



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Discretionary Review Analysis

Medical Cannabis Dispensary

HEARING DATE OCTOBER 16, 2014

Date: October 9, 2014
Case No.: 2014.0979D
Project Address: 5420 MISSION STREET
Zoning: Excelsior Outer Mission NCD
40-X Height and Bulk District
Excelsior Alcohol Restricted
Fringe Financial Services Restricted Use District
Block/Lot: 7044A/001B
Project Sponsor: Joel Freston
PO Box 14816
San Francisco, CA 94114
415.692.5224
Staff Contact: Tina Chang – 415.575.9197
tina.chang@sfgov.org
Recommendation: **Take Discretionary Review and Approve with Conditions**

1650 Mission St.
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CA 94103-2479

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415.558.6409

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Information:
415.558.6377

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposal is to establish a new Medical Cannabis Dispensary at 5420 Mission Street dba "SPARC", to replace a vacant ground floor commercial space previously occupied by a specialty food store and grocery. The proposed retail space is approximately 2,725 square feet in size. No parking is required and no physical expansion is proposed for the structure.

The proposed Medical Cannabis Dispensary (MCD) will dispense medical cannabis in the form of food or drink, and permit on-site smoking or vaporizing. The MCD will not cultivate cannabis on site. Tenant improvements will be made on this property to comply with Mayor's Office of Disability requirements. The proposed hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., daily. The subject commercial space has approximately 25-feet of frontage on Mission Street.

According to the project sponsor's website, SPARC is a nonprofit collective dedicated to providing lab-tested, affordable, high quality cannabis and subsidized health services to members. The organization has operated out of their existing location at 1256 Mission for the past 4 years, serving over 5,000 registered patients, and plans to apply their experience to the proposed MCD at the subject property. SPARC intends to continue operating their MCD at 1256 Mission Street.

The project sponsor will maintain full-time security, which includes indoor and outdoor video cameras. In addition, security guards will be employed inside and outside the subject retail space.

Planning Code Section 790.141 states that all MCDs are required to be heard by the Planning Commission, which will consider whether or not to exercise their discretionary review powers over the building permit application.

SITE DESCRIPTION AND PRESENT USE

The subject property is on the north side of the 5400 block of Mission Street at Ottawa Avenue and falls within a 40-x height and bulk district, and the Excelsior Outer Mission Neighborhood Commercial District. The subject one-story commercial building was constructed circa 1939, and is sandwiched between an auto repair / detail facility and a phone exchange / equipment facility. Both adjacent facilities are secured with barbed wire fences. The proposed MCD site occupies 25' of frontage.

SURROUNDING PROPERTIES AND NEIGHBORHOOD

The Excelsior Outer Mission Street Neighborhood Commercial District is located along Mission Street between Alemany Boulevard and the San Francisco-San Mateo county line. Outer Mission Street is mixed use, combining street-fronting retail businesses on the ground floor and housing on upper floors. The range of comparison goods and services offered is varied and often includes specialty retail stores, restaurants, and neighborhood-serving offices. The area is transit-oriented and the commercial uses serve residents of the area as well as residents and visitors from adjacent and other neighborhoods.

The Excelsior Outer Mission Street Neighborhood Commercial District is intended to provide convenience goods and services to the surrounding neighborhoods as well as limited comparison shopping goods for a wider market. Housing development in new buildings is encouraged above the second story. Existing residential units are protected by limitations on demolitions and upper-story conversions. Parking for residential and commercial uses is not required. Buildings range in height, with height limits generally allowing up to four stories. Lots vary in size, generally small- or medium-sized with some very large parcels.

The District is fairly well-served by transit, including the regionally-serving Balboa Park BART stations at Geneva and San Jose Avenues approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile north, a couple major bus lines and a couple of cross-town buses running along Mission Street and Geneva Avenue, just a couple blocks east of the subject property.

There are two other Medicinal Cannabis Dispensaries a couple blocks away on the 5200 block of Mission, both which fall outside the 500' radius of the subject property. Within the Excelsior Outer Mission Street Neighborhood Commercial District, MCDs seeking to locate within 500 feet of another MCD may be allowed as a conditional use. Since the subject project falls outside this radius, a Conditional Use Authorization is not required. One MCD in the neighborhood is located approximately 766 feet to the east at 5258 Mission dba "Mission Organic" and the second is located approximately 870 feet away at 5234 Mission Street, dba "TreeMed Cannabis Dispensary". Both were approved through the Mandatory Discretionary Review process on February 16, 2012. A third MCD dba "The Green Cross" exists approximately 1.4 miles away at 4218 Mission Street, and was also approved on February 16, 2012.

ISSUES AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Although the subject property was not found to fall within 1000' feet of any public or private elementary or secondary schools, or community facility or recreation center primarily serving persons younger than 18 years of age, the Planning Department received notice that a child care is operating at 221 Ellington Avenue, immediately the north of the subject property. Although not within the 1000' radius, Longfellow Elementary School falls just outside the radius to the southwest of the proposed project site.

The proposed dispensary complies with all relevant Planning Code requirements.

According to the project sponsor, SPARC has executed a comprehensive community outreach plan to make neighbors aware of their proposal, involved in the process of moving into the neighborhood, and feel comfortable providing feedback to SPARC's outreach efforts. The project sponsor has also solicited feedback on how best to move in as community partner. Their strategy involved a 3 pronged approach, including 1) reaching out to 14 identified community organizations, 2) canvassing each door in the neighborhood within 300 feet of the proposed location twice, and 3) hosting an open house. The project sponsor provided a shuttle to the open house for those interested in attending and learning more about what SPARC hopes to bring to the community.

- 1.) Community groups SPARC reached out to include:
 - Cayuga Improvement Association
 - Excelsior Action Group
 - Mission Economic Development Association
 - New Mission Terrace Improvement Association
 - OMI Neighbors in Action
 - Outer Mission Residents Association
 - Sunnyside Neighborhood Association
 - D11 Democratic Club
 - D11 Council
 - Excelsior District Improvement Association
 - Ingleside Police Station
 - OMI Family Resource Center
 - Excelsior Outer Mission Merchants

According to the project sponsor, each community organizations received multiple letters, emails and phone calls, and were invited to attend the SPARC open house. Each organization was offered a full presentation regarding their application to operate an MCD and about SPARC itself. A sample letter sent to community organizations is attached.

During the process, SPARC found community organizations eager to partner on community projects. SPARC has joined and plans to partner with many organizations, including the Cayuga Improvement District, and the Excelsior District Improvement Association. To date, the project sponsor has attended multiple meetings of seven different organizations, and plans to continue to do so regularly. See attached timeline of outreach to organizations.

- 2.) SPARC visited every door within a 300' radius on June 11th and 12th surrounding the proposed MCD location. Representatives of the organization introduced themselves, communicated their intention to operate an MCD, and left their member handbook and flyers and each door in English, Chinese and Spanish. See flyer on page 8 of project sponsor packet.

SPARC responded to letters, emails and/or phone calls received in writing. See sample response attached on page 10 of project sponsor packet.

SPARC re-canvassed all doors within a 300' radius again on June 26th, including all residents and businesses. All were invited to the SPARC Open House. Flyers in multiple languages were again left on each door step as well as an invitation to the Open House. See attached flyer on page 11 of project sponsor packet.

- 3.) Leading up to the Open House, all 14 neighborhood organizations and neighbors within a 300' radius were invited to the Open House held on July 9, 2014. Some community organizations published the SPARC Open House in their newsletters or event calendars, including the Cayuga Improvement Association, OMI Community Collaborative and the District 11.

HEARING NOTIFICATION

| TYPE | REQUIRED PERIOD | REQUIRED NOTICE DATE | ACTUAL NOTICE DATE | ACTUAL PERIOD |
|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Posted Notice | 30 days | September 16, 2014 | September 16, 2014 | 30 days |
| Mailed Notice | 30 days | September 16, 2014 | September 15, 2014 | 31 days |

PUBLIC COMMENT

| | SUPPORT | OPPOSED | NO POSITION |
|--|---------|---------|-------------|
| Adjacent neighbor(s) | | | |
| Other neighbors on the block or directly across the street | | | |
| Neighborhood groups or others | X | X | X |

The Department has received 101 letters in support of the proposed use, including 22 form letters provided from the project sponsor. A petition started by the project sponsor has garnered approximately 309 signatures supporting the project by the time this report was published. Supporters of the project have remarked about SPARC's professionalism and compassion as demonstrated through their "Compassionate Access" program, which provides free medicine and delivery to seriously ill patients in hospices, hospitals and those who are homebound, bedridden or have mobility problems.

The Department has received 2 letters and 4 phone calls in opposition to the project. Callers have stated that numerous existing MCDs are in close proximity to the subject site, and another is not needed. One caller expressed concerns about the proposed project's proximity to Longfellow Elementary School and another communicated concerns about the MCD's proximity to their child care, reported to be just north of the subject property. A petition started by the Excelsior Outer Mission Merchants has received 160

signatures (at the time of report publication) opposing the proposed MCD. Persons in opposition to the project have concerns about the project's negative impact to future business attraction, the intention to service individuals outside the City, as the proposed project site rests near the San Mateo County border.

PROJECT ANALYSIS

MEDICAL CANNABIS DISPENSARY CRITERIA

Below are the six criteria to be considered by the Planning Commission in evaluating Medical Cannabis Dispensaries, per Planning Code Section 790.141:

1. That the proposed site is located not less than 1,000 feet from the parcel containing the grounds of an elementary or secondary school, public or private, or recreation buildings as defined by Section 221(e) of the Planning Code.

Project Meets Criteria

The subject parcel is not located within 1000' of an elementary or secondary school, public or private, or active recreation buildings or permitted community centers which primarily serve persons 18 years or less as defined by Section 790.141 of the Planning Code.

2. The parcel containing the MCD cannot be located on the same parcel as a facility providing substance abuse services that is licensed or certified by the State of California or funded by the Department of Public Health.

Project Meets Criteria

The subject parcel does not contain a facility providing substance abuse services that is licensed or certified by the State of California or funded by the Department of Public Health.

3. No alcohol is sold or distributed on the premises for on or off site consumption.

Project Meets Criteria

No alcohol is sold or distributed on the premises for on or off-site consumption.

4. If Medical Cannabis is smoked on the premises the dispensary shall provide adequate ventilation within the structure such that doors and/or windows are not left open for such purposes resulting in odor emission from the premises.

Criteria not Applicable

The project sponsor intends to provide adequate ventilation within the structure without leaving windows and/or doors open resulting in odor emission from the premises.

5. The Medical Cannabis Dispensary has applied for a permit from the Department of Public Health pursuant to Section 3304 of the San Francisco Health Code.

Project Meets Criteria

The applicant has applied for a permit from the Department of Public Health.

6. A notice shall be sent out to all properties within 300-feet of the subject lot and individuals or groups that have made a written request for notice or regarding specific properties, areas or Medical Cannabis Dispensaries. Such notice shall be held for 30 days.

Project Meets Criteria

A 30-day notice was sent to owners and occupants within 300-feet of the subject parcel identifying that a MCD is proposed at the subject property and that the building permit was subject to a Mandatory Discretionary Review Hearing.

MEDICAL CANNABIS DISPENSARY CRITERIA

Below are additional controls for MCDs within the Excelsior Outer Mission Street Neighborhood Commercial District pursuant to Planning Code Section 745.84:

1. A Medical Cannabis Dispensary (MCD) seeking to locate within 500 feet of another MCD use may be allowed as a conditional use; provided, however, that any amendments to regulations governing the proximity of an MCD to another MCD that are applicable to MCDs Citywide shall apply in the Excelsior Outer Mission NCD and will supersede the condition use requirement contained in this Section 745;

Project Meets Criteria

The subject MCD falls outside a 500' radius of any existing MCD and therefore does not require a Conditional Use Authorization.

2. In addition to the requirements of Planning Code Section 303, the Planning Commission shall approve the application and authorize the conditional use if the facts presented are such to establish that:
 - a. The MCD will bring measurable community benefits and enhancements to the Excelsior Outer Mission Street Neighborhood Commercial District;

Project Meets Criteria

According to the project sponsor, the subject MCD has conducted outreach and made efforts to become members of neighborhood organizations, including the Cayuga Improvement District, and the Excelsior District Improvement Association. The project sponsor has also been involved with a neighborhood beautification and cleanup projects organized by the Cayuga Improvement Association.

- b. The MCD has prepared a parking and transportation management plan sufficient to address the anticipated impact of its patients

Project Meets Criteria

The subject MCD has established and enforced a Member Code of Conduct prohibiting double parking at their current location on 1256 Mission Street, which will also be enforced at the proposed 5420 Mission Street location. The MCD does and will not permit entrance to anyone who double parks.

The project site is well served by public transit. The Balboa Park Bart station is several blocks away, and major Muni lines service the area (M, K, 43, 14). Per Planning Code section 745.22, no off-street parking is required.

- c. The MCD has demonstrated a commitment to maintaining public safety by actively engaging with the community prior to applying for the Conditional Use, including adequate security measures in the operation of their business and designating a community liaison to deal effectively with current and future neighborhood concerns.

Project Meets Criteria

The subject MCD has developed a Safety and Security Plan included in the attached Project Sponsor materials, designated a community liaison, and reached out to the local police department. According to the project sponsor, SPARC actively works to reduce crime. If criminal behavior is observed of a member (e.g. diversion, or selling of product) that member's membership is immediately revoked. Each member is made aware of this procedure through their Member Code of Conduct. SPARC's safety team has been trained to actively prevent double parking and loitering. The Safety Team is trained on de-escalation techniques when dealing with the homeless and others. The MCD intends to work closely with law enforcement and their private security company to ensure safety and security of the project site and immediate vicinity.

- d. In addition to the above criteria, in regard to a Conditional Use authorization application, the Planning Commission shall consider the existing concentrations of MCDs within the District.

There are two other Medicinal Cannabis Dispensaries a couple blocks away on the 5200 block of Mission, both of which fall outside the 500' radius of the subject property. Within the Excelsior Outer Mission Street Neighborhood Commercial District, MCDs seeking to locate within 500 feet of another MCD may be allowed as a conditional use. Since the subject project falls outside this radius, a Conditional Use Authorization is not required. One MCD in the neighborhood is located approximately 766 feet to the east at 5258 Mission d.b.a. "Mission Organic" and the second is located approximately 870 feet away at 5234 Mission Street, dba "TreeMed Cannabis Dispensary". Both were approved through the Mandatory Discretionary Review process on February 16, 2012. A third MCD d.b.a. "The Green Cross" exists approximately 1.4 miles away at 4218 Mission Street, and was also approved on February 16, 2012.

- e. A Medical Cannabis Dispensary may only operate between the hours of 8 a.m. and 10 p.m.

Project Meets Criteria

The proposed hours of operation are from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

- f. A Medical Cannabis Dispensary may locate above the first floor only if it shall be accessible to persons with disabilities as required under the California Building Code.

Project Meets Criteria

The subject MCD will only occupy the ground floor.

GENERAL PLAN COMPLIANCE:

The Project is, on balance, consistent with the following Objectives and Policies of the General Plan:

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

Objectives and Policies

OBJECTIVE 1:

MANAGE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND CHANGE TO ENSURE ENHANCEMENT OF THE TOTAL CITY LIVING AND WORKING ENVIRONMENT.

Policy 1.1:

Assure that all commercial and industrial uses meet minimum, reasonable performance standards.

The location for the proposed MCD meets all of the requirements in Section 790.141 of the Planning Code.

OBJECTIVE 7:

ENHANCE SAN FRANCISCO'S POSITION AS A NATIONAL AND REGIONAL CENTER FOR GOVERNMENTAL, HEALTH, AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES.

Policy 7.3: Promote the provision of adequate health and educational services to all geographical districts and cultural groups in the city.

The chronically ill patients who would be served by the proposed use are in great need of this type of medical service. By allowing the services provided by the MCD, its patients are assured to safe access to medication for their ailments.

SECTION 101.1 PRIORITY POLICIES

Planning Code Section 101.1 establishes eight priority policies and requires review of permits for consistency, on balance, with these policies. The Project complies with these policies as follows:

1. Existing neighborhood-serving retail uses be preserved and enhanced and future opportunities for resident employment in and ownership of such businesses enhanced.

The proposed use is a neighborhood serving use. The location for the MCD is currently vacant so the new use will not displace a previous neighborhood serving use.

2. That existing housing and neighborhood character be conserved and protected in order to preserve the cultural and economic diversity of our neighborhoods.

The project occupies a ground floor commercial space and will adhere with all signage regulations defined in Article 33 of the Health Code to help preserve the existing neighborhood character. The proposed use would not adversely affect the existing neighborhood character.

3. That the City's supply of affordable housing be preserved and enhanced.

The exiting building is occupied by non-residential uses so the proposed use will not displace any affordable housing.

4. That commuter traffic not impede MUNI transit service or overburden our streets or neighborhood parking.

The site is close to multiple public transit lines and the immediate neighborhood provides sufficient short-term parking so the use will not impede transit operations or impact parking.

5. A diverse economic base be maintained by protecting our industrial and service sectors from displacement due to commercial office development, and that future opportunities for resident employment and ownership in these sectors be enhanced.

The subject building is vacant and will not displace any industrial or service industry establishments.

6. The City achieves the greatest possible preparedness to protect against injury and loss of life in an earthquake.

The MCD will follow standard earthquake preparedness procedures and any construction would comply with contemporary building and seismic codes. All fixtures, shelving, etc., will be firmly affixed to its adjacent surface. Additionally, an automatic shut-off valve will be added to the gas meter. Trauma kits, fire extinguishers and emergency water and food supplies will be stored on-site.

All staff will be required to undergo Emergency Response Training during initial onboarding and periodically throughout the year. Regular drills and training on use of fire extinguishers, meeting points and building clearance and reentry procedures will be conducted. These trainings will cover procedures for all emergency situations, including fire, flood, and burglary in addition to earthquakes.

7. Landmarks and historic buildings be preserved.

The subject building will not be altering the front façade or any character-defining features visible from the public right-of-way.

8. Parks and open space and their access to sunlight and vistas be protected from development.

The project will not restrict access to any open space or parks and will not impact any open space or park's access to sunlight or vistas.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The project is categorically exempt from the environmental review process under Section 15301 Class 1(a) of the State CEQA Guidelines, pursuant to Title 14 of the California Administrative Code.

BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION

In 1996, California voters passed Proposition 215, known as the Compassionate Use Act, by a 56% majority. In San Francisco, Proposition 215 passed by a 78% majority. The legislation established the right of seriously ill Californians, including those suffering from illnesses such as AIDS, cancer and glaucoma, to obtain and use marijuana for medical purposes when prescribed by a physician.

MCDs began to be established in San Francisco shortly after Proposition 215 passed as a means of providing safe access to medical cannabis for those suffering from debilitating illnesses. At that time, San Francisco did not have any regulatory controls in place to restrict the placement and operations of the dispensaries. As a result, over 40 dispensaries were established in the city without any land use controls, often resulting in incompatible uses next to each other.

On December 30, 2005, the Medical Cannabis Act, as approved by the Board of Supervisors and Mayor, became effective. The Act, set forth in Ordinance 275-05 and supported by Ordinances 271-05 and 273-05, amended the Planning, Health, Traffic, and Business and Tax Regulation Codes in order to establish a comprehensive regulatory framework for MCDs in San Francisco.

The Act designates the Department of Public Health (DPH) as the lead agency for permitting MCDs. DPH conducts its own review of all applications and also refers applications to other involved City Agencies, including the Planning Department, in order to verify compliance with relevant requirements. The Planning Department's review is generally limited to the location and physical characteristics of MCDs.

- The MCD complies with all standards and requirements of the Planning Code and advances the objectives and policies of the General Plan.
- 5400 block of Mission is well served by transit (major MUNI lines, M, K, 43, 14, and located near Balboa Park BART station)
- 5400 block of Mission is more than 1,000' from primary and secondary schools.
- 5400 block of Mission is more than 1,000' from any active permitted youth-services facility.
- The project site has been fully renovated to provide a safe, well-lit environment for California Medical Marijuana Patients with proper identification cards.
- Employment levels are estimated to be between 30 to 50 full- and part-time employees.
- The project sponsor has performed outreach to a majority of community groups in the Excelsior and surrounding communities, and is thus familiar with neighborhood business owners. SPARC has recently become a member of the Cayuga Improvement Association (CIA) and Excelsior

District Improvement Association (EDIA). As members of CIA, the project sponsor has volunteered at an organized cleanup around Balboa High School.

- To minimize the potential impact of the proposed use on the surrounding commercial area the following conditions are recommended for imposition on the project:
 1. The operator of the establishment shall maintain the main entrance and all sidewalks abutting the subject property in a clean condition. Such maintenance shall include, at minimum, daily sweeping and litter pickup and disposal and washing or steam/pressure cleaning of the main entrance and abutting sidewalks at least once every month.
 2. The project sponsor shall maintain appropriate odor control equipment to prevent any significant noxious or offensive odors from escaping the premises.
 3. An enclosed garbage area shall be provided within the establishment. All garbage containers shall be kept within the building until pick-up by the disposal company.

