

Lauren Davidson

From: Isaac Ekholm <isaac.ekholm@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 10:51 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Comments On Drafted Zoning Changes - OCC Title 17A.290

Dear Planning Commission,

I am writing you today as someone who purchased a home and moved their family to Okanogan County last year in order to take advantage of the surrounding beauty, outdoor recreation, and strong community. Our current home has great neighbors, wonderful scenery, some slightly ornery livestock and plenty of elbow room. We feel right at home.

A portion of our land has been fenced and is devoted to cannabis production. This isn't all we do, and it isn't our sole reason for moving to this special place. Many of the proposals currently being drafted in OCC Title 17A.290 embody an approach that we have taken since the outset, and we support many of these new rules. We believe that it is crucial to fit in to the community, to be as discreet as possible, and to work with the neighbors and community at large so that everyone continues to enjoy the place they call home. As members of a newly legalized and often frowned upon industry, it is also our obligation to invest in our community, provide employment, and satisfy any requirements it imposes. .

My concern is that small farms like ourselves will be punished by regulations designed to curtail the irresponsible actions of a few. I do support maintaining the current definition of Marijuana as an agricultural crop with the right to farm (17A.020.060 Agriculture). I also believe that the language in (17A.020.370 Farm) should be amended so that marijuana is included as a permitted use.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. If you would like to correspond directly I can be reached at isaac.ekholm@gmail.com you are welcome to pay us a visit at 13 Katie Bug Ln Omak, WA 98841.

Sincerely,

