As a former executive director of Grand Futures Prevention Coalition (GFPC-a substance abuse prevention organization) now a member of the board of GFPC, and a current resident of Granby, I oppose the approval of the marijuana dispensary location so close to the Town of Granby, East Grand Schools, and Granby's downtown. I realize the ballot decision was 10 years ago, but the detrimental effects of marijuana on humans remains in effect.

According to WebMD: It often can leave you anxious, afraid, or panicked. Using pot may raise your chances for clinical depression or worsen the symptoms of any mental disorders you already have. Scientists aren't yet sure exactly why. In high doses, it can make you paranoid or lose touch with reality so you hear or see things that aren't there.

Marijuana can cloud your senses and judgment. The effects can differ depending on things like how potent your

pot was, how you took it, and much marijuana you've used in the past. It might:

- Heighten your senses (colors might seem brighter and sounds might seem louder)
- Distort your sense of time
- Hurt your motor skills and make driving more dangerous
- Lower your inhibitions so you may have risky sex or take other chances
- About 1 in 10 people who use pot will become addicted. That means you can't stop using it even if it harms your relationships, job, health, or finances. The risk is greater the younger you start marijuana and the more heavily you use it. For instance, the odds of addiction are 1 in 6 if you use pot in your teens. It might be as high as 1 in 2 among those who use it every day.

You could also grow physically dependent on marijuana. Your body could go into withdrawal, leaving you irritable, restless, unable to sleep, and uninterested in eating

Marijuana can make it harder for you to focus, learn, and remember things. This seems to be a short-term effect that lasts for 24 hours or longer after you stop smoking.

But using pot heavily, especially in your teen years, may leave more permanent effects. Imaging tests with some -- but not all -- adolescents found that **marijuana may physically change their brains**. Specifically, they had **fewer connections in parts of the brain linked to alertness, learning,**

**and memory, and tests show lower IQ scores in some people.**

Pot smoke can inflame and irritate your lungs. If you use it regularly, you could have the same breathing problems as someone who smokes cigarettes. That could mean ongoing cough with colored mucus. Your lungs may more easily pick up infections. That's partly because THC seems to weaken some users' immune systems.

Marijuana makes your heart work harder. Normally the heart beats about 50 to 70 times a minute. But that can jump to 70 to 120 beats or more per minute for 3 hours after the effects of pot kick in. The added strain plus tar and other chemicals in **pot may raise your chance of heart attack or stroke**. The danger is even bigger if you're older or if you already have heart problems.

More than 1 in 10 drinkers say they have used marijuana in the past year. **Combining alcohol and pot at the same time roughly doubled the odds of drunk driving or legal, professional, or personal problems** compared to drinking alone.

Mothers who smoke pot while pregnant face a higher risk of giving birth to underweight or premature babies. But researchers don't know enough to say if those infants are more likely to grow up to struggle in school, use drugs, or have other problems in life. Limited evidence suggests that heavy marijuana use may lead to one type of testicular cancer.

I also know there are some positive effects that *can* result from medical marijuana such as relief from:

- Ongoing pain (This is the most common use and a well-proven benefit of medical marijuana.)
- Stiff muscles or muscle spasms from multiple sclerosis. People with MS report stronger improvements compared to measurements by experts
- Sleep problems for those with fibromyalgia, MS, and sleep apnea
- Anxiety
- Loss of appetite and weight loss in people with AIDS
- Nausea or throwing up from chemotherapy
- Seizures from epilepsy
- Dravet syndrome or Lennox-Gastaut syndrome

However, there are other remedies for these conditions that do not carry the dangerous effects of marijuana with them.

- Desensitizing our citizens and youth to the dangerous effects of marijuana is detrimental to the progress and reputation of our cute little mountain town. Approving a marijuana dispensary so close to a population that has already voiced its opposition to a dispensary so close to its citizenry, youth, schools and downtown sends the message that recreational marijuana use is OK, when it definitely is not OK. There are many, many dispensaries in Denver, other front range cities, and towns along the

way to Granby. We do not need one practically in the town limits.

- Please vote "no" on this important issue.

Thank you for your attention to the wishes of so many of the citizens in Granby,

Susan Baird