RECOMMENDATION

RECOMMENDATION: Take Discretionary Review and Approve the MCD with Conditions

Attachments:

Parcel Map
Sanborn Map
Zoning Map
500' and 1000' Arc View GIS Map
Area Map of Potential MCD Locations
GIS MCD Proximity Map
Aerial Photograph
Site Photographs
MCD DR Notice
Reduced Architectural Plans
Applicant's MCD Application

Project Sponsor Submittals

Neighborhood Outreach Attachments
Safety and Security plans
General Information on services provided
Education on medicinal cannabis and SPARC's lab process

Project Opposition (Outer Mission Merchants and Residents Association) Submittals

Letter from the outer Merchants and Residents Association (OMMRA)

Letter from the District 11 Council President Mary Harris, urging the Planning Commission to take discretionary review and oppose the project
Email exchange between Sandy Cressman and Supervisor John Avalos regarding SPARC
Change.org petition: "Three is Enough: No more MCDs on our Corridor"
Map of current MCDs and proposed MCDs
Press release dated October 24, 2011 from RAND Corporation retracting its Report about Medical Marijuana Dispensaries and Crime

Exhibits

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Parcel Map



Sanborn Map

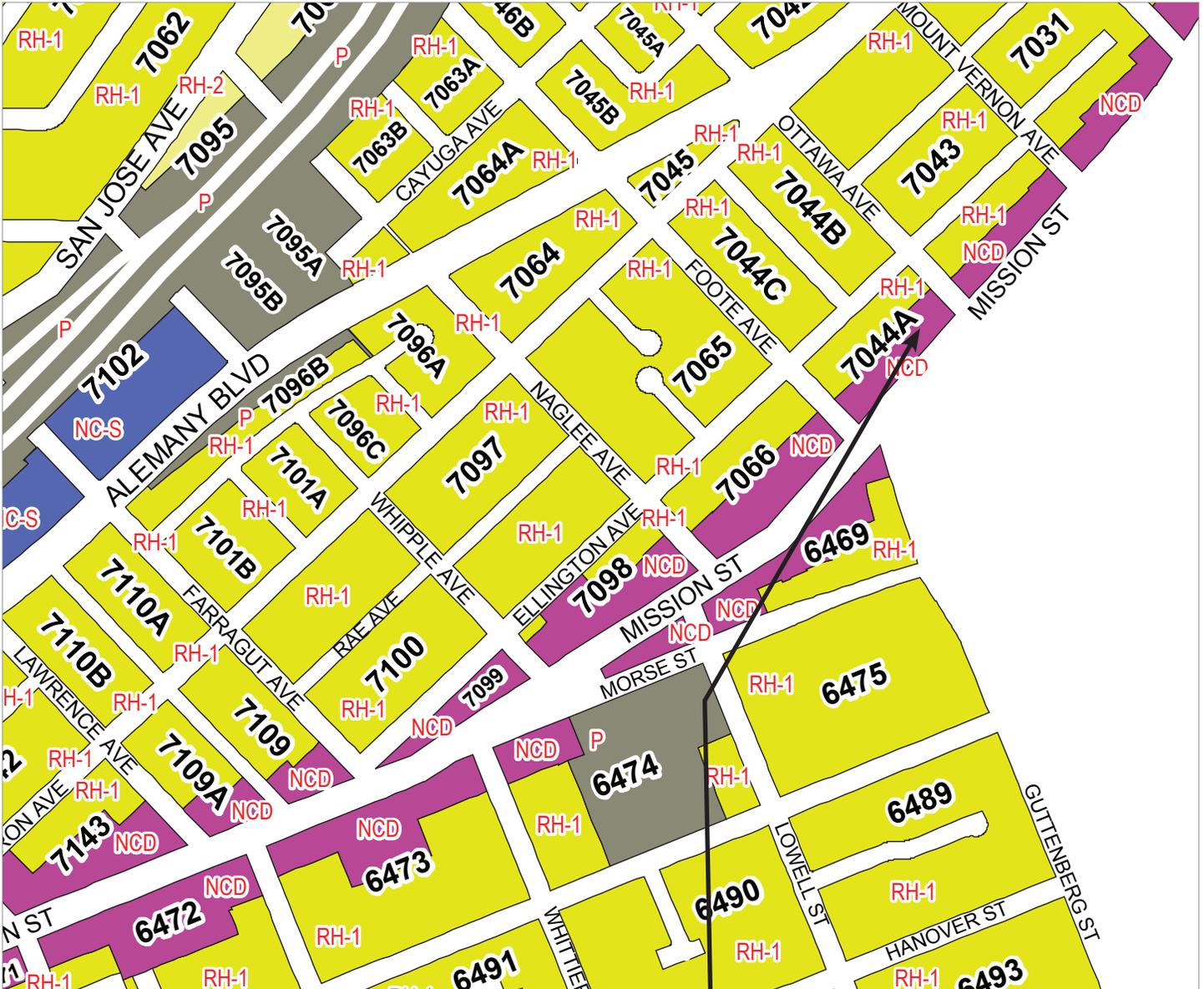


*The Sanborn Maps in San Francisco have not been updated since 1998, and this map may not accurately reflect existing conditions.

SAN FRANCISCO
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

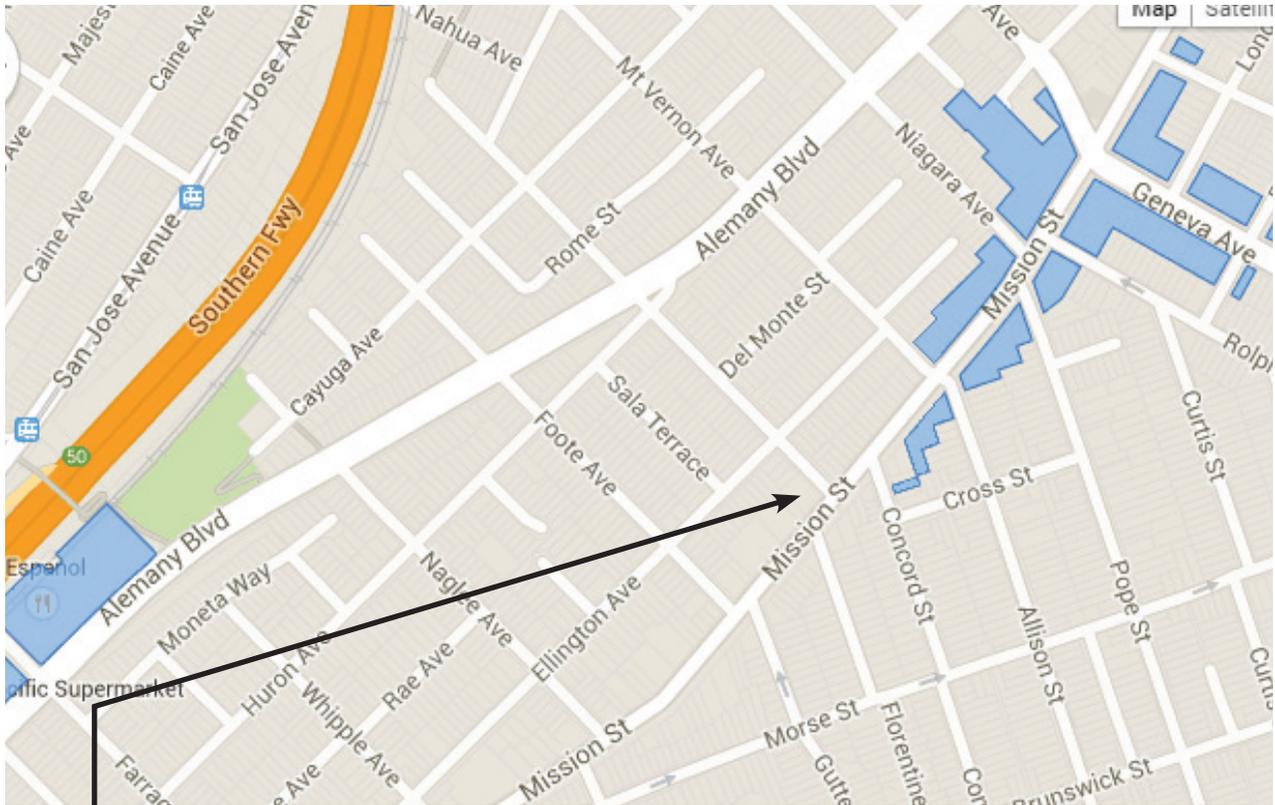
Discretionary Review
Case Number 2014.0979D
Medicinal Cannabis Dispensary
5420 Mission Street

Zoning Map



Subject Property

Sanborn Map



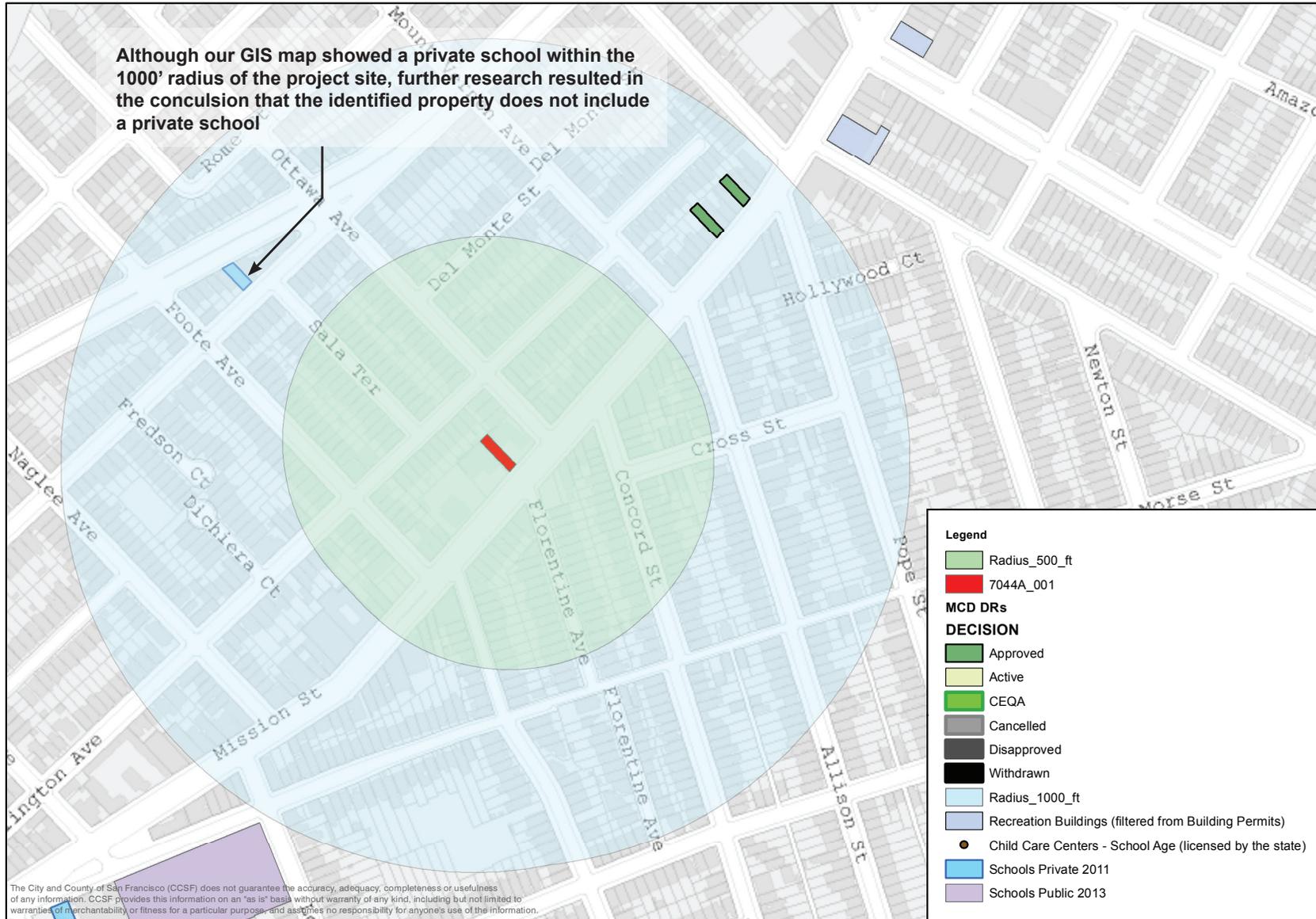
Subject Property

Notes: This map as an initial guide for investigating possible Medical Cannabis Dispensary (MCD) locations. It is not intended to supersede or be used in-lieu of applicable requirements found in the Planning Code.

This map indicates area which are (1) zoned to allow new MCDs and (2) not not located within 1,000' of a school. This map does not indicate uses which further restrict MCD locations including (i.e. community facilities, recreation buildings, and substance abuse treatment centers)

This map is based on the best information available at the time of publication. The City and County of San Francisco (CCSF) does not guarantee the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information. CCSF provides this information on an "as is" basis without warranty of any kind, including but not limited to warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose, and assumes no responsibility for anyone's use of the information.

5420 Mission Street (7044A / 001B) - 500' & 1000' Buffer Map



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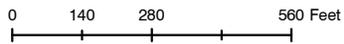
Legend

- Radius_500_ft
- 7044A_001

MCD DRs

DECISION

- Approved
- Active
- CEQA
- Cancelled
- Disapproved
- Withdrawn
- Radius_1000_ft
- Recreation Buildings (filtered from Building Permits)
- Child Care Centers - School Age (licensed by the state)
- Schools Private 2011
- Schools Public 2013



Printed: 1 April, 2014

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Aerial Photo - West



Subject Property

Site Photo





**SAN FRANCISCO
PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 • San Francisco, CA 94103 • Fax (415) 558-6409

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Hearing Date: **Thursday, October 16, 2014**
 Time: **Not before 12:00 PM (noon)**
 Location: **City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 400**
 Case Type: **Discretionary Review**
 Hearing Body: **Planning Commission**

| PROPERTY INFORMATION | APPLICATION INFORMATION |
|--|--|
| Project Address: 5420 Mission Street | Case No.: 2014.0979D |
| Cross Street(s): Ottawa Ave. | Building Permit: 2014.0509.5362 |
| Block /Lot No.: 7044/001B | Applicant: Joel Freston |
| Zoning District(s): Excelsior Outer Mission NCD | Telephone: (415) 692.5224 |
| Area Plan: N/A | E-Mail: freston@spacrsf.org |

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Request is for a Mandatory Discretionary Review of an application to operate a Medical Cannabis Dispensary. An associated Building Permit Application 2014.0509.5362 for tenant improvements only is associated with the project. No exterior changes, other than signage is proposed.

A Planning Commission approval at the public hearing would constitute the Approval Action for the project for the purposes of CEQA, pursuant to San Francisco Administrative Code Section 31.04(h).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ARCHITECTURAL PLANS: If you are interested in viewing the plans for the proposed project please contact the planner listed below. The plans of the proposed project will also be available one week prior to the hearing through the Planning Commission agenda at: <http://www.sf-planning.org>

Members of the public are not required to provide personal identifying information when they communicate with the Commission or the Department. All written or oral communications, including submitted personal contact information, may be made available to the public for inspection and copying upon request and may appear on the Department’s website or in other public documents.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT PLANNING DEPARTMENT STAFF:

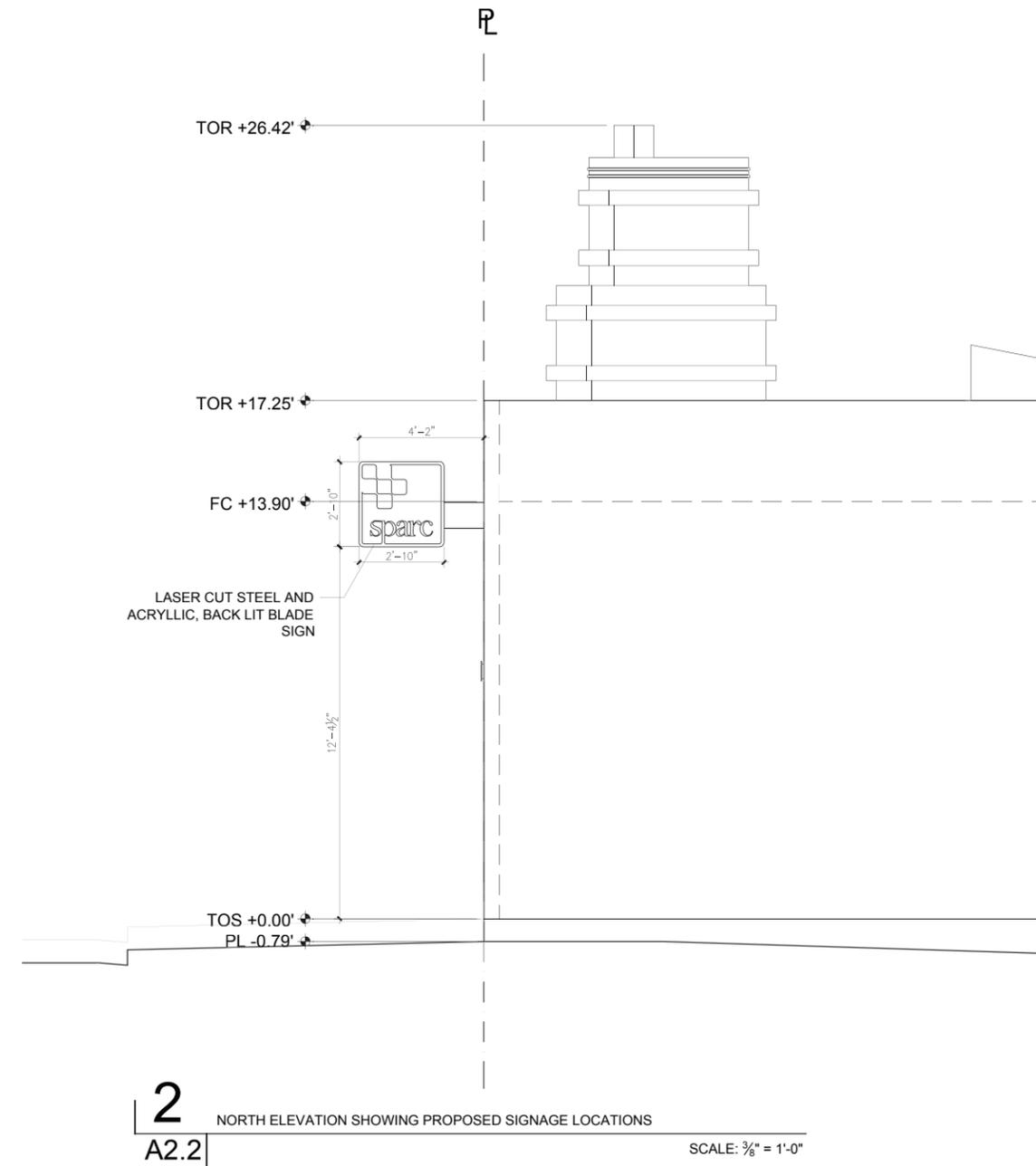
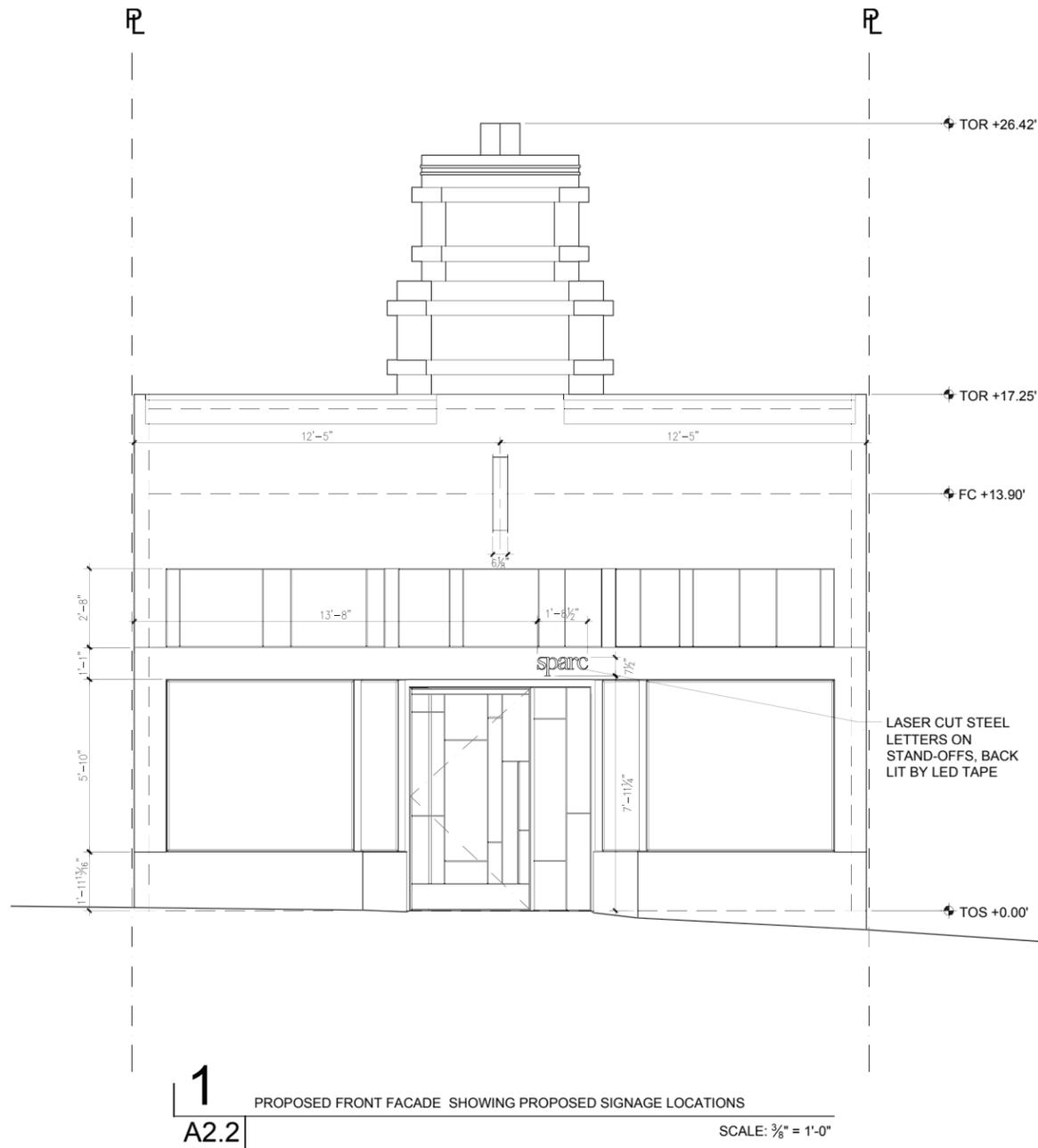
Planner: **Tina Chang** Telephone: **(415) 575-9197** E-Mail: tina.chang@sfgov.org

中文詢問請電: (415) 575-9010

Para información en Español llamar al: (415) 575-9010

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Proposed Signage



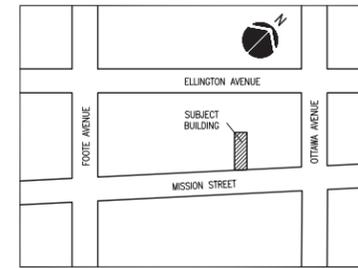
Plans

TABLE OF CONTENTS

A-1 SITE PLAN, PLOT PLAN, PROJECT DATA
EXISTING & PROPOSED FLOOR PLANS

SCOPE OF WORK

ESTABLISH MEDICAL CANNABIS DISPENSARY USE OF COMMERCIAL TENANT
MECHANICAL SYSTEM, FIRE SPRINKLER AND ALARM SYSTEM UNDER SEPARATE PERMITS



SITE PLAN
N.T.S.

