



Shasta/Hanchett Park Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 28634 • San José, CA 95159 • info@shpna.org • www.shpna.org

January 23, 2010

Honorable Mayor and City Council  
City of San Jose  
200 East Santa Clara Street, 18th Floor  
San Jose, Ca 95113

Dear Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council:

The board of the Shasta Hanchett Park Neighborhood Association (S/HPNA) has recently been notified about plans to open a medical marijuana dispensary on 824 The Alameda, located within the boundaries of our association.

We are writing to urge the city to oppose and prevent the opening of this dispensary on The Alameda at this time.

This letter does not reflect a position on medical marijuana, and recognizes the reality and potential conflict of current California and Federal law. We believe that it is important that San Jose develop a well thought out policy to carefully regulate medical marijuana dispensaries and should impose a short-term emergency moratorium on opening any dispensaries until it has developed this policy. We agree with the city Planning Building and Code Enforcement Department that views this issue as land use compliance.

The Alameda is our current and future neighborhood retail center, and we are currently in the middle of an extensive community based project to develop The Alameda as a walkable, livable street for all residents and ask for the property owner to do due diligence by notifying the neighborhood of his intentions just like other business owners have done in the past.

In this context, some questions that we think need to be answered in a Medical Marijuana policy before allowing dispensaries in any location:

1. Are they suitable for neighborhood retail centers - specifically, neighborhood business districts?
2. Should they be viewed as a medical facility, and so better located among other medical related businesses?
3. How many should there be in the city? If a relatively small number, then they are not neighborhood serving, and traffic and parking needs must be considered.
- 4: What distance from public facilities where minors are present, such as schools and parks, would be considered harmless and non intrusive?

We look forward to your response and continued support of our neighborhood.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors,  
Shasta Hanchett Park Neighborhood Association

Cc: Office of the City Clerk  
Mike Hannon, San Jose Code Enforcement Director  
Joe Horwedel, Director PBCE