



CITY OF HAYWARD
AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE 03/25/03
AGENDA ITEM 5
WORK SESSION ITEM _____

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: City Manager
SUBJECT: Medicinal Marijuana

The City Council is in receipt of a request from an organization calling itself the Local Patients Cooperative. The organization requests that the "Council authorize City staff to work with the dispensaries in developing reasonable regulations to authorize our use." The Cooperative further suggests that an ad hoc group representing various interests be formed to aid in the development of such regulations.

At the March 18 worksession the Council agreed to place this matter on the agenda for further discussion. Following discussion, direction from the Council is requested.


Jesús Armas
City Manager

Local Patients Cooperative
22630 Foothill Blvd, Hayward, CA 94541
510-537-2405

February 28, 2003

Dear Mayor Cooper and Councilmembers:

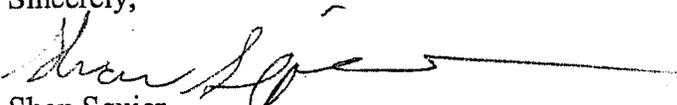
As you are aware from the recent press reports, there are several medical cannabis dispensaries in Hayward. We have tried to keep a low profile. While we are committed to helping our patients with serious illnesses, we are also aware and supportive of the great progress that the City is making towards redeveloping downtown.

We request that the City Council authorize City staff to work with the dispensaries in developing reasonable regulations to authorize our use. Other groups who could be helpful in reviewing proposed regulations include the medical community, the faith community, the police department and the business community.

The voters of California passed Prop. 215 several years ago and it received 67% in Hayward. The dispensaries in Hayward are focused on helping local residents with life-threatening illnesses including AIDS and cancer. Use of medical cannabis often allows our patients to continue to work and to have a greater quality of life.

We look forward to working with the City to help our patients while not impacting economic development in Hayward.

Sincerely,


Shon Squier