GENERAL NOTES

1. THE CONTRACTOR AND/OR SUBCONTRACTOR SHALL VISIT THE SITE PRIOR TO SUBMITTING BIDS.
2. THE CONTRACTOR AND/OR SUBCONTRACTOR SHALL VERIFY ALL DIMENSIONS ON THE DRAWINGS AND SHALL NOTIFY THE OWNER OF ANY DISCREPANCIES PRIOR TO STARTING THEIR WORK.
3. THE CONTRACTOR AND/OR SUBCONTRACTOR'S WORK SHALL CONFORM TO ALL APPLICABLE GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES REGULATIONS AND LOCAL BUILDING CODES.
4. EACH SUBCONTRACTOR IS CONSIDERED A SPECIALIST IN HIS RESPECTIVE FIELD AND SHALL PRIOR TO THE SUBMISSION OF BID OR PERFORMANCE OF WORK NOTIFY THE GENERAL CONTRACTOR OR OWNER OF ANY WORK CALLED OUT ON THE DRAWINGS IN HIS TRADE THAT CANNOT BE FULLY GUARANTEED.
5. MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT WILL BE PURCHASED BY THE CONTRACTOR AND/OR INSTALLED ACCORDING TO PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS. SUBSTITUTIONS OR CHANGES MAY BE MADE WITH AUTHORIZATION FROM THE ENGINEER. OTHERWISE, ALL THE WORK MUST CONFORM TO PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS.
6. INTERPRETATION OF DOCUMENTS: SHOULD THE CONTRACTOR, AT ANY TIME, DISCOVER AN ERROR IN A DRAWING OR ON SPECIFICATIONS, OR A DISCREPANCY OR VARIATION BETWEEN DIMENSIONS ON DRAWINGS AND MEASUREMENTS AT SITE, OR LACK OF DIMENSIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION, HE SHALL REPORT AT ONCE TO THE ENGINEER FOR CLARIFICATION, AND HE SHALL NOT PROCEED WITH THE WORK AFFECTED UNTIL CLARIFICATION HAS BEEN MADE. DIMENSIONS PREFERENCE OVER DRAWINGS SHALL BE FOLLOWED, IN EVERY CASE, IN PREFERENCE OVER DRAWINGS OF SMALLER SCALE. ANY REQUIRED REVISION DRAWINGS WILL BE ISSUED TO THE CONTRACTOR, IN SUFFICIENT NUMBER, TO ENABLE HIM TO CARRY THE WORK PROPERLY. CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL ERRORS MADE AS A DIRECT RESULT OF USING SUPERSEDED DRAWINGS.
7. ALL WORK SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRINTED DIRECTIONS AND SPECIFICATIONS OF ASSOCIATIONS, TRADES AND MANUFACTURERS OF SYSTEMS AND MATERIALS APPROVED FOR THIS PROJECT. FINISHED WORK SHALL BE FIRM, WELL-ANCHORED, IN TRUE ALIGNMENT, PLUMB LEVEL; WITH SMOOTH, CLEAN, UNIFORM APPEARANCE; WITHOUT DISTORTIONS. JOINTINGS SHALL BE CLOSE-FITTING, NEAT, WELL-SCRIBED. FINISHED WORK SHALL HAVE NO EXPOSED, UNSIGHTLY ANCHORS OR UNSAFE PROTRUSIONS, OFFSETS, BURRS, RAW EDGES, OR SHARP CORNERS. ALL WORK SHALL HAVE PROVISIONS FOR EXPANSION AND CONTRACTION OR SHRINKAGE, AS NECESSARY, TO PREVENT CRACKS, BUCKLING AND WRAPPING.
8. ATTACHMENTS, CONNECTIONS, OR FASTENINGS OF ANY NATURE ARE TO BE PROPERLY AND PERMANENTLY SECURE, IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE BEST PRACTICE, AND CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING THEM ACCORDING TO THESE CONDITIONS. DRAWINGS SHOW ONLY SPECIAL CONDITIONS TO ASSIST CONTRACTOR; THEY DO NOT ILLUSTRATE EVERY DETAILS.

PROJECT DATA

BLOCK: 7044A LOT: 001B
ZONE: EXCELSIOR OUTER MISSION NCD
TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION: V-B (NO CHANGE)
AUTOMATIC FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM: (E) NO
(N) YES
NUMBER OF STORY: 1 (NO CHANGE)
USE / OCCUPANCY: (E) MEAT PRODUCE MARTS / B
(N) MEDICAL CANNABIS DISPENSARY /

APPLICABLE CODES

2013 SAN FRANCISCO CODE AMENDMENTS
- 2013 SAN FRANCISCO BUILDING CODE AMENDMENTS
- 2013 SAN FRANCISCO ELECTRICAL CODE AMENDMENTS
- 2013 SAN FRANCISCO MECHANICAL CODE AMENDMENTS
- 2013 SAN FRANCISCO PLUMBING CODE AMENDMENTS
- 2013 SAN FRANCISCO HOUSING CODE AMENDMENTS

2013 CALIFORNIA CODE
- 2013 CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE
- 2013 CALIFORNIA ENERGY CODE
- 2013 CALIFORNIA PLUMBING CODE
- 2013 CALIFORNIA MECHANICAL CODE

PROJECT SPONSOR INFORMATION

MIPARC, Inc.
123 10TH STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103
PHONE: 415-692-5230.



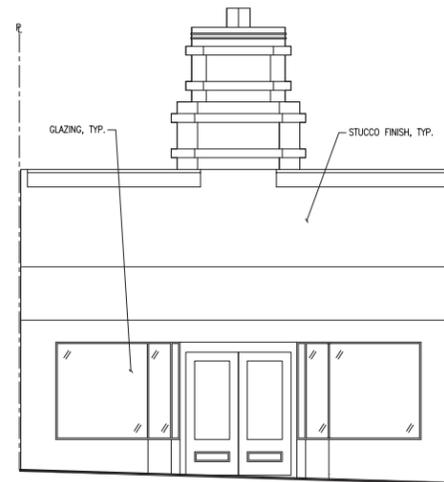
PROPOSED FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"

EXISTING FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"

PLOT PLAN
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"

WALL LEGEND

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| | (N) WALL |
| | (E) WALL TO REMAIN |
| | (E) WALL TO BE REMOVED |



FRONT ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/4"=1'-0"



San Francisco
Patient and
Resource Center

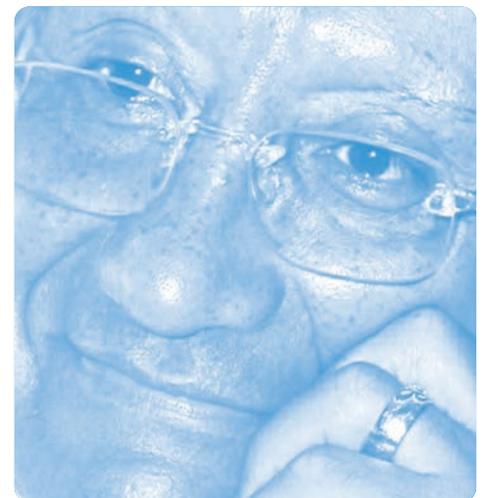
1256 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

info@SPARCsf.org

www.SPARCsf.org

TEL 415 252 7727
FAX 415 252 7724

Who we are.
How we help.



Compassion. Caring. Community. It's our Mission.

A model dispensary, SPARC raises the bar for medical-cannabis dispensaries across California. Our Board of Directors has over 50 years of combined experience in medical cannabis and represents our community of members stakeholders. Our primary mission is to serve our members by providing health services and advancing the successful treatment of serious illnesses with access to lab-tested medical cannabis.

Our Mission

SPARC is a nonprofit collective dedicated to providing lab-tested, affordable, high quality cannabis and subsidized health services to our members.

We aim to educate our members about cannabis treatments and other alternative health approaches to supplement their medicine.

SPARC advocates for government change. We seek to be a voice for the implementation of best practices for the regulation and taxation of medical cannabis.

Our History

Serving patients since 2001, SPARC began as a collaboration between several small collectives serving distinct patient populations in San Francisco. SPARC focused primarily on serving

low-income patients suffering from chronic and terminal illnesses. As our member base expanded through the integration of small patient collectives, we sought a permit from the City of San Francisco to open a central healing center and dispensary. This important step allowed us to increase our capacity to serve more members. Our organization is rooted in the same compassionate, patient-centered service that we have maintained for over a decade. We work to bring our members a community-friendly and scientific approach to providing medical cannabis. Increased membership with SPARC helps us continue to offer free health-service programs, as well as our free Compassion Program helping seriously ill, low-income patients in San Francisco. We have provided medical cannabis to critically ill patients in hospice at no charge for nearly 15 years.

“We are grateful for SPARC’s partnership and support. We have seen many patients whose conditions have greatly improved through the use of cannabis for pain management, nausea, harm reduction, and other valuable medical uses.”

– Tim Patriarca

Former Executive Director of Maitri AIDS Hospice

As a not-for-profit organization, our proceeds are reinvested into patient services and community activism. As we grow, our advocacy and patient services grow, too.

Social Services

At the 1256 Mission Street location, we offer a full array of staff-supported community services to our members. These include social services, educational programs, and community-building activities that break the sense of isolation experienced by many ill patients. Programs offered include new-member orientations, women's support groups, HIV/AIDS support groups, harm-reduction groups, and weekly social events. Benefits counselors offer one-on-one consultation with patients and assist with referrals to outlying professional services. These successful programs will be implemented at the 5420 Mission Street location.

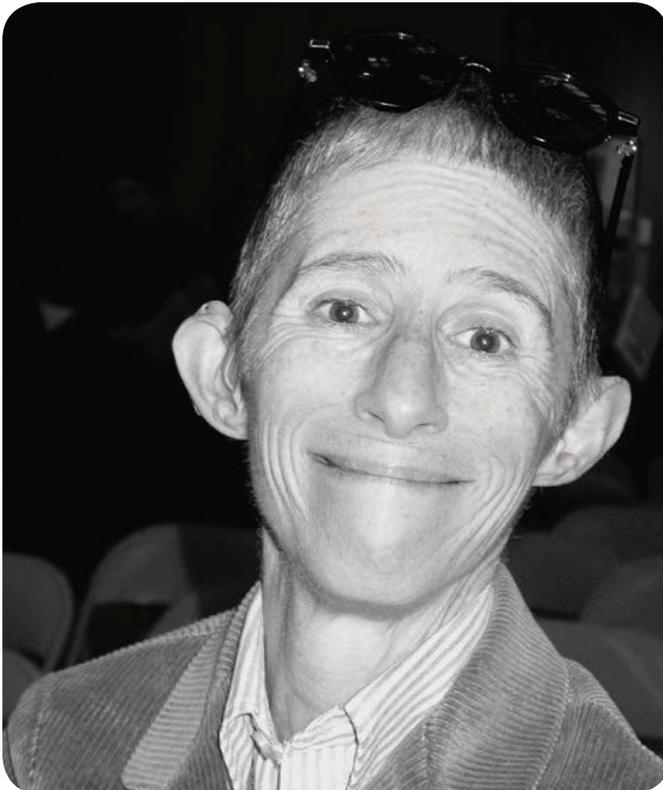
Access for Chronically Ill, Low-Income Patients

SPARC is committed to delivering medicine and services to members who are too ill to visit our physical location. We provide cannabis free

of charge to qualified low-income patients; this is based on our successful pilot program, the San Francisco Cannabis Collective, which had a seven-year track record of supplying medical cannabis at no cost to critically ill patients. This tradition of compassionate care culminated in SPARC's Compassion Program that provides free cannabis and delivery to seriously ill patients in hospitals, nursing homes, hospices (or released from hospices), and also for patients who are housebound, bedridden, or have limited mobility. We work closely with healthcare-facility administrators to maintain appropriate protocols to safeguard cannabis access. To date, this program has helped over 60 patients per month, with more than \$60,000 of cannabis proudly donated by SPARC annually.

Laboratory Testing for Scientific Consistency and Safety

SPARC tests all medical cannabis for harmful pathogens, such as mold, fungus, and pesticides. This is particularly important for immune-suppressed patients who cannot risk being exposed to fungus or bacteria, which are not controlled-for in the current system of medical-cannabis production. The laboratory has filled a gap in San Francisco's approach to regulating medical cannabis. As the first dispensary to mandate laboratory testing, SPARC has led the way for San Francisco patients to access medical cannabis that has defined levels of therapeutic compounds and is free from harmful pathogens. We conduct laboratory analysis that screens for contaminants while also providing data on the genetics and potency of various kinds



Mary Gennoy Patient

of cannabis, which allows members to make safe, well-informed decisions when selecting a medicine. Our products include labels that list the predominant active ingredients in each strain of medical cannabis. SPARC caters specific strains to a member's particular medical need, increasing the efficacy of the medicine and limiting unwanted side effects as part of a patient's treatment. Listing cannabinoid profiles and levels allows patients to select the best medicine for their needs.

Scientific Testing: Benefits & Goals

SPARC is one of the few dispensaries in California to have its medicine tested to ensure safety and quality. It is vital that there are no traces of mold or pathogens in any cannabis that is provided to members. Quality is usually determined by the amount of symptom relief that a medicine provides and the reliability of the medicine to produce the desired effect. Not only do we measure the amount of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in each strain we offer, but by using standard analytical techniques, we can assay for the presence of other therapeutically significant cannabinoids, such as cannabidiol (CBD). Our packaging lists the percentage of THC and CBD concentrations for each strain, allowing our members to select the right medicine for their health needs. Our long-term goal is to develop a scientific approach that includes the possibility of documenting and researching which plant variations and horticultural practices can be combined to maximize the healing qualities of specific strains. The primary and immediate focus of SPARC is to perform testing of medical cannabis to guarantee safety and quality for our

members. Second, testing helps our collective create standardized, reliable, and consistent medical products on which patients can rely to meet their treatment expectations.

In both cases, our approach is based on best practices employed by Bedrocan, a government-operated laboratory in the Netherlands. A third long-term research opportunity is to participate in studies that identify which plants and variations of medical cannabis—there are 700 variations of cannabis—have the best treatment value for different medical conditions. Important healing and pain-relief components in medical cannabis vary from plant to plant. As indicated by Bedrocan, this research is greatly needed and largely unavailable in the United States. SPARC continues to offer the long-term possibility of pursuing important scientific research, including determining which plant variations, in combination with certain horticultural practices, can create plants most fitting to specific needs.

The Future: Regulation and Transparency

Medical cannabis is at an exciting regulatory crossroads in the United States. Every day, more people recognize its powerful treatment for prevention against many kinds of illness. Our board members and founders are recognized for their industry expertise and have advised on local and state medical-cannabis policy. SPARC seeks to raise the bar for dispensaries and for treatment services for patients in the United States, while expanding access to medical cannabis. We will continue to work with local, state, and national medical cannabis-policy groups to ensure that evidence-based research and human welfare are the driving forces behind future regulation, cultivation, and distribution of medical cannabis.

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Section I

Community Engagement



Community Engagement

There's a lot to being a good neighbor—communication, understanding, and respect. SPARC strives to be a good neighbor in every community in which it opens.

Every neighborhood is different and, so, SPARC's operations must suit the unique needs of each community. In April 2014, SPARC launched a comprehensive community outreach and engagement plan to understand the challenges and needs of the Excelsior and Outer Mission districts, home of the proposed location at 5420 Mission Street. The outreach not only informed neighbors of the proposal, but helped gather feedback about the proposal and neighbors' experience with other dispensary facilities.

SPARC ensures accessibility to the community with a Community Liaison, a full-time staff member whose role is to be receptive and responsive to needs of the community. Joel Freston, a former staffer of the Salt Lake County Mayor's office and Masters of Public Administration student at the University of San Francisco, presently holds the role. The Community Liaison reports directly to the Executive Director.

After opening, SPARC's community engagement will continue as it has at the existing 1256 Mission Street location, joining community groups, participating in community meetings and events, and connecting with our neighbors. The efforts toward engaging the proposed location community, as in much of our outreach, has been far above and beyond the

community outreach requirements made by the San Francisco Planning Department. SPARC is not just part of the community, it helps make community.

Outreach

SPARC ensured thorough outreach from stakeholders through a manifold approach:

- Meeting neighbors—SPARC canvassed the neighborhood, going to each door within 300 feet of the proposed location, twice
- Connecting with Community Organizations—SPARC reached out to 14 community organizations
- Hosting a SPARC Open House—SPARC held an open house at its existing location, providing a shuttle to the open house for those interested in attending and learning more about what SPARC.

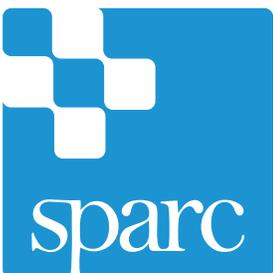
Meeting Neighbors

As an incoming member of the community, we felt it important to meet with our neighbors, residents and businesses alike, to inform them of our intentions, and welcome any feedback they may have in order to best serve the community. In that regard, on June 11th and 12th SPARC visited every single door within a 300 foot radius surrounding the proposed location. This would be the first of two times SPARC visited these neighbors. On this occasion, we introduced ourselves, our intention to operate an MCD at 5420 Mission Street, and left both our member handbook as well as these flyers at each door, in English, Mandarin, and Spanish:

Freston, Joel

Community Liaison
415.692.5224
freston@sparcsf.org
community@sparcsf.org
PO Box 14816
San Francisco CA, 94114
www.SPARCsf.org

San Francisco Patient and Resource Center



Hello,

My name is Freston. I'm out going door to door on behalf of SPARC, the San Francisco Patient and Resource Center, a medical cannabis dispensary located at 1256 Mission Street. I serve as the SPARC Community Liaison and would like to introduce myself to you and offer my information as a resource to you and residents and business owners in the area.

We at SPARC strive for excellent relationships with our neighbors and the community. We are beginning a community outreach program that includes reaching out to our adjacent neighbors directly. In that regard, I'm sorry I missed you today. I'm visiting with residents and businesses over the next few weeks to discuss SPARC's recently submitted application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at **5420 Mission Street**. You may hear of our application to operate a second dispensary at 5420 Mission in the coming weeks. I will be back to your door in the near future, however if possible, I would like the opportunity to speak with you and discuss the application.

SPARC has been open at 1256 Mission Street since 2010, and serves as a nationally recognized operational model, with a strong record of safety, and known for improving the neighborhood in which it's located. SPARC is an experienced, highly professional, and modern retail facility. To learn more, please visit: <http://sparcsf.org/about-sparc/who-we-are>

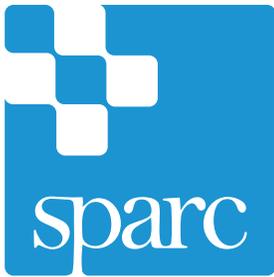
If you have any questions about our application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission Street, please feel free to email me at community@sparcsf.org, or call 415-692-5224.

Thank you,
Freston

Freston, Joel

社區聯絡人
415.692.5224
freston@sparcsf.org
community@sparcsf.org
郵政信箱PO Box 14816
加州舊金山 94114
www.SPARCsf.org

San Francisco Patient and Resource Center



您好,

敝姓 Freston, 代表舊金山病患資源中心挨家挨戶拜訪各位。舊金山病患資源中心 (San Francisco Patience and Resource Center, 簡稱 SPARC) 是一家位於米慎街 1256號的藥用大麻藥房。作為 SPARC 的社區聯絡人, 我希望能向您自我介紹, 提供您及社區內其他居民和業主一些可能有用的資源。

SPARC 非常希望和鄰居和社區建立極佳的關係, 因此我們開始了一個社區外展活動, 直接拜訪鄰居。很可惜今天沒有機會與您見面。未來幾周我將繼續拜訪社區民眾, 討論 SPARC 最近申請在米慎街 5420號經營另一家藥用大麻藥房的事項。未來幾周您可能也會聽說米慎街 5420號牌照申請的消息。我會儘快再次登門拜訪, 也希望有機會能與您交流討論。

SPARC 自2010年起在米慎街 1256號經營, 成為國內肯定的營運楷模, 擁有絕佳的安全記錄, 也有能改善所在社區的名聲。SPARC是一家老牌、高度專業的現代零售商店。若想進一步了解, 請上網拜訪 <http://sparcsf.org/about-sparc/who-we-are>。

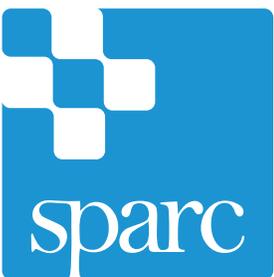
如果您對米慎街 5420號的牌照申請有任何疑問, 非常歡迎透過電郵 community@sparcsf.org 或電話 415-692-5224 與我聯絡。

謝謝!
祝安好。
Freston 謹致

Freston, Joel

Community Liaison
415.692.5224
freston@sparcsf.org
community@sparcsf.org
PO Box 14816
San Francisco CA, 94114
www.SPARCsf.org

San Francisco Patient and Resource Center



Hola,

Me llamo Freston. Estoy yendo de puerta en puerta en nombre de SPARC, el Centro de Pacientes y Recursos de San Francisco, un dispensario de cannabis medicinal situado en 1256 Mission Street. Yo soy el Community Liaison de SPARC, la persona a cargo de crear buenas relaciones con la comunidad. Me gustaría presentarme y ofrecerle información sobre SPARC, pues me propongo ser un amigo y fuente de recursos para usted, y otros residentes y dueños de negocios en la zona.

Nosotros en SPARC aspiramos por tener excelentes relaciones con nuestros vecinos y con la comunidad. Estamos iniciando un programa de extensión comunitaria, que incluye como una meta crear amistades con nuestros vecinos cercanos. Por esta razón me gustaría conocerle, aunque hoy no estuvo en casa cuando yo llamé a su puerta. Voy a visitar a residentes y dueños de negocios en las próximas semanas para hablar sobre la reciente aplicación que SPARC a presentado para abrir un dispensario de cannabis medicinal en 5420 Mission Street. Voy a regresar a su puerta en el futuro para tener la oportunidad de conocerle, hablar de esta aplicación, y como SPARC beneficiará a la comunidad.

SPARC a estado brindando servicios a la comunidad en 1256 Mission Street desde 2010, y ha sido reconocida nacionalmente como un dispensario modelo. Tenemos una trayectoria de seguridad, profesionalismo, y somos conocidos por mejorar la comunidad de la que somos parte. SPARC es un dispensario moderno y con años de experiencia. Para aprender más sobre SPARC, por favor visite: <http://sparcsf.org/about-sparc/who-we-are>

Si tiene alguna pregunta acerca de nuestra aplicación para abrir un nuevo dispensario en 5420 Mission Street, por favor comuníquese conmigo por email.... También puede llámarme a...

Gracias,
Freston

At this time, we received feedback from some neighbors, and quickly responded to specific concerns via phone, email, and letters. An example of a response to a community member follows.



San Francisco, CA 94112

Joel Freston
SPARC
1256 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94103



San Francisco
Patient and
Resource Center

PO BOX 14816
San Francisco, CA 94114

info@SPARCsf.org
www.SPARCsf.org

TEL 415 252 SPARC
FAX 415 252 7724



Thank you for your calls and for the opportunity to follow up with you. I'm sorry to hear of your challenges with the existing dispensaries and people medicating in the area. We at SPARC enforce a strict friendly neighbor policy that prevents our members from medicating within 500 feet of our facility at the risk of having their membership revoked. We enforce this policy in full.

As you mentioned over the phone, I appreciate that you're not in opposition to our organization specifically, but of the ill effects of other operators not being great neighbors, or their members not being respectful. I believe having SPARC in the neighborhood will encourage the other dispensaries in the area to perform at a higher standard.

When last we spoke, you suggested SPARC reach out to the community via languages frequently used in the area. I'm pleased to say we are making information pamphlets for our second round of canvassing in English, Spanish, and Chinese. Thank you for your input on this matter.

SPARC serves as a nationally recognized operational model, with a strong safety record, and is known for improving the neighborhood in which it's located. SPARC is a highly professional, modern retail facility. We at SPARC strive for excellent relationships with our neighbors and the community. In that regard, we will continue to reach out to a variety of members in the community to solicit feedback and concerns regarding our expansion into the Excelsior.

I understand your concerns, and I hope work with you in alleviating those concerns and making any changes you might suggest to our outreach and engagement. Please continue to consider me a resource for information on SPARC.

Thank you,

Freston

On June 26th we again visited the doors of each of our neighbors within a 300 foot radius, including all residents and businesses, introducing SPARC, and inviting all neighbors to the upcoming SPARC open house to learn more on what we hope to bring to the community. At this time, we left the same flyers again in multiple languages, as well as an invitation to the open house. An example of this invitation can be seen below:

Hello,

As a community member of the Outer Mission and Excelsior area you are cordially invited to an Open House at SPARC, San Francisco Patient and Resource Center, a model medical cannabis dispensary.

SPARC Open House
Wednesday, July 9, 2014
7:00PM to 8:00PM
SPARC Dispensary – 1256 Mission Street

SPARC is working to open a new dispensary in order to better serve our members in the Excelsior Community. We invite you to tour our existing location and hope to gain your input and feedback on how we can best become a community partner.

For your convenience, we will provide a free shuttle for your transportation to and from our 1256 Mission Street location. To ride the shuttle, please meet at 5420 Mission Street (the proposed dispensary location) at 6:45PM. The shuttle will return you to 5420 Mission Street at approximately 8:30PM.

We kindly ask that you RSVP by 7/8/14 by phone 415.692.5224 or email community@sparcsf.org.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Freston



Connecting with Community Organizations

In executing our community outreach plan, we identified and began to reach out to the 14 different community organizations that best represent the Excelsior and Outer Mission communities. The process of reaching out involved introducing ourselves and our application to operate an MCD via letters, phone, email, and by attending the community organization's meetings. During these meetings, SPARC presented our intentions, shared our desire to become community partners, and addressed any concerns of the 5420 application brought forth by the organizations membership. A list of the community organizations we have reached out to is listed below:

- Cayuga Improvement Association
- Excelsior Action Group
- Mission Economic Development Association
- New Mission Terrace Improvement Association
- OMI Neighbors in Action
- Outer Mission Residents Association
- Sunnyside Neighborhood Association
- OMI Community Collaborative
- D11 Democratic Club
- D11 Council
- Excelsior District Improvement Association
- Ingleside Police Station,
Capt. Falvey & Capt. McFadden
- OMI Family Resource Center
- Excelsior Outer Mission Merchants

Each of these community organizations received multiple letters, emails, and phone calls, and were invited to attend the SPARC open house. Each organization was offered a full presentation regarding our application to operate an MCD and who SPARC is. An example of this letter can be seen on the next page:

Joel Freston
 SPARC, Community Liaison
 1256 Mission Street
 San Francisco, CA 94103
 June 5, 2014



San Francisco
 Patient and
 Resource Center
 PO BOX 14816
 San Francisco, CA 94114

info@SPARCsf.org
 www.SPARCsf.org

TEL 415 252 SPARC
 FAX 415 252 7724

Joelle Kenealey
 OMMRA, President
 P.O. Box 34099
 San Francisco, CA 94134

Dear Ms. Kenealey:

I am writing on behalf of SPARC, San Francisco Patient and Resource Center, a medical cannabis dispensary located at 1256 Mission Street. I serve as the SPARC Community Liaison and would like to introduce myself to you and offer my information as a resource to you and OMMRA's membership.

I am writing to inform you that we recently submitted an application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission Street. I have also emailed this information to you for your convenience. If possible, I would like the opportunity to meet with you and discuss the application.

We at SPARC strive for excellent relationships with our neighbors and the community. We are beginning a comprehensive community outreach program that includes reaching out to the important community organizations in the area, such as OMMRA, as well as speaking with our adjacent neighbors directly. In that regard, I can assure you we will take every step to ensure we reach out to the community, provide open and accessible information, and act on helpful feedback we receive during this process.

As I begin reaching out into the community, I would love the opportunity to present to the OMMRA at one of the upcoming OMMRA meetings, share with you our plans, and open a dialogue of how best SPARC can move into the neighborhood and become a community partner. Please let me know how to find time on an upcoming agenda, or any suggestions you may have on how best we can discuss this further.

Thank you for your time, and for the hard work you do for the community. I appreciate any direction you can provide in reaching out to the community on this matter. I am happy to answer any of your questions and extend the offer to give you a tour of our dispensary. If you find yourself in our neighborhood, please drive by – we are located at 1256 Mission Street. Due to the city's laws around dispensary access, please let me know in advance if you'd like a tour.

Thank you for your time. I appreciate any direction you can provide in reaching out to the community on this matter. I look forward to working with you more.

Sincerely,

Joel Freston
 Community Liaison, SPARC

As a result of our outreach efforts to these community organizations, we have identified very few concerns and addressed each concern immediately.

During this process we have found many community organizations welcoming and eager to partner on community projects. SPARC has joined and plans to partner with many organizations, including the Cayuga Improvement District, and the Excelsior District Improvement Association. We have attended meetings of 7 different organizations, and will continue to do so regularly.

Below is a timeline of outreach conducted to the organizations listed above:

| Name of community organization: | Introductory Letter | Introductory Email | Follow up phone call | Open House Invitation Mailed | Open House Invitation Call | Follow up Open House Reminder | Follow up & personal tour invites mailed | Final follow up & personal tour invites mailed | Membership |
|---|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|----------------|
| Cayuga Improvement Association | 6/1/2014 | 6/1/2014 | 6/16/2014 | Sent 6/27/2014 | 6/27/2014 | 7/4/2014 | 8/15/2014 | 9/22/2014 | Joined 7/7/14 |
| Excelsior Action Group | 6/6/2014 | 6/6/2014 | LM 6/16, L/M 7/1 | Sent 6/27/2014 | 6/27/2014 | 7/4/2014 | 8/15/2014 | 9/22/2014 | |
| Mission Economic Development Association | 6/6/2014 | 6/6/2014 | LM 6/16, LM 7/1 | Sent 6/27/2014 | 6/27/2014 | 7/4/2014 | 8/15/2014 | 9/22/2014 | |
| New Mission Terrace Improvement Association (NMTIA) | 6/6/2014 | 6/6/2014 | LM 6/16 | Sent 6/27/2014 | 6/27/2014 | 7/4/2014 | 8/15/2014 | 9/22/2014 | |
| OMI Neighbors in Action | 6/6/2014 | 6/6/2014 | LM 6/16 | Sent 6/27/2014 | 6/27/2014 | 7/4/2014 | 8/15/2014 | 9/22/2014 | |
| Outer Mission Residents Association | 6/6/2014 | 6/6/2014 | LM 6/16, LM 7/1 | Sent 6/27/2014 | 6/27/2014 | 7/4/2014 | 8/15/2014 | 9/22/2014 | |
| Sunnyside Neighborhood Association | 6/6/2014 | 6/6/2014 | LM 6/16, LM 7/1 | Sent 6/27/2014 | 6/27/2014 | 7/4/2014 | 8/15/2014 | 9/22/2014 | |
| OMI Community Collaborative | 6/6/2014 | 6/9/2014 | LM 6/16 | Sent 6/27/2014 | 6/27/2014 | 7/4/2014 | 8/15/2014 | 9/22/2014 | |
| D11 Democratic Club | 6/6/2014 | 6/9/2014 | LM 6/16 | Sent 6/27/2014 | 6/27/2014 | 7/4/2014 | 8/15/2014 | 9/22/2014 | |
| D11 Council | 6/6/2014 | 6/9/2014 | LM 6/16 | Sent 6/27/2014 | 6/27/2014 | 7/4/2014 | 8/15/2014 | 9/22/2014 | |
| Excelsior District Improvement Association (EDIA) | 6/6/2014 | 6/10/2014 | LM 6/16, LM 7/1 | Sent 6/27/2014 | 6/27/2014 | 7/4/2014 | 8/15/2014 | 9/22/2014 | Joined 6/30/14 |
| Ingleside Police Station | 6/9/2014 | 6/9/2014 | LM 6/16, LM 7/1 | Sent 6/27/2014 | 6/27/2014 | 7/7/2014 | 8/19/2014 | 9/22/2014 | |
| OMI Family Resource Center | 6/6/2014 | 6/9/2014 | LM 6/16, LM 7/1 | Sent 6/27/2014 | 6/27/2014 | 7/7/2014 | 8/15/2014 | 9/22/2014 | |
| Excelsior Outer Mission Merchants | 6/9/2014 | 6/9/2014 | LM 6/16, LM 7/1 | Sent 6/27/2014 | 6/27/2014 | 7/7/2014 | 8/15/2014 | 9/22/2014 | |
| | | | *L/M = Left Voice Message | | | | | | |

SPARC Open House

Leading up to the open house, we'd formally invited each of the neighbors within a 300 foot radius surrounding our proposed location, business and residents alike. Moreover each of the 14 community organizations identified had received a formal invitation either at their regular membership meeting, or via mail, email, and by phone. Some of the community organizations gracefully published the SPARC open house in their newsletters, including the Cayuga Improvement Association regular newsletter, as well as the OMI Community Collaborative, and the District 11 event calendar webpage, as seen on the next page:

On July 9th 2014, 7:00PM – 9:00PM, SPARC hosted the 5420 community at the 1256 location. The purpose of this open house was to demonstrate to those community organization membership, and any interested local business owners or residents, exactly what a model dispensary, like SPARC, will bring to the community. We provided a shuttle to and from the 5420 Mission location to our existing dispensary location at 1256 Mission Street. Invitations were extended to all 14 community organizations, in person and via mail. In addition to the invitations distributed to our neighbors, well over 350 invitations were extended around the 5420 Mission Street community.

Event Calendar

OMI Community Collaborative & District 11 Calendar of Events

Today Wednesday, July 9 Print Week Month Agenda

| | |
|-------------|--|
| 2:30pm | Read, Write, Discover! |
| 4:00pm | Henna Tattoos With Charitie |
| 4:00pm | Homework Help |
| 4:00pm | Homework Help-Reading Tutoring |
| 5:00pm | OMI Parent Support Group |
| 5:30pm | OMI Anger and Relationship Support Group for Women |
| 6:00pm | Crocker Amazon Advisory Board |
| 6:00pm | Ocean Avenue Corridor Design Study meeting |
| 7:00pm | Open House - SPARC |
| When | Wed, July 9, 7pm – 9pm |
| Where | SPARC, 1256 Mission Street at 9th Street (map) |
| Description | <p>On July 9th, SPARC will host a community meeting to demonstrate what a model dispensary, like SPARC, will bring to the community at their newly proposed location at 5420 Mission Street.</p> <p>SPARC will provide transportation for people from the 5420 Mission location to the 1256 Mission location.</p> <p>At the open house, SPARC will feature their premier designing, overall wellness and health approach. Senior staff and staff subject matter experts will be on hand to guide the discussion.</p> <p>There will be light refreshments.</p> <p>For more information, please contact Joel Freston at 415.692.5224 or freston@sparcsf.org.</p> <p>more details» copy to my calendar</p> |

Events shown in time zone: Pacific Time



- I. Community Engagement
- II. Letters of Support
- III. Member Agreements
- IV. Safety and Security Plans
- V. Services for Our Members
- VI. Education
- VII. Lab Tested Cannabis

At the open house, SPARC featured the premier award winning interior designing. The overall wellness and health approach SPARC takes to healing was described in detail by our member service staff. Our security manager discussed the measures taken to ensure the safety of our members, staff, and the surrounding community. We also showcased a video describing in detail SPARC's goals and mission. We also provided hors d'oeuvres and drinks.

We are very confident and pleased that the membership of these community organizations as well as the neighbors within the 300 foot radius surrounding our proposed location had received an invitation, access to information on SPARC, and information on our hopes of becoming a community partner, as well as ample opportunity to provide feedback during this process.

Community Support

In addition to the over 100 letters of support of our application to operate that have been mailed in to the Planning Department by individuals living in the Excelsior area, there is also a petition circulating the neighborhood in support of our application. These letters of support and petition signatures will be provided at the time of the hearing.

SPARC has officially joined both the Cayuga Improvement Association (CIA), as well as the Excelsior District Improvement Association (EDIA) and we are eager to work with them to enhance and improve the community. As members of both the CIA and EDIA, we have attended meetings, and will be working closely to identify opportunities for SPARC to partner with these organizations. Both these organizations have opposed incoming MCD applications in the past, however they are not opposing SPARC's application primarily because of our extensive and robust outreach efforts.

As members of the CIA, we've already volunteered at an organized community cleanup surrounding Balboa High School. We will continue this participation through our existing Community Participation Program. Pictures of SPARC at Balboa High can be seen on the picture below:



Section II

Letters of Support



Re: SPARC's application to operate a medical
cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission St.

Dear San Francisco Planning Commission

I live at 1733 Cayuga Ave. and as a resident of the Excelsior neighborhood I would be honored to have SPARC conduct business in this area. SPARC is important to me because of a multitude of reasons: (1) SPARC's customer service is exceptional, they truly care about each client (2) They provide quality medication at a reasonable price for my condition, their opportunity to spread this to my fellow community members would be beneficial to fellow medical treatment users. (3) It will be helpful for people whom live on the south side of the city to not commute as far, reducing time wasted and thereby congestion from air already impacted medical services. I hope the Planning Commission makes the correct decision in allowing SPARC into my neighborhood. (appreciate your time)

Sincerely,

Demarco A. Garcia
1733 Cayuga Ave
San Francisco, CA 94112

“I live at 1733 Cayuga Ave. and as a resident of the Excelsior neighborhood I would be honored to have SPARC conduct business in this area.”

Demarco Garcia
Excelsior Resident

San Francisco Planning Commission
ATTN: Tina Chang

CC: Supervisor Avalos
Ryan Clausnitzer, Department of Public Health

Dear San Francisco Planning Commission,

RE: Sparc SF

I'm writing you to let you know that I live near the Excelsior area and I support Sparc's application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission Street.

Sparc is very important to me because they not only have the medical cannabis for me, they also provide other services that benefit my health. They also provide information for other places that provide long term health benefits elsewhere.

I love many things about Sparc and their services. Such as, the staff are very friendly and professional. The many services that they offer are massage, game night, acupuncture. Many places do offer these same services, but it not done in privacy. They have calendars on hand in case people don't have access to a computer

Sometimes I wish it was another Sparc that was closer to me and my community. There should be another Sparc that would offer the same benefits and services. It would not just help me, but many people in the community. There are many of us in the Excelsior that are unable to get to Sparc and have to settle for other medical cannabis dispensaries that don't offer the same services. So I ask you to please approve this dispensary.

Demece Shepard
77 Northridge Road
San Francisco, CA 94124

“There are many of us in the Excelsior that are unable to get to SPARC and have to settle for other medical cannabis dispensaries that can't offer the same services.”

Demece Shepard
Excelsior Resident

Dear San Francisco Planning Commission,

RE: SPARC's application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission Street.

I'm writing as a constituent living near 5420 Mission Street, and I'm writing you to express my support of SPARC's application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission Street in the Excelsior area.

I support SPARC because they take care of all my medical needs. They provide me with a safer form of medication than that I could get from a pharmacy. I love SPARC but it is sometimes difficult for me to get down town. Having a SPARC in my neighborhood would make for a healthier, and happy me.

Not to mention, SPARC already has a dispensary at 1256 Mission Street where they have an excellent track record for safety, and improving the community in which they're in. SPARC's staff has been friendly, helpful and professional. I want this in my community!

Having a SPARC location near me will preserve and enhance my neighborhoods cultural and economic diversity. It will add to the available service profile of my neighborhood, not only through cannabis for qualified patients like me, but in offering alternative treatment services at low-to-no cost. Moreover filling a vacant store front improves the neighborhood vitality by bringing added foot traffic to a neighborhood.

I live in the area nearby, being able to shop in my neighborhood will save time and help reduce traffic. Other benefits include better access to medication, increased safety, and added foot traffic for the neighborhood.

Please approve this dispensary.

Evan Derheim

1454 Cortland Ave
San Francisco, CA 94110



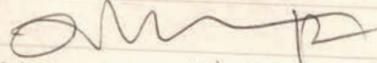
Having a SPARC location near me will preserve and enhance my neighborhood's cultural and economic diversity. It will add to the available service profile of my neighborhood, not only through cannabis for qualified patients like me, but in offering alternative treatment services at low-to-no cost.

Evan Derheim
Excelsior Resident

Dear San Francisco Planning Commission

I am writing in regards to SPARC's application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission Street. I currently live at 279 Teddy Ave which is a residential area. It is very hard to commute on the bus to make it all the way downtown SF. If I have to commute early on a weekday it tends to be very crowded on the streets and on the bus. Although there are other dispensaries around my neighborhood SPARC's is one of a kind. The staff are really friendly I feel welcomed every trip. Another thing SPARC's has a wide variety of strains that other clubs don't have in my medical case I really like indica a lot of times other dispensaries don't have. If SPARC's was in my area I wouldn't have to go out my way just to feel better throughout the day. I live ~~in~~ this area and ~~it~~ I need a medical dispensary

like SPARC's here. There are not
many ~~other~~ dispensaries like SPARC's.
Please approve this dispensary for the
better of the herbal community. My name
is Ayauwa Hightower, once again I live
at 27a Teedy ave. 94137 San Francisco CA
I truly believe that SPARC deserves to open
a new ~~locating~~ location

thank you
 7/2/14
Ayauwa Hightower

**“Although there are other
dispensaries around my
neighborhood, SPARC is
one-of-a-kind... I need a model
dispensary like SPARC here.”**

Ayauwa Hightower
Excelsior Resident

Dear San Francisco Planning Commission,

CINDY WU - *Commission President*
RODNEY FONG - *Commission Vice-President*
MICHAEL J. ANTONINI - *Commissioner*
GWYNETH BORDEN - *Commissioner*
RICH HILLIS - *Commissioner*
KATHRIN MOORE - *Commissioner*
HISASHI SUGAYA - *Commissioner*

Hello,

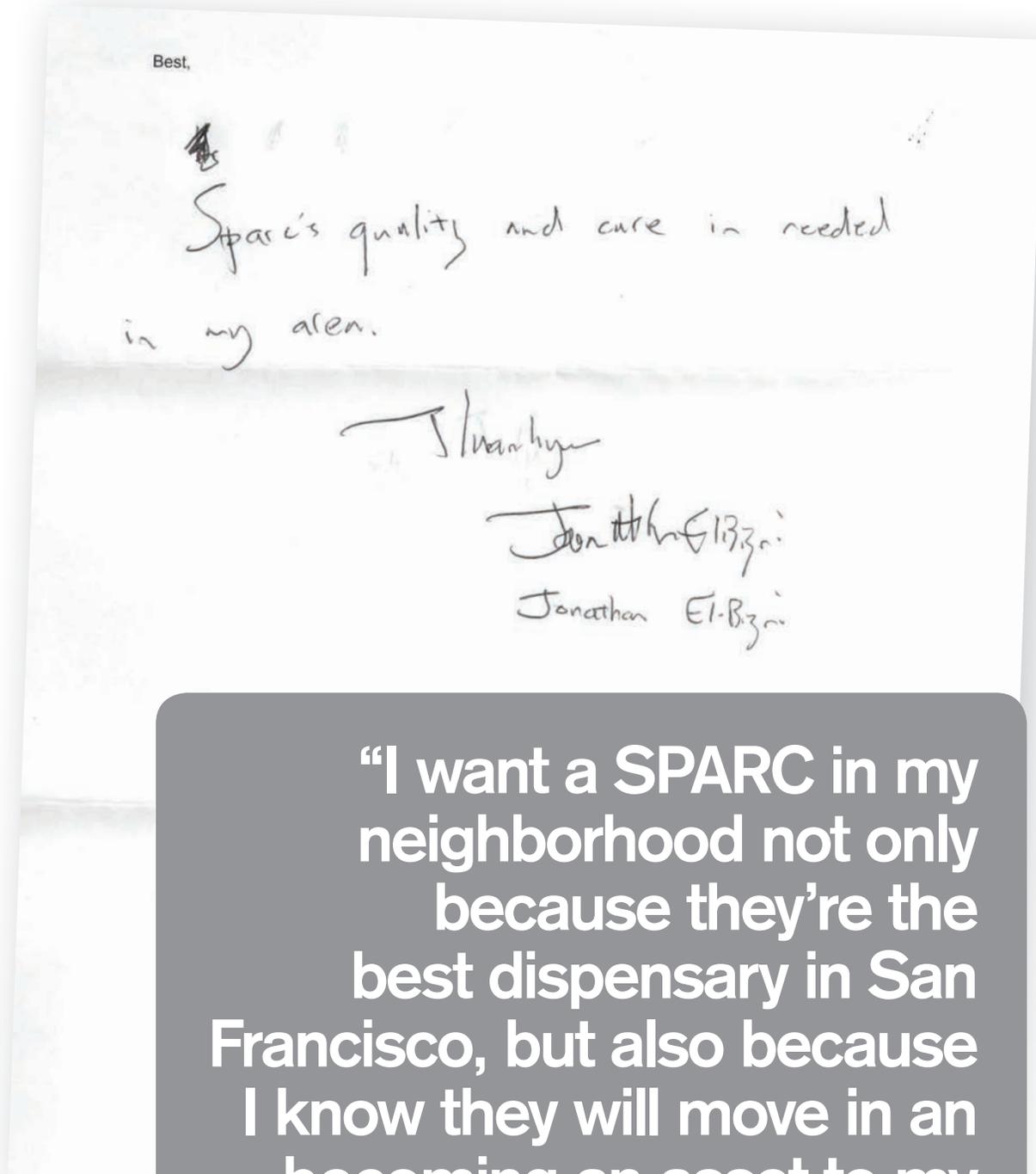
My name is Jonathan El-Bizri. I'm writing as a constituent living in the Excelsior area, and close to the proposed location. As such, I believe I should have some say as to what goes on in my community. I'm writing this letter to express my support of SPARC's application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission Street.

I think SPARC is a model dispensary. They have an upscale modern designed location currently, and from what I've learned, they will be adding a similar location at 5420 Mission Street. As a member of that community, I can tell you first hand, I want a SPARC in my neighborhood not only because they're the best dispensary in San Francisco, but also because I know they will move in an becoming an asset to my community in many ways. Not only filling a vacant store front, providing good jobs for locals, expanding safe access to patients, but also by becoming a community partner like they are at their current location in SoMa.

SPARC is known by many as the model dispensary, and it shows. From what I can tell when I visit their 1256 location, they keep their area safe and clean, helping the entire block in which they're located. SoMa isn't always a safe and clean place to be, but it is when I'm near SPARC. They work hard to keep it that way, and their commitment to this work shows. I want this in my neighborhood.

Having a SPARC location near me will preserve and enhance my neighborhoods cultural and economic diversity. It will add to the available service profile of my neighborhood, not only through cannabis for qualified patients like me, but in offering alternative treatment services at low-to-no cost. Moreover filling a vacant store front improves the neighborhood vitality by bringing added foot traffic to a neighborhood.

I live in the community that would benefit from having a SPARC location, and I humbly ask you to approve their application.



“I want a SPARC in my neighborhood not only because they’re the best dispensary in San Francisco, but also because I know they will move in and become an asset to my community in many ways.

Jonathan El-Bizri
Excelsior Resident

San Francisco Planning Commission
C/O Tina Chang
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94103

CC: Supervisor Avalos
Ryan Clausnitzer, Department of Public Health

Kenneth Bok

Dear San Francisco Planning Commission,

RE: SPARC's application to operate an MCD at 5420 Mission Street.

I'm writing to express my support for SPARC's application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission Street:

As a resident of the Excelsior area, I think SPARC will be a great addition to my neighborhood. They don't only offer cannabis to qualified patients, but they also offer acupuncture, meditation, and group classes, and so much more for people in need. And all for free! It truly is a non-profit. This is exactly what a medical cannabis dispensary should be like.

I think we should reward medical cannabis operators who uphold the word and spirit of the law and go out of their way to improve the community in which they're in. SPARC is a great dispensary, and would serve as a good example for other dispensaries already in operation in the Excelsior area.

When I come into SPARC, I see a professional, modern, safe, and secure retail facility. Their safety team and staff are nice and professional. Even looking at the building from outside, you can see how SPARC has worked to keep their area clean and clear even in a not-so-clean part of SoMA.

I would like a SPARC in my neighborhood so that I have increased access to my medical cannabis, but also because I truly think it will help get other operators in line, as well as occupy an open storefront with a great non-profit that cares about the community.

I humbly ask your approval of this dispensary, as a tax payer, a constituent, a SPARC member, and as a neighbor to the proposed location area.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Bok
85 Melba Ave
San Francisco
CA 94132

“As a resident of the Excelsior area, I think SPARC will be a great addition to my neighborhood... It truly is a non-profit. This is exactly what a medical cannabis dispensary should be like.”

Kenneth Bok
Excelsior Resident

Dear SF Planning Commission,

re: SPARC's application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission Street

I currently live in the excelsior area and support the opening of a new dispensary.

I love the way sparc is run, I suffer from terrible anxiety and its nice to be able to go to a place that is so friendly and helpful. I currently travel downtown to the sparc location but it would be amazing to have one closer to home. I also feel as though sparc is more upscale and fullfills all my needs as a patient. This is the only dispensary I feel comfortable using and it would be great to have another location. Thank you so much

- Darienne Dow

125 Cambon dr. San Francisco
CA 94132

“ I currently live in the Excelsior Area and support the opening of a new dispensary... this is the only dispensary I feel comfortable using.”

Darienne Dow
Excelsior Resident

San Francisco Planning Commission
C/O Tina Chang
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94103

CC: Supervisor Avalos
Ryan Clausnitzer, Department of Public Health

Jordan Toledo
1332 9th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94112

Dear San Francisco Planning Commission,

RE: SPARC's application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary in my neighborhood, at 5420 Mission Street.

I'm writing as a resident of the Excelsior area, living near 5420 Mission Street, and I'm writing you to express my support of SPARC's application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission Street.

I want a SPARC in my neighborhood because:

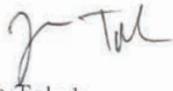
First, it will add to the available service profile of my neighborhood, not only through cannabis for qualified patients like me, but in offering alternative treatment services at low-to-no cost. They offer acupuncture, meditation, and group classes for people in need. This is great for the community. Moreover filling a vacant store front improves the neighborhood vitality by bringing added foot traffic to a neighborhood, which I know my neighborhood could use.

Second, SPARC already has a dispensary at 1256 Mission Street where they have an excellent track record for safety, and improving the community in which they're in. SPARC's staff has been friendly, helpful and professional. I trust them to be the model dispensary, and they have demonstrated that they are committed to improving the community through their various neighborhood organization involvement, their donations to community projects. Moreover, their safety team is nice and professional, and keep the entire block here clean and safe, something I wish to see in my neighborhood. It's important to approve the good dispensaries, and not limit the ability of this model dispensary to show to way for other dispensaries in the Bay Area.

I live in the area that would benefit from having a SPARC location nearby, being able to shop in my neighborhood will save me time and help reduce traffic from people like me. Traffic and parking problems are ones I think the Planning Commission would be greatly interested in seeing resolved in some way. Having a SPARC location in my neighborhood would help solve that problem.

I ask that you approve this dispensary for patients like me, and for the betterment of my neighborhood.

Best,



Jordan Toledo

I live in the area that would benefit from having a SPARC location nearby...I ask that you approve this dispensary for patients like me, and for the betterment of my neighborhood.

Jordan Toledo
Excelsior Resident

FEAR SF PLANNING COMMISSION
RE: SPARC'S APPLICATION
I LIVE AT 46 TINGLEY ST IN THE EXCELSIOR
THIS NEIGHBORHOOD IS VERY BADLY IN NEED OF SPARC
AS A MEDICAL MARIJUANA PATIENT. I FIND THAT
THE FEW CLINICS IN THIS AREA ARE NOT AS
COMMUNITY FRIENDLY SPARC.
BESIDES DISPENSING MEDICATION, SPARC HAS MANY OTHER
HEALTH SERVICES NOT PROVIDED BY OTHER CLINICS
SPARC WOULD BE A WELCOME ADDITION TO THE
AREA
PLEASE APPROVE THIS DISPENSARY
THANK YOU
JACK SALTZBERG
JSB
46 TINGLEY ST
SF CA 94112

“I live at 46 Tingley Street in the Excelsior. This neighborhood is very badly in need of SPARC. As a medical marijuana patient, I find that the few clinics in this area are not as community friendly as SPARC.”

Jack Saltzberg
Excelsior Resident

07/07/14

Dear San Francisco Planning Commission,

RE: Sparc's application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission St.

I live in the Excelsior area and I urge you to approve their permit. Sparc is such a great and friendly environment to go to and be educated on medical marijuana. They offer so many different healing services such as acupuncture, meditation, massages and group wellness classes. I've been to many dispensaries and none have alternate healing services.

Living in the Excelsior and having a medical marijuana card for my joint and knee pain it is difficult to get high quality medical marijuana. Being that there ~~isn't~~ many dispensaries in that area with ~~aren't~~ high quality marijuana, like SPARC ~~SPARC~~ With Sparc being in the Excelsior it'll be easier for me to get to and ~~with~~ having their high quality marijuana ~~that~~ that helps my pain.

Sparc is the only dispensary in California to house an on-site lab to screen medical cannabis for harmful pathogens such as mold, fungus and pesticides. This is very important for all patients not to be exposed to fungus. I feel this makes SPARC stand out above the other SF dispensaries.

Thank you for your consideration and I urge you to approve this permit to SPARC SF.

~~Sincerely,~~ Sincerely,
Savannah monet williams
211 Edinburgh street
SF, CA 94112

“They offer so many different healing services such as acupuncture, meditation, massages and group wellness classes. I’ve been to many dispensaries and none have alternative healing services.”

Savannah Williams
Excelsior Resident

San Francisco Planning Commission
 ATTN: Tina Chang
 1650 Mission St., Ste 400
 SF, CA 94103

cc: Supervisor Avalos
 Ryan Clausnitzer, Dept. of Public Health.

Dear San Francisco Planning Commission,

Re: Sparc SF

I live in the Excelsior area and I support SPARC's application to operate a cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission St.

I urge you to approve their permit. SPARC is the very best dispensary in San Francisco. It is modern, upscale and inspiring. They are the model of what a dispensary should be.

It would help me a lot to ~~to~~ have them closer to where I live.

Please approve this dispensary.

Sincerely,

Debra McDonald
 Debra McDonald
 755 Anderson St.
 SF, CA 94110

“I live in the Excelsior area, and I support SPARC’s application to operate at 5420 Mission Street.”

Debra McDonald
 Excelsior Resident

Dear San Francisco Planning Commission,

Hello my name is Jess and I am writing regarding SPARC's application to operate a medical dispensary at 5420 Mission St. I live at 201 Santa Rosa 94112. Sparc is important to me because it provides a healthy alternative to smoking through their Vapor Lounge as well as a safe space to medicate. In addition, the massage and yoga services they provide affordable options to take care of my injuries and chronic illness problems. I appreciate how friendly and supportive the community and staff is and my mental and physical health has improved due to SPARC's contribution. Currently, I visit SPARC weekly as I work in the area. To have this in my neighborhood would be such a great addition. ~~to my neighborhood~~ There are many people, including me, whose health will benefit from such a move. Thank you for your consideration!


 (Jessica Leigh Espinoza)

“I live at 201 Santa Rosa... my mental and physical health has improved due to SPARC.”

Jessica Espinoza
 -Excelsior Resident

Dear San Francisco Planning
Commission,

RE: SPARC'S application to
operate a medical cannabis
dispensary at 5420 Mission Street

Sparc SF is one of the few
dispensaries that have high-CBD,
topicals and a variety of pain
and other ailment-healing
medicine. As an ex-collegiate
rower, I suffer from a slipped
disc in my neck, recurring
muscle spasms, and neck/back
pain. I also was recently
diagnosed with PTSD. Sparc
is one of the few places
with the range of products
to treat and heal my
illnesses, including stomach
problems, w/ nausea and
appetite.

Additionally, Sparc
is the most professional club
I am part of. They treat
each patient with dignity and

kindness, as well as providing a nice facility to comfortably medicate in. Sometimes I come to sparc when I am having a bad day, ^{and} need to think the relaxed atmosphere provides a place for me to think through my problems write, read, whatever I need to do.

Unfortunately sparc is a long bus ride from my home in the Excelsior district limiting my access to healing at sparc. Some weeks I miss attending acupuncture or massage appointments at sparc because it's so far away. As a working student, I really need a dispensary in my area. Please approve a sparc in the Excelsior!

With regards,
 Lorraine Arriola
 451 Vienna St.
 San Francisco, CA 94112

“Please approve a SPARC in my area!”

Lorraine Arriola
 Excelsior Resident

SF, CA 94103

JULY 2, 2014

TO: San Francisco Planning Commission
 RE: SPARC's application to operate a
 medical cannabis dispensary at 220
 Mission St.

Dear Tina Chang,

I am a resident of the Mission district and frequent SPARC's current location in SOMA. SPARC is unlike any other dispensary that I have gone to. It is clean, user friendly, the staff is extremely knowledgeable and they have a huge inventory.

I have a chronic pain condition (fibromyalgia) which is greatly relieved by cannabis, especially CBD. SPARC has a big selection of products containing CBD. Having another location closer to home would help ~~me~~ greatly, as travel is hard for me.

Please consider this application favorably. Approving it would improve life for many - including myself.

Thank you,

Maggie Francisco

2818 21st ST, SF 94118

cc: Supervisor Avalos

Ronan Clausen, DPH

“I have a chronic pain condition (fibromyalgia) which is greatly relieved by cannabis, especially CBD. SPARC has a big selection of products containing CBD. Having a SPARC closer to home would help me greatly.”

Maggie Francisco
Excelsior Resident

JULY 1, 2014

DEAR SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING COMMISSION,

I LIVE AT 175 ROBIN HOOD DRIVE AND AM WRITING YOU IN REGARDS TO THE MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARY SPARC'S APPLICATION TO OPERATE A MEDICAL CANNABIS DISPENSARY AT 5420 MISSION STREET.

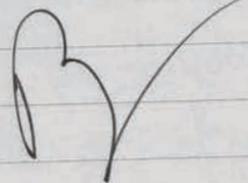
I LIVE IN THIS AREA AND HAVE TO TRAVEL TO FAR DISTANCES TO GET TO SPARC. SPARC IS A MODEL DISPENSARY THAT PROVIDES NOT JUST MEDICAL MARIJUANA THAT I NEED FOR MY PAIN MANAGEMENT, BUT SERVICES SUCH AS MASSAGE THERAPY COMPLIMENT AND PROVIDE ME WITH TOTAL WELLNESS.

IN CLOSING, PLEASE CONSIDER APPROVING THIS DISPENSARY AT THIS LOCATION.

SINCERELY,

PHONG T. LUONG

175 ROBINHOOD DR.



“SPARC is a model dispensary that provides not just medical marijuana that I need for my pain management, but services such as massage therapy that provide me with total wellness.”

Phong Luong
Excelsior Resident

Dear San Francisco Planning Commission
RE: SPARC's application to operate a
medical cannabis dispensary @ 5420
Mission Street

I am writing to let you know
that I live in the Excelsior/Portugal
District and I strongly support
SPARC application to operate
a medical cannabis dispensary
@ 5420 Mission Street.

I urge you to approve their permit.
Please allow me to tell you why
approving Sparc permit to operate
would be great for me, patients
like me, and my community.

Sparc is very clean very
professional, it is a upscale dispensary.
Their product is high quality
and they offer alternative healing
services such as acupuncture
meditation chair massage &
group wellness classes. No
other dispensaries does this and
it is very important to me.

San Francisco should be proud to have Sparc running in there city the goal an mission is so important.

I go to sparc due to carpal tunnel surgery I had two years ago the pains the Doc wanted me to take pain pills for over a year to sleep & be able to work. SPARC has helped ~~to~~ me not want to relidge on this medication. They have alternative med than pain pills that people can get addicted to very fast.

Thank you
T Wright
279 Goettingen St
SF CA 94134.

**“I live in the Excelsior District,
and I strongly support
SPARC’s application...”**

T Wright
Excelsior Resident

San Francisco Planning Commission
c/o Tina Chang
1650 Mission Street, Ste. 400
San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Tina Chang of the SF Planning Commission.

My name is Kelly Sundin and I live at 2818 21st Street in the Mission District. I have recently heard that SPARC has applied to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission Street. I am very much in support of this application as I am a lifelong SF resident and a resident of the area where the proposed dispensary would operate.

SPARC provides a clean, professional, intelligent, compassionate and knowledgeable environment for me to visit when I need to access medication. The staff and management are respectful, the culture focuses on wellness, advocacy and safety and I currently travel far to go to SPARC, even though there are many other options. Their classes, workshops, health information and educational services are deeply appreciated and very helpful.

SPARC emphasizes healing and provides laboratory tested medicine, that empowers members to learn about what properties work best for their diagnosis.

My chronic back pain, PTSD and depression are much better when I use SPARC's services.

Please approve the application for this dispensary, which would make SPARC more accessible to my home.

Thank you,
Kelly Sundin

“SPARC emphasizes healing and provides laboratory tested medicine that empowers member to learn about what properties work best for their diagnosis. My chronic back pain, PTSD and depression are much better when I use SPARC’s services.”

Kelly Sundin
Mission District Resident

San Francisco planning Commission

Attn: Tina Chang

1650 Mission Street, Suite 400

San Francisco, CA 94103

cc: Supervisor Avalos

Ryan Clausnitzer, Department of Public Health

Dear San Francisco Planning Commission

RE: Sparc SF

I'm writing to let you know that I live in the Excelsior area and I support Sparc's application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission Street.

I live in the Excelsior area, and I urge you to approve their permit. Please allow me to tell you why approving Sparc's permit to operate would be great for me, patients like me, and my community.

Sparc is important to me because

of the great services they offer. I like how I am treated when I walk into the door. The staff is very nice to me. They greet me with a hi and good evening every time I come. They have great prices in town. Sparc coming to my area is great to me because it is closer to me I would have to always come down to 1256 mission street. I can go to both because I can handle my business also. I would really love if you guys can approve this dispensary my name is michelle peevy and I live at 261 farallones st San Francisco 94112

“I like how I am treated...SPARC coming to town is great to me because it is closer.”

Michelle Peevy
Outer Mission Resident

To whom this may concern,

6/27/14

I'm a resident living in the Mission. I come to SPARC because of the care & quality they put into building an ecosystem that isn't just about providing medicine. SPARC has comprehensive services that help me treat my medical conditions outside of medicine. It is also not always easy coming to the Mission so locations. By opening a second location SPARC could not only serve myself but others. Please consider SPARC proposal to open a second location.

All the best,
Brian B., 94110

“SPARC has comprehensive services that help me treat my medical conditions outside of medicine.”

Brian B.
Mission Resident

7/11/14
Dear San Francisco Planning Commission,

In regards to SPARC's application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission St., I am writing to offer my support.

Without going into my specific medical condition, I will say that the knowledgeable, well trained staff have been exceedingly helpful in helping me choose the correct medication(s) for my chronic condition.

I think their new location in the Excelsior District would be beneficial to the community. Less travel time for patients there and in surrounding neighborhoods would be ideal (and I suspect parking, for those who drive) would be easier, too.

I've lived in my Mission District home for 19 years, and would like to offer my full support of this endeavor.

Thank you for your
consideration.

Sincerely,

Jocelyn Wicker
255 SAN CARLOS ST.
SAN FRANCISCO, CA
94110

“I’ve lived in my Mission District home for 19 years, and would like to offer my full support of this endeavor.”

Jocelyn Wicker
Mission District Resident

Dear San Francisco planning Commission,

In my experience Sparc is more than a medicinal dispensary. It is a place where I can not only receive high quality & low cost medication. But, a place where I can go to congregate with fellow patients at a comfortable environment & friendly staff. I think its amazing that Sparc has free acupuncture for its members! It is very well run and seems very organized.

I feel Sparc would be an amazing addition to the excelsior area. Sparc creates a sense of community, something that is really needed in the excelsior. Sparc is a comfortable, safe, and ~~carrying~~ dispensary. ~~It is important to me that in Sparc goes abo~~

I Nod Andrade ask the planning commission to approve a 2nd Sparc location in my neighborhood. I live at 122 Athens St SF CA 94112 and look forward to having Sparc closer to home

“I think it’s amazing SPARC has free acupuncture for its members!”

Nod Aridrade
Local Resident

CINDY WU - *Commission President*
 RODNEY FONG - *Commission Vice-President*
 MICHAEL J. ANTONINI - *Commissioner*
 GWYNETH BORDEN - *Commissioner*
 RICH HILLIS - *Commissioner*
 KATHRIN MOORE - *Commissioner*
 HISASHI SUGAYA - *Commissioner*

Dear San Francisco Planning Commission,

RE: SPARC's application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission Street.

I'm writing as a constituent living near 5420 Mission Street, and I'm writing you to express my support of SPARC's application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission Street in the Excelsior area.

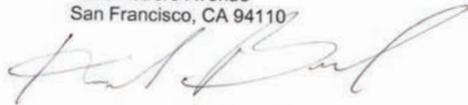
SPARC is a non-profit organization, and as a patient and member of SPARC, I'm grateful for the multitude of services they provide the community. SPARC already has a dispensary at 1256 Mission Street where they have an excellent track record for safety, and improving the community in which they're in. SPARC's staff has been friendly, helpful and professional. They're known by many as the model dispensary, and they have demonstrated that they are committed to improving the community through their various neighborhood organization involvement, their donations to community projects, and by providing services at low-to-no cost. However, the current SPARC location is about a 25minutes bus ride from my current location - which is not a bad commute but can be extremely uncomfortable on days when I am in pain and need my medication ASAP.

Having a SPARC location near me will preserve and enhance my neighborhoods cultural and economic diversity. It will add to the available service profile of my neighborhood - which is currently very limited - not only through cannabis for qualified patients like me, but in offering alternative treatment services at low-to-no cost. All of the current Cannabis Clubs in my area do not offer the alternative services that SPARC does-like acupuncture and yoga. Moreover filling a vacant store front improves the neighborhood vitality by bringing added foot traffic to my neighborhood.

I live in the area that would benefit from having a SPARC location nearby, being able to shop in my neighborhood will save time, help reduce traffic and help me get my medication with ease.. Other benefits include better access to medication, increased safety, and added foot traffic for the neighborhood.

I humbly ask that you approve this dispensary.

Amrit Dhaliwal & Karl Bracy
 1243 Potrero Avenue
 San Francisco, CA 94110



June 27, 2014



6/27/2014

“SPARC has been a great neighbor to me and my business, and I’m positive they will continue to be a good neighbor to other businesses in the Excelsior area.”

Amrit Dhaliwal & Kari Bracy
 Local Residents

San Francisco Planning Commission
ATTN: Tina Chung
1650 Mission St. Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94103

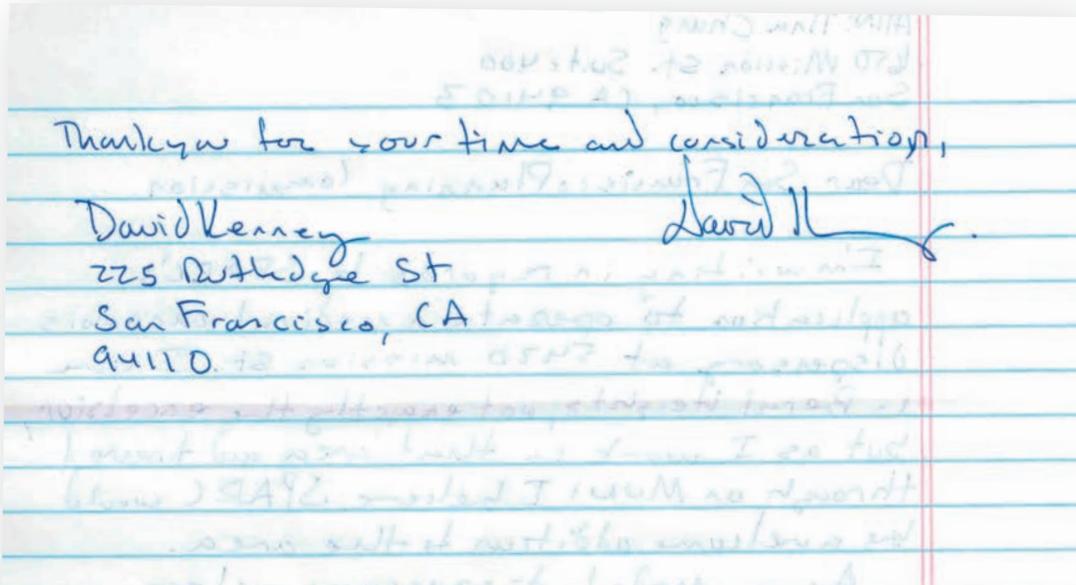
Dear San Francisco Planning Commission,

I'm writing in regards to SPARC's application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission St. I live in Bernal Heights, not exactly the exclusion, but as I work in that area and travel through on MUNI I believe SPARC would be a welcome addition to the area.

As a model dispensary - clean, well lit, staffed with knowledgeable, genuinely nice people SPARC would help continue or ignite the economic recovery of the area. Upstanding, well run businesses should be fostered in the city, SPARC is one of those businesses.

Moving forward with MCD's in San Francisco can be tricky. I encourage you to prioritize MCD's that are committed to high standards, patient services, member support and above all safety and a commitment to the community. SPARC is your best model.

I urge you to grant SPARC a second permit



“I encourage you to prioritize MCDs that are committed to high standards, patient services, member support, and above all safety and commitment to community. SPARC is your best model.”

David Kenney
Local Resident

CINDY WU - Commission President
 RODNEY FONG - Commission Vice-President
 MICHAEL J. ANTONINI - Commissioner
 GWYNETH BORDEN - Commissioner
 RICH HILLIS - Commissioner
 KATHRIN MOORE - Commissioner
 HISASHI SUGAYA - Commissioner

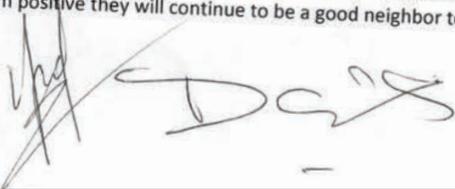
Dear San Francisco Planning Commission,

I'm writing to express my support for SPARC's application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission Street.

I'm the owner of Coffee Mine Café, 79 9th Street in San Francisco. My business is located around the corner from SPARC. From what I have observed, SPARC's safety team helps to monitor the neighborhood, helps keep the area clean and provides added eyes in the community, which helps to reduce criminal activity and improves the safety and security around our businesses and in our neighborhood.

SPARC's employees patron my restaurant often, they are both kind and professional. SPARC has been a great neighbor to me and my business, and I'm positive they will continue to be a good neighbor to other businesses in the Excelsior area.

Thank you,



“My business is around the corner from SPARC... SPARC’s safety team helps to monitor the neighborhood, helps keep the area clean, and improves the safety and security around our businesses and in our neighborhood.”

Coffee Mine Owner
 Current business neighbor

CINDY WU - *Commission President*
RODNEY FONG - *Commission Vice-President*
MICHAEL J. ANTONINI - *Commissioner*
GWYNETH BORDEN - *Commissioner*
RICH HILLIS - *Commissioner*
KATHRIN MOORE - *Commissioner*
HISASHI SUGAYA - *Commissioner*

Dear San Francisco Planning Commission,

I'm writing to express my support for SPARC's application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission Street.

I'm the owner of San Francisco Pizza Cafe, at 1270 Mission Street. My business shares Laskie St., an alley just off of Mission, with SPARC. SPARC has done an excellent job of trying to keep this alley clear of debris, safe for pedestrians, and clean by sweeping and hosing down their sidewalks and curbs. SPARC has also added improved night time lighting. Moreover SPARC's safety team attempts to monitor the entire alley daily, providing added eyes in the community which helps to reduce criminal activity and improves the safety and security around our businesses and in our neighborhood.

SPARC's employees patron my restaurant often, they are both kind and professional. SPARC has been a great neighbor to me and my business, and I'm positive they will continue to be a good neighbor to other businesses in the Excelsior area.

Thank you,

Adnan Awadalla



“SPARC has been a great neighbor to me and my business, and I’m positive they will continue to be a good neighbor to other businesses in the Excelsior area.”

Adnan Awadalla
Neighbor of Three Years / Business Owner

Dear San Francisco Planning Commission,

RE: SPARC's application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission St,

I live on 41 Sears St. and a SPARC in my community will be a great benefit to me. SPARC is the most well maintained dispensaries I have ever encountered. Their medication and their employees are incredibly knowledgeable and help me with my depression. Their facilities are pristine and their multitude of services hold many benefits. I live in this area, and I want a model dispensary like SPARC here.

Please Approve this ~~dis~~ dispensary
-Anthony Holt, 41 Sears St,

**“I live at 41 Sears Street,
and a SPARC in my
community will be a great
benefit to me.”**

Anthony Holt
Outer Mission Resident

CINDY WU - *Commission President*
RODNEY FONG - *Commission Vice-President*
MICHAEL J. ANTONINI - *Commissioner*
GWYNETH BORDEN - *Commissioner*
RICH HILLIS - *Commissioner*
KATHRIN MOORE - *Commissioner*
HISASHI SUGAYA - *Commissioner*

Dear San Francisco Planning Commissioners:

RE: SPARC's application to operate an MCD at 5420 Mission Street, near me.

I'm writing as a constituent living in San Francisco to express my support of SPARC's application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission Street in the Excelsior area.

SPARC is a non-profit organization, and as a patient and member of SPARC, I'm grateful for the multitude of services they provide the community. SPARC already has a dispensary at 1256 Mission Street where they have an excellent track record for safety, and improving the community in which they're in. SPARC's staff has been friendly, helpful and professional. They're known by many as the model dispensary, and they have demonstrated that they are committed to member care.

SPARC is the only dispensary in California to house an on-site laboratory to screen medical cannabis for harmful pathogens such as mold, fungus and pesticides. This is particularly important for immune-suppressed patients who cannot afford to be exposed to fungus or bacteria that are not controlled for in the present system of producing medical cannabis. This is something very unique that only SPARC offers, and that's why I want it in my neighborhood.

More than 12 years after the passage of Proposition 215, California's medical cannabis laws have matured and dispensaries have become the predominant means for patients to obtain medical cannabis. It is vital that we reward dispensary operators who are dedicated to patients as people, not simply as customers. The SPARC model is unique in its commitment to patient safety, services and advocacy. This project should serve as a model for dispensaries in the Bay Area and around the state.

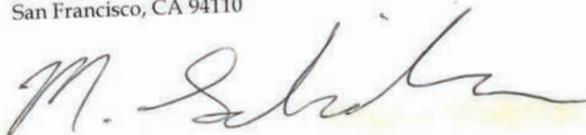
Having a SPARC location near me will preserve and enhance my neighborhoods cultural and economic diversity. It will add to the available service profile of my neighborhood, not only through cannabis for qualified patients like me, but in offering alternative treatment services at low-to-no cost. Moreover filling a vacant store front improves the neighborhood vitality by bringing added foot traffic to a neighborhood.

I live in the area that would benefit from having a SPARC location nearby, being able to shop in my neighborhood will save time and help reduce traffic. Other benefits include better access to medication, increased safety, and added foot traffic for the neighborhood.

Please approve this dispensary.

Sincerely,

Marine Schneider
383-A San Jose Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94110



“It is vital that we reward dispensary operators who are dedicated to patients as people, not simply as customers. The SPARC model is unique in its commitment to patient safety, services and advocacy. This project should serve as a model for dispensaries in the Bay Area and around the state.

Marnie Schneider
Outer Mission Resident

San Francisco Planning Commission

c/of Tina Chang

Dear San Francisco Planning Commission:

As a constituent living in San Francisco, I am asking you to support SPARC's application for operation of a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission Street in the Excelsior district.

I have been a member of SPARC's Compassionate Access program for the past nine years. Through the program I have been a recipient of free medical marijuana and their free delivery program. I could not afford such medicine without their resources and compassion. I have received it while a patient at Maitri's respite and hospice program and while living at the Richard Cohen Residence free of any charge or other obligation such as a delivery fee. For some of the time I have been bedridden and continue to have difficult mobility problems. Unfortunately, due to the mobility problems, I have not used their social programs as effectively as they offer, which has been a great boost to many of their clients.

Currently, I receive SPARC's care through their wheelchair and easily accessible location at 1256 Mission Street. I have found their operation to be very reliable, clean, safe and friendly as well as professional. SPARC has shown through the years to be committed to improving the HIV and other disabled or suffering community through their no-cost products and service to me.

I strongly urge The San Francisco Planning Commission to approve APAR's application for a new dispensary on 5420 Mission Street in the city.

Yours truly,

John Earl Spencer

14 JUL 20014

I have been a member of SPARC's Compassionate Access program for the past nine years. Through the program I have been a recipient of free medical marijuana and their free delivery program. I could not afford such medicine without their resources and compassion. I have received it while a patient at Maitri's respite and hospice program and while living at the Richard Cohen Residence free of any charge or other obligation such as a delivery fee.

John Earl Spencer
Compassion Member

Mary Ann Daniel
1202 Haight Street #12
San Francisco, CA 94117

July 10, 2014

San Francisco Planning Commission
Care of Tina Chang
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear San Francisco Planning Commission:

I have been severely disabled with osteoarthritis and other conditions for 35 years. I am a UCSF patient and cannabis is considered an essential part of my pain management program.

I am very grateful to SPARC for providing compassionate access and free delivery of my medicine. The cost and mobility needed for me to obtain cannabis would be prohibitive. SPARC has stepped up to help me deal with my health problems for many years. In addition, I have access to SPARC's services and social events. I have found the staff to be thoroughly professional and helpful in every way.

I would like to see SPARC expand its services in our fair city, and urge you to approve SPARC's application for a new dispensary at 5420 Mission Street.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Daniel

Mary Ann Daniel

“I have been severely disabled with osteoarthritis and other conditions for 35 years. I am a UCSF patient and cannabis is considered an essential part of my pain management program. I am very grateful to SPARC for providing compassionate access and free delivery of my medicine.”

Mary Ann Daniel
UCSF Patient

John Camp

July 2, 2014

San Francisco Planning Commission
 Care of Tina Chang
 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400
 San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear San Francisco Planning Commission,

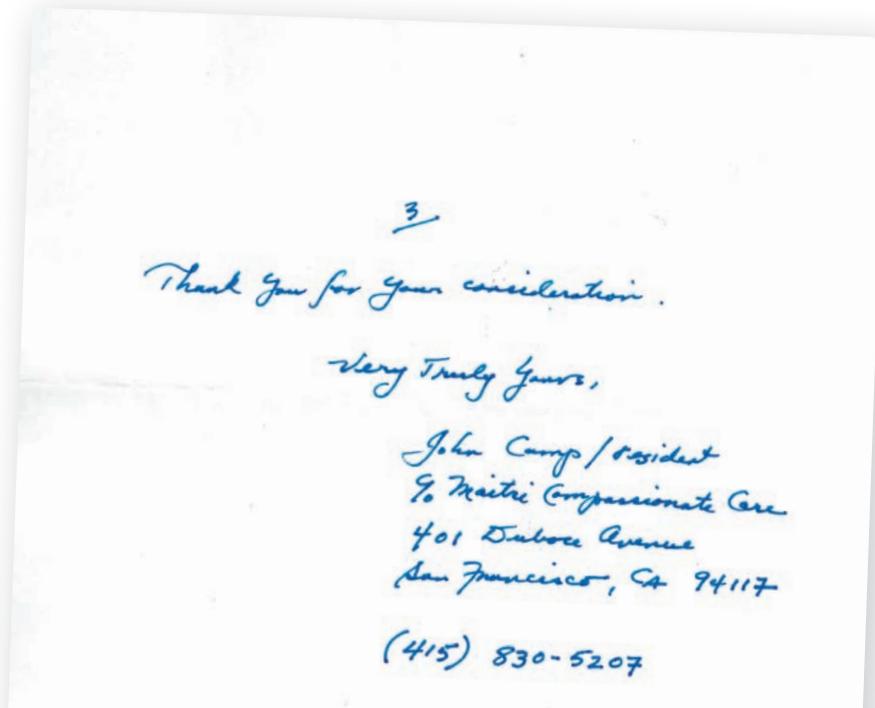
I am writing in support of SPARC's application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission Street in the Excelsior district.

I am a 66 year old gay man who was diagnosed with HIV over 30 years ago. As a long term survivor with chronic health issues, I have found medical marijuana is the most effective treatment for my nerve pain, nausea and other symptoms. Since becoming a SPARC member a few years ago, it is now the only dispensary of access in the city. SPARC's staff are friendly, helpful and most importantly astute in knowing each and every product they sell.

2

As a recent ^{resident} recipient at Maitri, I have also benefited from its partnership with SPARC receiving medical marijuana, delivery of products to my room and face to face counsel with a knowledgeable SPARC representative all free of charge. In addition, SPARC has demonstrated again & again its commitment to improving the community. Through SPARC's philanthropic efforts with other non-profits, like Maitri, they have added to the quality of life for countless individuals, particularly the poor, homebound and dying. It's truly compassionate care at its best.

When I have gone to SPARC, I have always felt safe, looked after and always greeted with a smile. I strongly urge you to approve SPARC's application for a new dispensary at 5420 Mission Street, so that more San Francisco residents have access to state of the art medical marijuana dispensation.



“I’m a 66 year-old gay man who was diagnosed with HIV over 50 years ago...as a recent resident at Maitri, I have benefited from its partnerships with SPARC by receiving medical marijuana delivery with a knowledgeable SPARC representative all free of charge. SPARC has demonstrated again and again its commitment to improving the community.”

John Camp
Resident, Maitri Compassionate Center

S.F. Planning Commission

I have been a member of SPARC for several years. I was approached by a SPARC worker when I was staying at Maitri Hospice on Duane Street. Well they delivered free medicine to me for several months. After I was released I eventually became a member of SPARC and continue today.

My everyday life wouldn't be the same, which I think is great even though of my medical condition, thanks to SPARC I am able to rest and work on my art and ~~today~~ relax which is ever so important for my health and well being.

Please consider helping SPARC grow in every way you can.

Bill Bowers
20 FRANKLIN #510

“When I was staying at Maitri Hospice (SPARC) delivered free medicine to me for several months.”

Bill Bowers
Maitri Hospice Resident



Marijuana Policy Project
 P.O. Box 77492
 Washington, DC 20013
 p: (202) 462-5747 • f: (202) 232-0442
 info@mpp.org • www.mpp.org

"We change laws."

August 12, 2014

Dear Planning Commissioners,

Established in 1995, the Marijuana Policy Project has been responsible for changing most of the state marijuana laws that have been reformed since 2000, including the legalization of marijuana in Colorado in November 2012. We are the largest organization in the U.S. that's focused solely on ending marijuana prohibition.

We have watched medical marijuana businesses evolve around the country, and we have seen the medical cannabis program in California go through a long and difficult history. Oakland, Berkeley and San Francisco stand above the rest with a proven track record regulating medical cannabis dispensaries (MCDs) through strong and sensible policies.

The San Francisco Patient and Resource Center (SPARC) is one MCD that we think deserves a gold star. During the last four years, SPARC has a proven track record of upholding several key principals. This non-profit organization offers a wide array of patient services, conducts member support and wellness groups, performs laboratory testing for quality and safety, offers high quality medicine, and has a commitment to provide free medical cannabis to qualified low-income patients.

The city's strong regulation and professional standards have lead to safer, consistent and affordable access to medical marijuana, and at the same time, created positive relations with in the community. San Francisco MCDs should be committed to competency, professionalism and compassion, and we feel that SPARC lives up to these standards.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Robinson
 Director of Development
 San Francisco, CA

Chris Lindsey
 Legislative Analyst
 Washington, DC

“This nonprofit organization offers a wide array of patient services, conducts member support and wellness groups, performs laboratory testing for quality and safety, offers high quality medicine, and has a commitment to provide free medical cannabis to qualified low-income patients...San Francisco MCDs should be committed to competency, professionalism and compassion, and we feel that SPARC lives up to these standards.”

Lindsey Robinson
Director of Development, Marijuana Policy Project

San Francisco Planning Commission
C/O: Tina Chang
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Planning Commissioners,

I'm writing to express my support for SPARC's application to operate a medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission Street. I have a rich history with SPARC. Their philanthropic endeavors continue to support causes I am proud to fight for.

Please consider their new applications for MCDs in San Francisco; I encourage you to prioritize projects that include several key features that indicate a commitment to high standards. These include an emphasis on a variety of patient services, including a number of member support groups, health and wellness classes, laboratory testing to guarantee the safety and quality of the medicine, and a commitment to supply medical cannabis for free to qualified low-income patients who cannot afford it.

SPARC does exactly that and I am proud to have them in our community.

Quality MCDs will keep San Francisco a leader in providing safe, affordable access to medical cannabis in a responsible way. That's what I want for my community – A model dispensary like SPARC.

Sincerely,

Juanita MORE!

CC:

Supervisor Avalos
Ryan Clausnitzer, Department of Public Health

“Quality MCDs will keep San Francisco a leader in providing safe, affordable access to medical cannabis in a responsible way. That’s what I want for my community – A model dispensary like SPARC.”

Juanita More
San Francisco LGTBQ Leader



August 8, 2014

RE: SPARC permit application at 5420 Mission Street, San Francisco

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of Americans for Safe Access (ASA), the nation's leading medical cannabis patients' advocacy organization, I would like to express my support for the San Francisco Patient Resource Center (SPARC) in their efforts to obtain a permit to operate a legal medical cannabis dispensary at 5420 Mission Street in San Francisco.

SPARC upholds both the letter and the spirit of California's medical cannabis law. Their existing location at 1256 Mission Street holds a permit from the County of San Francisco, and the organization has an exemplary track record there of complying with both state and local law. SPARC has also established a long track record of being a good neighbor and an asset to their neighborhood.

SPARC is committed to providing medicine to legal patients who use it to treat the symptoms of HIV/AIDS, cancer, Multiple Sclerosis, chronic pain, and other serious conditions. They have also demonstrated a proven commitment to quality of service and care for their members, as evidenced by their certification by ASA's Patient Focused Certification program this year.

I am certain that this organization will be a responsible and beneficial addition to the neighborhood. ASA supports their efforts without reservation.

Sincerely,

Don Duncan
California Director

**“SPARC upholds both
the letter and the
spirit of California’s
medical cannabis law.”**

DON DUNCAN
California Director,
Americans for Safe Access



THE
ARCVIEW
GROUP

169 Eleventh St. San Francisco, CA 94103 | (415) 506
4660 | www.ArcViewGroup.com

Dear Planning Commission,

As an 18 year veteran of the cannabis policy reform movement and a San Francisco resident, it gives me great pleasure to hear that SPARC is looking to open another one of their model medical cannabis dispensaries at 5420 Mission St.

I've been to cannabis dispensaries all over the country and know most of the top owners and I can say that Erich Pearson, Robert Jacob and the SPARC team is at the top and are true leaders for building a professional and compassionate cannabis industry. They do it right.

They are the perfect mix of creating a professional and award-winning retail experience for patients, while also offering a wide range of services to the local community.

San Francisco has done a great job of leading the way in regulating medical cannabis and the existence of an expanding SPARC is further evidence that the city is doing it right and creating a medical cannabis market that brings benefits to the community.

Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

Troy Dayton

Troy Dayton

Co-founder and CEO The ArcView Group (San Francisco)

Elected Board Member, Marijuana Policy Project

Founding Board Member, National Cannabis Industry Association

Co-founder, Students for Sensible Drug Policy

“I’ve been to cannabis dispensaries all over the country and know most of the top owners and I can say that Erich Pearson, Robert Jacob and the SPARC team are at the top and are true leaders for building a professional and compassionate cannabis industry. They do it right.”

Troy Dayton
The ArcView Group

Section III

Member Agreements



Member Agreement: Rules and Policies

v2.2

Medical cannabis is dispensed to patients and caregivers, hereafter referred to as “members”, in accordance with Health and Safety Code Section 11362.7 et seq. Physician recommendation or approval for use of medical cannabis (e.g., state identification cards) must be kept current at all times. Members are responsible for knowing when their recommendation or approval expires and submitting renewals or other new paperwork prior to said expiration. All recommendations and approvals, both initial and renewals, will be verified. Submission of false or intentionally misleading forms, documents, and/or records may be grounds for expulsion from SPARC, the San Francisco Patient and Resource Center, hereafter referred to as “the Collective”, and cancellation of membership. Medical cannabis obtained through the Collective is for personal medical use of members only, and may not be redistributed to any other person for any purpose. Such redistribution is grounds for expulsion from the Collective and cancellation of membership. Member hereby authorizes the Collective to use a copy of their state identification card or a copy of their doctor’s recommendation to support the Collective’s cultivation of medical cannabis. If member documentation is used to support cultivation, identifying information on a doctor’s recommendation will be deleted in order to protect patient privacy.

All members must be respectful and cognizant of other members, employees, and neighbors at all times. No abusive or offensive conduct, loitering, loud noise, or littering is allowed in the Collective facility. None of these activities are allowed in the vicinity of the Collective. Violation of this rule may be grounds for expulsion from the Collective and cancellation of membership. No medical cannabis may be smoked, ingested, or otherwise consumed in the public right of way within 50 feet of the Collective. Any member violating this provision may have their membership revoked. Only members may enter the dispensary. The member agrees to reimburse the Collective for actual cost of cultivation or acquisition of medical cannabis. In addition, each member agrees to contribute to the maintenance and expenses of the Collective. Maintenance and expenses of the Collective may include, but are not limited to, rent, salaries, insurance, utilities, social services, and expenses incurred by the Collective as a direct result of providing for the member’s medical needs.

The Collective reserves the right to suspend or rescind the membership of a member for any reason.

I hereby agree to the Collective’s above stated rules and policies.

Date
.....

Member Name (Printed)
.....

Member Name (Signature)
.....



Please read carefully and sign below.

Assistance is available on request.



San Francisco
Patient and
Resource Center

v1.6

**Members
Code of
Conduct**

SPARC Members Code of Conduct

SPARC believes that each member acts as an ambassador for our entire collective as well as the medical cannabis community. We strive to maintain a diverse collective membership and we do not discriminate based on race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, income, or national origin. We want our patients to feel cared for, safe, secure, to be recognized as important members of our community, and to leave our facility inspired and empowered to be a positive voice for medical cannabis.

SPARC is located in a dynamic area and we hope to be a positive influence in our community. SPARC developed this Code of Conduct to maintain a strong and positive relationship with our surrounding neighbors and neighborhood and to ensure that all members and employees are safe, secure, and are treated with respect, dignity, and compassion. Each SPARC collective member is required to comply fully and unequivocally with this Code of Conduct. SPARC reserves the right to terminate membership for any violation of the Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

Code of Conduct

- > Reselling or otherwise distributing medicine obtained at SPARC to any individual IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN.
- > No double parking in front of the dispensary or in Laskie alley. Members in violation will be asked to move vehicles.
- > Cannabis may not be consumed outside of the building within 500 feet of the exterior of the dispensary, including the entire Laskie alleyway. Members in violation will be issued a friendly reminder, but repeated and blatant violations will result in further action.
- > Dabbing, smoking, or ingestion of medical cannabis requiring an open flame is NOT permitted inside the dispensary. Vaporization of cannabis or consumption of cannabis edibles is allowed in the vapor lounge area.
- > Member visits at the vapor lounge are limited to 30 minutes.
- > Tobacco products may NOT be vaporized or smoked inside the dispensary.
- > Cellphone and electronic use IS permitted inside the dispensary for checking time, texting, personal music with headphones at a non-disruptive volume, calculator use, checking bank accounts, internet research, showing photos, game playing, etc.
- > Taking photos, video and electronic recordings, disruptive music, and talking on cellphones IS NOT permitted inside the dispensary. Furthermore, any use of an electronic device deemed inappropriate IS NOT permitted.
- > Laptops and tablets will be allowed to be used inside the dispensary. Video chatting (Skype, etc.), recording, broadcasting, watching explicit videos, and any other inappropriate use is NOT permitted. Members using laptops, tablets or other electronic devices are subject to the 30 minute time limit.
- > We request that all members treat fellow members and staff with respect at all times. Offensive, abusive, threatening, hostile, or derogatory language will NOT be tolerated in the dispensary.
- > For your safety, please place all medicine out of sight before exiting the dispensary.
- > No removal of unauthorized or unpurchased SPARC property.
- > Please no loitering or littering in front or alongside of our building including Laskie alley.
- > No eating, sleeping, or any kind of soliciting is allowed inside the dispensary, except for beverages and consumption of cannabis edibles.
- > By law, only qualified patients with a valid doctor's recommendation or state-issued ID card who become members of the SPARC collective may access the dispensary. Please do not bring non-patients or patients who do not have required documentation to the dispensary
- > Members must ensure that they are in compliance with all applicable state and local limits for the possession and cultivation of medical cannabis. SPARC accepts no responsibility for any violations of applicable statutes.
- > All packages, bags, backpacks, purses, etc. brought into the dispensary are subject to search at any time.
- > No alcohol, other controlled substances, or weapons are allowed inside the dispensary.

Be a Good Neighbor

SPARC is located in a dynamic area and we hope to be a positive force in our community. SPARC strives to maintain a strong and positive relationship with our surrounding neighbors, the City of San Francisco, and the Police department. As a member of SPARC's community, we ask that you be mindful of our neighbors' property, privacy, and rights.

Help us keep our commitments to our community by following our Code of Conduct and not creating an unnecessary nuisance. These simple precautions will help keep SPARC's neighbor and community relationships in good standing.

Print Name

Signature

Date

Good-Neighbor Agreement

v2.2

As a member of SPARC, you are a representative of our Collective. To memorialize this, you are required to sign this Good-Neighbor Contract, in addition to our Membership Agreement.

These rules are to be observed at all times. Any violations of the rules may result in the termination of your membership.

Respect our community. When entering or leaving SPARC, please be quiet for, mindful of, and polite to our neighbors.

Respect your fellow members and SPARC employees. No abusive language or offensive conduct will be tolerated.

No double-parking. Do not double-park or block any of our neighbors' driveways or businesses. Any violation may result in termination of your membership.

No littering. Littering outside our premises will not be tolerated by Collective members. SPARC is committed to keeping our neighborhood clean.

Do not medicate and drive. SPARC does not condone driving under the influence. We reserve the right to disallow a patient from medicating on-site if their ability to operate a motor vehicle will be impaired.

Do not redistribute, resell, or share. Any redistribution will result in the termination of your membership.

No loitering. Be respectful to our neighbors. Please do not congregate in front of or adjacent to the dispensary. It is important to our neighbors that the sidewalk be maintained as an open space.

The Collective reserves the right to suspend or rescind the membership of a member for any reason.

I hereby agree to the Collective's above stated rules and policies.

Date

.....

Member Name (Printed)

.....

Member Name (Signature)

.....

Section IV

Safety and Security Plans



Safety and Security for Everyone

At SPARC, our first concern is the safety and security of our employees, members, and neighbors.

SPARC Safety and Security Approach

The Safety Team is expected to set the standard for member interaction, community engagement, and neighborly relations. A major responsibility is the observation, identification, and reporting of critical events. The goal of the Safety Team is to implement a safe and secure environment of the dispensary, while maintaining a visible and strong, yet friendly and approachable, presence in the community, and it achieves this via the following means:

- Accurate checking of documentation and identification, and admission of only qualified individuals into the dispensary; individuals lacking the necessary qualifications for entry are identified and denied access.
- Access control measures for staff, members, and visitors.
- Strict safety and security policies and procedures for employees.
- Active development of an open relationship with neighbors and community, enabling better ability to protect the area, members, and staff.
- Trained, experienced security guards from diverse backgrounds: trained in de-escalation, active listening, and communication; able to provide excellent security without being overbearing or excessive.
- Proactive enforcement of a comprehensive Member Code of Conduct, including actively enforcing restrictions on the redistribution of medicine, consumption, drinking, loitering, illegal parking, and other nuisance activity.
- Daily resolution of issues, such as street cleaning, graffiti removal, homeless abatement, and maintenance, with support for these services provided by the CM CBD.
- State-of-the-art security camera and DVR system for 24-hour monitoring coverage of interior and exterior.
- Sophisticated security-alarm system with 24-hour response and ability to immediately and discreetly alert police and emergency personnel in the event of an emergency.
- Private, third-party security company that provides additional support, including after-hours camera monitoring, after-hours alarm response, and patrol quality checks.
- Fire-alarm system.
- Raid and robbery training every six months for all staff.
- Emergency action plans developed for various emergency situations.
- Established Injury Illness Prevention Plan (IIPP) to keep employees and members safe from injury and illness.
- CPR and AED training for Safety and Management Teams.
- Numerous proprietary security features.

SPARC’s comprehensive Safety Plan is designed to provide employees with information about various aspects of our safety and security program.

Our Safety Plan is designed to comply with the safety and health standards that have been developed by federal, state, and local governments and current industry standards. It is SPARC’s goal and intent to be in compliance at all times.

In order to accomplish this goal, each employee must actively participate in the implementation of the Safety Plan and be aware of workplace conditions that could pose a potential danger. Each employee is expected to be proactive in their own, coworkers’, and members’ personal safety.

Included in Safety Plan

- Having an Injury and Illness Prevention Plan (IIPP).
- Having Emergency Action Plans (EAP) developed to address a variety of possible emergencies for all locations.
- Providing CPR, First Aid, and AED training and certification for all Safety staff and for managers.
- Establishing a Safety Committee to review, on a monthly basis, any safety inspections, employee and member accidents, and other safety-related topics.
- Creating a safe and healthful environment for our employees and members.
- Protecting and safeguarding employees and members from potential accidents and hazards.
- Conducting regular, thorough monthly safety inspections to identify and correct unsafe working conditions, equipment, and work practices.
- Conducting routine safety orientation and training for all new hires, as well as ongoing training and annual refreshers for all employees.
- Implementing worker compliance with established safety and security guidelines and procedures.
- Investigating all employee and member accidents and near-misses thoroughly to prevent similar incidents from occurring.
- Providing a means of communicating safety

matters to all employees.

- Establishing regular and open lines of communication with other local businesses and government agencies. A binder containing this Safety Plan is available to all employees for review at every location. A master copy of the Safety Plan Binder is retained by the Safety Manager.

Site Plan (Emergency Map)

Site plans for all SPARC locations have been developed and are posted at each location. These site plans show the location of all safety equipment, including:

- Fire-pull stations
- Fire extinguishers
- Emergency exits
- First-aid kits
- Eyewash stations

These site plans are posted in multiple areas at each corresponding location. These plans are to be updated regularly. An additional copy will remain in each site’s Safety Plan Binder, along with a master copy that will be kept in the Master Safety Plan Binder. A separate set of site plans will be made available to the San Francisco Fire Department, as well as

other local government agencies upon request.

Emergency Contact List

Emergencies – 911

City Services and Info – 311

Police Non-Emergency – 415-553-0123

SFPD Ingleside Station – 415-404-4000

Medical/Fire Non-Emergency – 415-558-3268

Poison Control – 800-876-4766

Bay Alarm – 800-470-1000

SPARC Safety Manager – 415-470-9164

In the event of an emergency, fire, or critical incident, all SPARC management on the Emergency Contact List are to be notified.

Emergency Planning

Emergency Action Plan (EAP) procedures for all locations have been developed, and are updated annually, to minimize risks arising from incidents that could threaten the safety of employees and members.

The EAP for each location includes the following response plans:

- Fire emergencies
- Earthquake
- First-aid emergencies
- Robbery
- Critical incidents

The EAP will be communicated to all employees by means of a Safety Training Program.

EAP procedures will be posted in common areas and subject to yearly updates. EAP procedures will be required in the training for all employees upon hiring and will be reviewed by all employees at annual safety trainings.

The EAP describes, in detail, the responsibilities

of all employees during emergencies and critical incidents. Employee trainings shall be documented by SPARC management and records kept in the Master Safety Plan Binder.

Fire Emergencies

The objective of the Fire Emergency Action Plan is to ensure the safety of employees and members in the case of a fire emergency.

Training includes making each staff member aware of his or her specific duties during a fire emergency. The Safety Training Plan will give staff members training and preparation to deal with a possible fire emergency.

Staff Training and Preparedness shall include:

- Knowing and becoming familiar with the location of all emergency exits, fire-pull stations, fire extinguishers, and other fire-related equipment.
- Training in safe use of fire extinguishers and pull stations.
- Formulating best pedestrian-traffic patterns for emergency egress.
- Knowing the established emergency meeting place for all employees.
- Knowing the location of all members and employees who may require additional assistance.
- Making sure all walkways and exits are kept clear of obstructions.
- Knowing the locations of all utility shut-offs.
- Conducting periodic fire- and emergency-evacuation drills.
- Establishing and documenting monthly inspections of all fire and safety equipment.

Emergency-Response Procedures for Staff

- Without endangering yourself, attempt to confirm the level of the fire hazard.
- Assess the situation as an immediate and serious threat. Employees are not required to extinguish a fire with a fire extinguisher and should only use an extinguisher if they have been trained and the situation does not present a personal-safety hazard.
- Confine a fire by closing doors to the location where the fire exists.
- Notify other employees and members of the fire and required evacuation.
- Activate the fire alarm system.
- Dial 911 and report conditions.
- Assign a staff member to meet with emergency responders with site plans and master keys.

Building Evacuation Procedures for Staff:

- Direct people to the nearest fire exit with verbal directions that are clear and easy to follow.
- Direct guests, members and onlookers across the street and away from the scene.
- Proceed to the designated emergency meeting place. Remain at the meeting place for a head count and report any missing coworkers to first responders.
- Notify surrounding businesses and neighbors of the fire and evacuation.
- DO NOT return or re-occupy the location without direction of the management or SFFD.

Fire Prevention Plan

The Fire Prevention Plan is designed to provide safe workplace practices that minimize the risk of a fire emergency.

The Fire Prevention Plan includes:

- Conducting and recording periodic facility inspections and identifying and correcting

any unsafe conditions.

- Conducting and recording monthly safety inspections of fire emergency equipment including all: smoke detectors, emergency evacuation lighting, and fire extinguishers.
- Conducting periodic inspections and tests of the fire alarm systems in accordance with state and local regulations.
- Conducting periodic fire drills in accordance with the procedures of the Fire Emergency Action Plan.
- Checking to make sure electrical cords and cables are in good working condition and are not frayed or worn.
- Storing oily and dirty rags in closed metal containers.
- Making sure all potentially flammable chemicals are stored in a safe manor.
- Daily cleaning of work areas with any potentially flammable chemicals.
- No smoking except in designated areas.

Earthquake Response

Earthquakes will most likely occur with little to no warning. If the intensity of the quake is such that it causes alarm among the employees, there is the likelihood that there will be building or structural damage. In the event of an earthquake the following response plans should be followed:

- Shelter in place. Protect yourself from falling objects. Crawl under a desk, table, or door frame until all shaking stops.
- Stay clear of windows, heavy and unstable furniture and equipment.
- Remain sheltered in place for a few

minutes to account for any potential aftershocks.

- Management will assess if the building should be evacuated or to remain inside. Proceed outside when instructed by Management.
- Once outside, if possible, get into an open area away from buildings, power lines, falling debris or glass.

First Aid Emergencies

Serious injuries and first aid emergencies can occur with almost any emergency or work activity. For all locations at least 1 first aid trained and certified staff member is required to be present. All Safety staff and Management are required to be CPR and first aid trained and certified. All staff will know the location of all first aid kits and eye wash stations. The following response plan should be followed for injuries:

- The Safety Team or Management will assess the situation to determine if emergency medical services are necessary.
- Only first aid trained and certified responders are allowed to respond and attend to employees or members who have sustained an injury on company property.
- Do not attempt to move the person if there is potential to cause further injury.
- Remain with the injured person until medical responders arrive.

Robbery

SPARC takes many steps to mitigate the potential for robbery. In the unlikely event of a robbery, it is important that all employees remember that each employees and members safety is paramount. Robberies can escalate and cause

serious injury to both members and employees if not handled properly. All staff members are trained in proper robbery response as part of the Safety Training Plan. Some of the basic procedures are as follows:

Immediate Response:

- Any presence of a weapon, or threat of a weapon inside SPARC during a robbery situation is mandate for compliance and cooperation.
- Stay calm and cooperate with the assailant(s).
- Only activate the hold-up/ Robbery button when it can be done discreetly without alerting the assailant(s).
- Follow all directions.
- Do not do anything that could cause a violent reaction.
- Do not introduce or encourage the use of another weapon against the assailant(s).
- Do not resist, argue, insult, or confront the assailant(s).
- Do everything possible to expedite the robbery. Make sure the interaction is as quick, smooth, and simple as possible.
- Inform the assailant(s) of any potential surprises or movements.
- Never chase or follow a suspect out of the store.

Follow up Response:

- Ensure no one is injured.
- Only first aid trained responders will attend to injuries.
- Notify police and call for medical assistance if necessary.
- Document the description of the assailant(s) in written form and ask other witnesses to do the same.
- Notify appropriate upper

management immediately.

- Secure the area and do not touch anything or move anything that the assailant(s) may have touched.
- Do not release information pertaining to any dollar amounts or product loss involved in the robbery, other than to the police.
- Refer all information requests to management.

Critical Incidents

Critical incidents are any event or incident that can pose a potential threat or danger to members and employees. Critical incidents can often be prevented, addressed, and de-escalated before they become a more serious problem. On a daily basis all employees, but primarily the Safety Team, and Management are expected to maintain an acute awareness of the environment towards the goal of preventing problems from escalating and getting out of hand. Simple routines are often an effective way to diminish the likely hood of certain problems. Towards this effort, the Safety Team and Management will be expected to do the following:

- Regularly clear debris and trash from outside the front and surrounding premises prior to opening and periodically during daily operating hours.
- Ensuring that the sidewalk is open to pedestrian traffic at all times.
- Politely discourage loitering, solicitors, or people obstructing the sidewalk without lawful reason.
- Politely discourage double parking and blocking of sidewalks, streets, and other roadways.
- Enforcing a comprehensive member code of conduct.

- Preventing unnecessary nuisance activity within close proximity such as loitering, consumption of alcohol or drugs within 500 feet, noise, illegal parking, etc...
- Place appropriate calls to help maintain a clean and orderly appearance of the dispensary and surrounding area.

To further insure a safe environment, the dispensary will be staffed by a Safety Team of 5-6 persons, dedicated to the safety and well-being of the members and employees. This number may change based upon the amount of members on the premises. A dedicated staff-to-member ratio will be determined to meet basic safety needs and expectations. Every day, Safety Team members will be posted at key positions within the store to provide for maximum oversight. An additional Safety Team member will be available to move around the interior and exterior of the dispensary to address any issues in a preventative and helpful manner. The possibility of physical altercations or open hostilities, however slight, shall be considered carefully – violence and any threatening or dangerous behavior will not be tolerated. Any such actions are considered immediate reasons for ejection or non-admittance to the dispensary. Persons involved in Critical Incidents will be escorted to the exit and removed with an admonishment not to return. The Safety Team is required to document all Critical Incidents, including the name of the person(s), date, time, and brief description of the incident. The Safety Team is required to inform Management of all Critical Incidents.

Section V

Services for Our Members



Services and Resources that Make a Difference

SPARC offers a variety of services to its members, and all Member Services staff is trained in group facilitation, first aid, and harm-reduction methods.

SPARC's approach to healing involves providing members with an array of tools with which to confront unique health challenges and improve daily life. Members of the SPARC collective come to us not only for cannabis medicine but also for other resources and techniques for healing to address their problems.

The following list of services are available at our current 1256 Mission Street location, and will be implemented at our 5420 Mission Street location.

On-Site Consumption

Perhaps the most important service we offer is a safe, accessible, and comfortable environment where members may obtain and use cannabis in a social and supportive setting. This is a blessing especially for the most seriously ill, low-income patients, many of whom feel isolated and cut off from social life. Many patients, particularly those in federally subsidized housing, may not medicate at home for fear of eviction or of having their child or children removed. On-site consumption is crucial to the patient services we provide and reinforced by the San Francisco Planning Commission report on medical-cannabis dispensaries (MCDs).

SPARC offers access to centuries-old healing traditions—with and without cannabis—that are used to foster self-healing. Our services are subject to change based on popularity and member feedback. For a calendar of currently offered services, including times and locations, please visit

www.SPARCsf.org and click “Member Services,” then click “Calendar of Services and Events.”

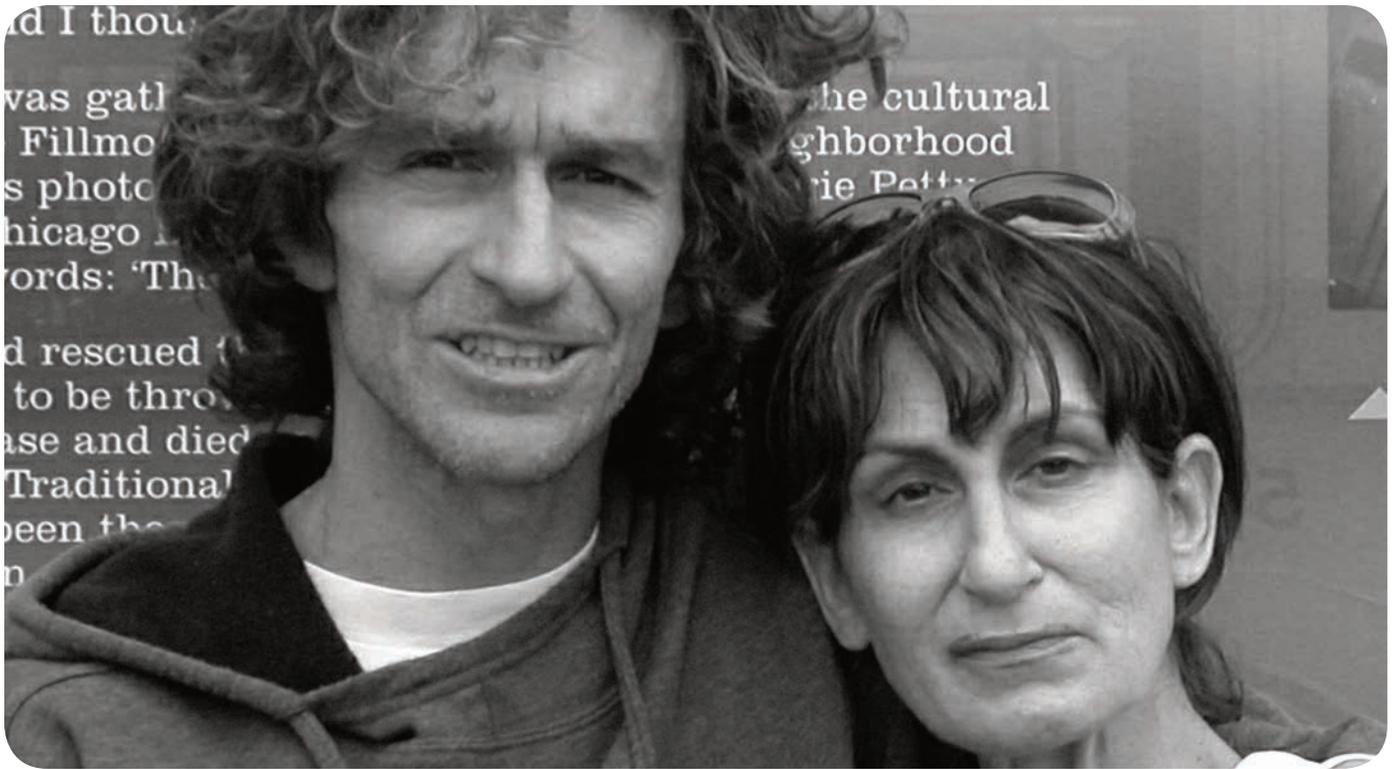
Ayurveda: The Art of Food as Medicine Ayurveda is an ancient system of Indian medicine with a focus on physical, mental, and spiritual balance, and it is believed that, “with correct diet, illness becomes impossible over time.”

Ayurveda is a useful tool for people with chronic health problems, as well as healthy people who want more energy. Our Ayurvedic classes are offered to members and our partner organizations several times a year, giving patients the tools to understand and design diets tailored to their individual health needs.

These seminars teach members, caregivers, and our partnership organizations about diet as a medicine for creating ideal healing conditions. SPARC also brings in Ayurvedic practitioners for comprehensive consultations with caregivers who serve people with chronic illnesses.

Peer-Support Groups

Facilitated by staff and volunteers who are trained in harm-reduction practices and conflict resolution, these groups are often member-led initiatives, which allows members to meet as often as they wish. Other peer-support groups are added upon request.



Mark Dusenbery & Debra Nothmann Members

HIV/AIDS Group

This group is designed to provide practical and emotional support for members who are infected with HIV/AIDS. Conversations about medications, resources, and experiences living with HIV/AIDS are facilitated.

Wellness Group

Intended for seriously ill members, this group meets with the purpose of fulfilling life, enhancing talent, and resolving emotional problems. Here, members share healing methods, problem-solving techniques, relationship skills, stress-management tools, and healthy-living practices.

Women's Group

Members in this group discuss experiences as mothers, wives, and caregivers. Emphasis is placed on healthy-living practices, relationships, achieving balance between self and others, self-

esteem, parenting, and stress management.

Medical Use of Cannabis Education

These classes are offered to all members. Learning safe methods of medicating is a priority, including proper use of edibles, tinctures, salves, and vaporization. Members are able to share their experiences with each other about which plant variations and preparations have been most effective in dealing with their symptoms. For example, a new patient who is suffering from nausea due to chemotherapy might learn from a more-experienced patient that one particular strain of medical cannabis is more successful at reducing nausea or pain than another. Lives change by sharing this kind of information.

Interactive Website

Our website allows members to view schedules of activities, check availability



Bill Niemzyck Member

of various medicines, converse in online forums, and post comments about our services and staff. Lab results for THC and CBD content are also posted to our website.

Referrals to Services

Contact information for doctors, care providers, lawyers, and other professional services is provided to members both through our website and at our physical dispensary location.

New-Member Orientation

New members are educated about the legal structure and mission of our collective. Members will be advised of volunteer and paid positions available at SPARC and how to get involved with day-to-day activities, based on their interests.

Educational Classes

Classes are taught by on-staff experts or by arrangement with outside sources. Classes with the most demand include cultivation methods, legal training, and know-your-rights sessions.

Space for Meetings

We have made our resource center available to other MCDs and patient groups who may not otherwise have a space in which to gather. Advocacy groups for medical-cannabis patients have been able to reserve regular meeting space at our resource center.

Friday Night Harm-Reduction Social

This alcohol-free social gathering for members is offered as an alternative to the bar and club scene. Activities, such as movies, acoustic music, poetry, board games, guest speakers, and ordered-in food are often provided.



Community Action

Part of our collective's mission is to motivate our members to get involved in their communities and with the issues that matter to them. Opportunities for community involvement, ranging from street sweeps to rallies, are presented regularly to members by our full-time Community Liaison. Additionally, we host presentations by local community organizations. Policy organizations dealing specifically with medical-cannabis rights and education are also welcomed, including Americans for Safe Access and the Marijuana Policy Project.

SPARC gives back to the community through our membership and as an organization. We have donated generously to many causes, from LGBT issues to health promotion, from community cleanups to park development. We are also contributing members of multiple national advocacy organizations, as well as local community organizations in San Francisco neighborhoods, including SoMa, Dogpatch, and the Excelsior districts. Moreover, SPARC maintains

a Community Participation Program where employees and members alike join with community forces to beautify our neighborhoods and keep our streets clean.

Future Social Services

Future social-service programs will be designed and implemented by staff and volunteers, and may include yoga, physical-fitness programs, and other peer-support groups. Day trips to museums, parks, beaches, and sporting events are also planned.

Compassionate Access

For seriously ill patients who are in hospitals, nursing homes, and hospices (or released from hospices) and for patients who are housebound, bedridden, or have restricted mobility, SPARC provides compassionate access to cannabis. This includes free cannabis and free delivery. We work closely with administrators of healthcare facilities like Maitri and Cohen House to set up appropriate protocols to safeguard patient access to medicine.

Section VI

Education



Education on Healing and Spiritual Traditions that Use Cannabis

The scientific case for medical cannabis: A better healing alternative to some pharmaceutical drugs.

“The evidence is overwhelming that marijuana can relieve certain types of pain, nausea, vomiting, and other symptoms caused by such illnesses as multiple sclerosis, cancer, and AIDS—or by the harsh drugs sometimes used to treat them. And it can do so with remarkable safety. Indeed, marijuana is less toxic than many of the drugs that physicians prescribe every day.”

– Dr. Joycelyn Elders, former Surgeon General under President Clinton

Scientific Findings on Medical Cannabis

- “The medical literature on marijuana goes back 5,000 years. In a 1999 study commissioned by the White House, the Institute of Medicine reported, ‘nausea, appetite loss, pain, and anxiety [. . .] all can be mitigated by marijuana.’ In its April 2003 issue, the British medical journal *The Lancet* reported that marijuana relieves pain in virtually every test that scientists use to measure pain relief.”
- Cannabis provides a treatment option for individuals who do not respond, or respond inadequately, to the therapies currently available.
- “Marijuana’s therapeutic uses are well documented in scientific literature. Recent scientific studies have confirmed what has been reported to us by hundreds of people living with HIV—that marijuana can be safely used to reduce nausea and vomiting, stimulate appetite, and promote weight gain. Marijuana is widely recognized by physicians specializing in AIDS care as an important component of treatment”.
- Opiates, such as morphine and codeine, are

the most commonly used drugs for acute pain, but often result in debilitating side effects, like nausea, sedation, and dependency. Cannabis can provide similar treatment without these adverse side effects.

- More than 6,500 reports and journal articles support the use of cannabis as medicine, including studies commissioned by the United States government, which currently does not support legalization.
- “Eighty-five percent of the [Berkeley Patients Group] sample reported that cannabis has much less adverse side effects than their prescription medications. Additionally, the top two reasons listed by participants as reasons for substituting cannabis for one of the substances previously mentioned were less adverse side effects from cannabis (65%) and better symptom management from cannabis (57.4%).”
- Per Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Administrative Law Judge, Francis Young: “In strict medical terms marijuana is far safer than many foods we commonly consume.”
- In a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study, cannabis was effective in reducing pain and sleep disturbance in patients with multiple sclerosis. Other studies have produced similar

results, particularly proving the efficacy of cannabis in treating spasticity and pain.

- Cannabis has been shown to have antioxidant properties and actually inhibits the growth of tumors.
- “Smoked cannabis was well tolerated and effectively relieved chronic neuropathic pain from HIV-associated sensory neuropathy.”
- There is evidence that cannabis use among Hepatitis C patients who are undergoing treatment has been beneficial, helping them maintain adherence to the challenging medication regimen.
- Numerous public-health organizations support the medical use of cannabis, including the AIDS Action Council (1996), the American Academy of Family Physicians (1995), the American Academy of HIV Medicine (2003), the American Cancer Society (1997), the American College of Physicians (2008), the American Medical Association (2009), the American Nurses Association (2003), the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care (1999), the American Public Health Association (1994), the California Medical Association (1997), Crescent Alliance Self-Help for Sickle Cell (1999), the Federation of American Scientists (1994), the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (1995), the Institute of Medicine (1999), Kaiser Permanente (1997), the Lymphoma Foundation of America (1997), the Multiple Sclerosis California Action Network (1996), the National Association for Public Health Policy (1998), the National Association of People With AIDS (1992), the National Institute of Health (1997), among many others.

¹ Elders, Joycelyn “Myths About Medical Marijuana.” The Providence Journal, 26 March 2004.

² Ibid.

³ Center for Medicinal Cannabis Research, “Report to the Legislature and Governor of the State of California presenting findings pursuant to SB847 which created the CMCR and provided state funding,” University of California, (San Diego, CA: February 2010), p. 2. http://www.cmcr.ucsd.edu/CMCR_REPORT_FEB17.pdf

⁴ Dr. Gates Jr., Henry Louis, et. al. Open letter to General Barry McCaffrey, director of the Office for National Drug Control Policy, 24 February 1999. <http://www.csdp.org/openltr.htm>

⁵ Joy, Janet E., et. al. Marijuana and Medicine: Assessing the Science Base.

National Academy Press: Washington, D.C. 1999, pp. 140.

⁶ “Medical Cannabis Research: What does the evidence say?” Americans For Safe Access.; Elders, Joycelyn. “Myths About Medical Marijuana.” The Providence Journal, 26 March 2004.

⁷ Reiman, Amanda, “Cannabis as a Substitute for Alcohol and Other Drugs,” Harm Reduction Journal 6(35): December 2009. <http://www.harmreductionjournal.com/content/pdf/1477-7517-6-35.pdf>

⁸ US Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration, “In the Matter of Marijuana Rescheduling Petition,” [Docket #86-22], (September 6, 1988), p. 57. <http://www.druglibrary.org/olsen/medical/young/young4.html>

⁹ Rog, David J. et. al. “Randomized, controlled trial of cannabis-based medicine in central pain in multiple sclerosis.” Neurology 65(6):812-9. American Academy of Neurology. 2005. <http://www.neurology.org/cgi/content/abstract/65/6/812>

¹⁰ Consroe, Paul, et. al. “The Perceived Effects of Smoked Cannabis on Patients with Multiple Sclerosis.” European Neurology No. 38: 44-48, 1997.

¹¹ Guzman, Manuel. “Cannabinoids: Potential Anticancer Agents.” Nature Reviews, Vol. 3: p. 745. October 2003.

¹² Abrams, Donald, M.D., et. al. “Cannabis in painful HIV-associated sensory neuropathy: A randomized placebo-controlled trial.” Neurology, Vol. 68: p. 515. 2007.

¹³ Sylvestre, Diana L., et. al. “Cannabis use improves retention and virological outcomes in patients treated for hepatitis C.” European Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology 18(10): 1057-1063, October 2006.

Health Conditions Treated with Medical Cannabis

If cannabis were discovered today, it would be considered a medical wonder-plant. Patients suffering from a variety of conditions have found that specific strains of medical cannabis are often a more-effective treatment than expensive pharmaceutical drugs produced by large corporations. As an alternative to traditional pharmaceutical pills and their many debilitating side effects, medical professionals have prescribed medical cannabis for a wide variety of health conditions, including:

- Cancer
- Anorexia
- AIDS
- Glaucoma
- Chronic Pain
- Arthritis
- Insomnia
- Migraines
- Anxiety

- Depression
- Headache
- Nausea
- Epilepsy
- Asthma
- Premenstrual Tension
- Drug withdrawal

Disclaimer: Cannabis will have variable effects when used by different people and under different circumstances. You must discuss indications and side effects with your doctor. SPARC cannot offer medical advice and makes no claims as to the efficacy of medication obtained through our dispensary. Please review the “Sensible Cannabis Use” section of this handbook for more information.

Social-Justice Issues and Cannabis: The Case against Prohibition

“Penalties against drug use should not be more damaging to an individual than the use of the drug itself. Nowhere is this more clear than in the laws against the possession of marijuana in private for personal use.” – Former President Jimmy Carter

SPARC is an advocate for sensible drug-policy reform on the issue of cannabis use. Our membership enables us to continue speaking out for safe access at local, state, and national levels. We are proud supporters of Americans for Safe Access (ASA), Marijuana Policy Project (MPP), National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP), and the Drug Policy Alliance (DPA), organizations that all strive to protect the rights of patients to work with their medical professionals to choose the best medicine for their condition. The prohibition and criminalization of marijuana has created hardships for generations of medical-

cannabis patients across our nation. Many people who, at first glance, might be considered “recreational” users actually use cannabis to treat a condition for which they do not want to take pharmaceutical drugs or antidepressants. Insomnia and severe anxiety are also common examples. Like so many of our federal drug policies, these hardships have disproportionately affected lower-income and minority communities while exhausting valuable law-enforcement resources.

Facts and Figures: Social Justice and the Costs of Cannabis Prohibition in the United States

- “The major benefit of decriminalization, in addition to eliminating the needless arrest, prosecution, and court disposition of over 700,000 people each year, would be the ability of the criminal justice system to focus on more important public safety activities.”
- Cannabis arrests now comprise one-half (49.8%) of all drug arrests reported in the United States. In 2008, 847,864 individuals were arrested on cannabis-related charges.
- A 2005 Harvard University study concluded that the United States government spends \$7.7 billion annually on cannabis prohibition.
- Based on economic research about cannabis prohibition, over 530 distinguished economists signed an open letter in 2005 to Former President Bush urging the legalization of cannabis.
- “Marijuana arrests are not evenly distributed across the population, but are disproportionately imposed on African Americans.”
- African Americans are more than twice as likely as whites to be arrested on cannabis-related charges.
- In California in 2002, African Americans were arrested for possession at a rate of 391 per 100,000, compared to 134 per 100,000 for whites.
- Other studies conclude that, in California,

African Americans are arrested on cannabis-sales charges at a 5-to-1 ratio compared to whites. This is despite equal use among both groups.

- For the past ten years, New York City has arrested, on average, about 14 whites, 28 Hispanics, and 56 Blacks every day for cannabis.
- In New York City, it was found that 83% of those charged in lowest-level misdemeanor cannabis offense cases were Black or Hispanic. Blacks accounted for 52% of the arrests, twice their share of the city's population, while whites (who are about 35% of the population) were only 15% of those charged—in spite of federal surveys showing that whites are more likely than Blacks or

Marijuana." The JFA Institute, Washington, DC. 2 November 2005. http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=6695

¹⁵ "Pot Arrests Now Comprise One-Half of All US Drug Arrests." The National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, 14 September 2009. http://norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=7972

¹⁶ Miron, Jeffrey A. "The Budgetary Implications of Marijuana Prohibition." Harvard University: Cambridge, Massachusetts. June 2005: pp. 2 – 3.

¹⁷ Friedman, Milton, et. al. Open letter to the President, Congress, Governors, and State Legislators. <http://prohibitioncosts.org/endorsers.html>

¹⁸ Beckett, Katherine and Herbert Steven. The Consequences and Costs of Marijuana Prohibition. University of Washington: Seattle. 2009.

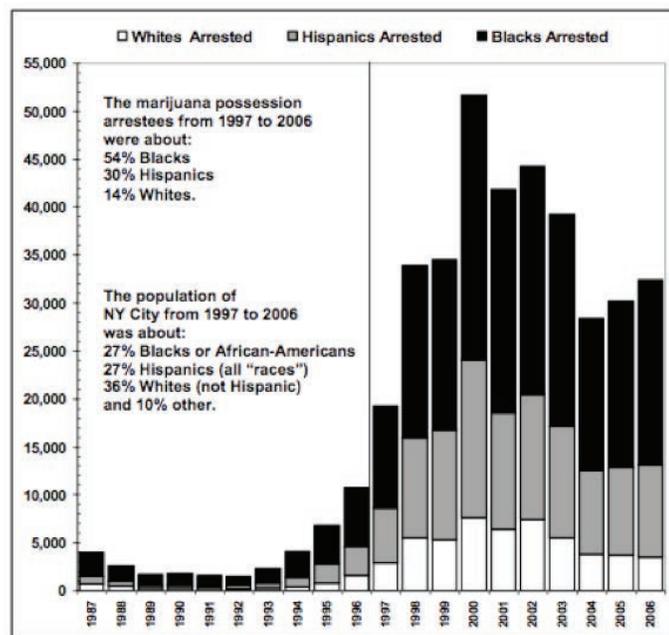
¹⁹ Gettman, Jon B., Ph.D. United States Marijuana Arrests, Part Two: Racial Differences in Drug Arrests. The National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws: Washington D.C. 2000. http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=5328

²⁰ "California Arrest Statistics – 2002: From National NORML Report "Crimes of Indiscretion: Marijuana Arrests in the United States." March 2005. http://www.canorml.org/background/CA_arreststatsNORML.htm

²¹ Ibid.

²² New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (NYDCJS), Computerized Criminal History System

²³ Dwyer, Jim. "On Arrests, Demographics, and Marijuana." New York Times, 30 April 2008.



Hispanics to use cannabis. (See graph below.)

- Seriously ill individuals, including those with cancer, AIDS, and multiple sclerosis, who are using cannabis as a treatment on recommendation from their doctors are at risk of arrest and imprisonment, simply for trying to alleviate pain or stimulate appetite.

¹⁴ Austin, James, Ph.D. "Rethinking the Consequences of Decriminalizing

Sensible Cannabis Use

The information below is reprinted from the Cannabis Action Network (www.cannabisationnetwork.org).

Like any medicine, cannabis can be misused. Excessive or inappropriate use can contribute to problems, including sleepiness, overeating, and time-management issues. Due to the political climate surrounding cannabis-use research, clinical studies have produced widely conflicting conclusions about the true benefits and potential side effects of cannabis use. Always listen to the advice of your doctor and use good judgment when using medical cannabis. These guidelines help identify ways of using medical cannabis in a positive way.

- Adults should use cannabis only as part of a healthy, balanced, and responsible lifestyle.
- The decision to use cannabis should be made freely and not as a result of social pressure.
- Cannabis users should be well informed

about its effects on themselves and others.

These effects include legal risks, health risks, and personal consequences.

- Never use cannabis as an excuse for antisocial or irresponsible behavior.
- Cannabis users should model and reward responsible use, particularly with new users.
- Develop sensible cannabis-use limits for yourself based on personal, health, situational, and cultural factors. It is important to be objective about your personal cannabis use and listen to the constructive advice of others.
- Avoid cannabis use that puts you or others at risk, such as when driving, at work, or in public places. Remember, personal use of cannabis is still illegal under federal law, and penalties are stiff.
- Use of cannabis by children is inappropriate and should be discouraged.
- Cannabis use should contribute to, rather than detract from, a patient's health, well-being, creativity, work relationships, and social obligations.

Methods of Consumption

There are many ways to ingest medical cannabis, and patients may find that one method is more effective than another for their specific needs.

The effects often vary with each method, sometimes affecting the length of time it takes for the medicine to take effect, or the length of time that it remains effective. Each patient should determine which manner is best for them.

Smoking

Historically, the most traditional form of ingestion is smoking the dried flowers or leaves of the cannabis plant. Hash and kief are also ingested this way. Cannabis can be smoked through a pipe, rolled into a joint (or cigarette), or smoked using a water pipe (or bong). When smoking dried cannabis, the patient will most likely feel the medicine take effect immediately, and depending on the particular

strain and its strength, it can last anywhere from an hour to several hours. Regularly smoking any plant material can have a negative impact and SPARC recommends patients use vaporizers or edible forms of medicine whenever possible.

Vaporizing

A vaporizer is a device that is able to extract the therapeutic ingredients in the plant material, called cannabinoids, at a much lower temperature than is required for burning. This allows patients to inhale the active ingredients as a vapor instead of a smoke, and spares them the irritating effects of smoking and its toxic byproducts. Those patients who are used to smoking may not feel like they are “getting anything” at first because it does not “burn” the throat. It is advised to use caution and wait a few minutes to feel the full effects. Many patients say that, when vaporized, half as much medicine will provide twice the effect.

Types of Cannabis Medicine

Flowers and Leaves

Commonly referred to as “buds,” the flowers of the cannabis plant are the most potent for medicinal properties. The leaves of the cannabis plant also contain some cannabinoids, but in much lower concentrations. The flowers and leaves of the plant can be smoked, vaporized, or used to prepare edibles.

Hash

Hash, or hashish, is manufactured by separating the microscopic reddish “hairs” seen on dried cannabis flowers, called trichomes, from the cannabis flowers. This creates a concentrated dose of this specific part of the cannabis plant. These trichomes are then processed into a relatively solid paste or block. Hash can be somewhat powdery or more solid and sticky, depending on exactly how it was processed.

Kief

Kief, from the Moroccan word for altered consciousness, “kif,” is also made from the trichomes of the cannabis flower. However, kief is just the dried trichomes without any further processing. It comes as a dry powder that can be smoked, vaporized, or used to make edibles. It is often sprinkled on the top of cannabis before smoking or vaporizing, to augment the trichome content in the flowers. Some grinders, which are used to evenly cut up the cannabis flowers before vaporizing or smoking, have a small-mesh screen at the bottom for the purpose of collecting kief over time.

Sativa vs. Indica

Cannabis is the botanical name of a genus of annual flowering plants in the Cannabaceae family. There are over 150 species and 10 genera included in the Cannabaceae family. The hop plant, often used in the production of beer, is also part of the Cannabaceae family. Some types of cannabis, such as sativa and indica, produce fairly large amounts of a cannabinoid chemical known as tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). Cannabis plants grown for their THC content are referred to as hemp plants, but the term “hemp” is more appropriately used to describe cannabis plants that are cultivated for commercial purposes, like clothing and fuel, rather than for THC or other cannabinoid content. Medical cannabis comes in two basic types, sativa and indica, and each type has its own distinct set of characteristics. Medical cannabis is available in pure-sativa strains, pure-indica strains, and countless combinations of the two.

Cannabis Sativa

Cannabis sativa is a tall, slower-growing and -maturing plant that typically has long, thin leaves that vary in color from light to darker greens. Sativa buds are long and thin and turn red as they mature in a warm environment. In cooler environments, the buds may

be slightly purple. Sativa plants smell sweet and fruity, and the smoke is generally quite mild. Cannabis sativa is a source of fiber for rope and other commercial products. The medicating effect of cannabis sativa is often characterized as uplifting and energetic, and the effects are mostly cerebral with a feeling of optimism and well-being. Sativa also provides a good measure of pain relief for certain symptoms. A few pure sativas are very high in THC content. Some sativas seem to have a higher CBD content than indicas, and SPARC is working to develop CBD-rich strains. Used responsibly in moderate doses, sativas are a good choice for daytime medication.

Cannabis Indica

Cannabis indica is a short- to moderate-height bushy plant, typically between three and six feet tall, and its leaves have short, broad fingers. The leaves are usually dark green but are sometimes tinged with purple. As they near maturity, the leaves may become significantly more purple. It is a pungent plant with a “stinky” or “skunky” smell. The smoke of indicas is generally thick and more prone to cause coughing when inhaled. Indicas are the traditional source of hash. The medicating effect of cannabis indica is most often described as a pleasant “body buzz.” Indicas are best for relaxation, stress relief, and an overall sense of calm and serenity. Cannabis indica is also effective for overall body-pain relief and often used in the treatment of insomnia. Indicas are the late-evening choice of many patients as an all-night sleep aid. A few pure-indica strains are very potent in THC, and may cause the “couchlock” effect, enabling the patient to simply sit still and enjoy the experience of the medicine.

- I. Community Engagement
- II. Letters of Support
- III. Member Agreements
- IV. Safety and Security Plans
- V. Services for Our Members
- VI. Education
- VII. Lab Tested Cannabis

Know Your Rights

SPARC operates under the provisions of the California Health and Safety Code 11362.5 and 11362.7 and the San Francisco Health Code (Medical Cannabis Act). However, some local jurisdictions may place additional restrictions on the rights of medical-cannabis patients. We encourage our members to determine what their local guidelines are. Until federal law catches up with California's progressive stance, possession of medical cannabis remains illegal under federal law. We encourage our members to be mindful of this when possessing, transporting, or using medical cannabis on Federal Government property, including San Francisco's Presidio and Golden Gate National Recreation Areas.

Section VII

Lab-Tested Cannabis



Bringing the Rigors of the Laboratory to Medical Cannabis

Our laboratory testing has filled a gap in San Francisco's approach to regulating medical cannabis. SPARC has allowed San Francisco to provide patients with medical cannabis that has a known ratio of therapeutic compounds and is free from harmful pathogens.

Laboratory analysis screens for contaminants while also providing data on the genetics and potency of various kinds of medical cannabis. This allows patients to make safe, well-informed decisions when selecting a medicine.

Specific Aim 1: Assess the prevalence and extent of contamination of medical cannabis by *Aspergillus* species

Aspergillus species are common contaminants of food and tobacco and are present in many soils. The USDA provides inspection services and guidelines for allowable levels of *Aspergillus* contamination in foods, but there is scant data—even from countries where it is tolerated or legal—on the scope or extent of *Aspergillus* contamination of cannabis.

The passing of Proposition 215 in California reflected an emerging popular and scientific consensus that cannabis has therapeutic value for certain conditions. Many people ingest or smoke cannabis obtained from medical-cannabis dispensaries (MCDs) throughout San Francisco and the Bay Area. Those who are immune-compromised from, say, cancer therapy or HIV/AIDS infection, may be at risk of invasive *Aspergillus*. Organ-transplant patients are also highly susceptible to invasive aspergillosis.

Even in states like California and Washington, where laws exist permitting the use of medical cannabis,

hospitals routinely deny patients placement on or remove them from transplant lists if they are actively using the plant.^{1,2} Although several cases of invasive aspergillosis from smoking cannabis have been reported in the literature, they appear to be exceedingly rare and treatable.³⁻⁶ Tobacco smoking, while contraindicated in specific transplant types, such as heart or lung, does not appear to engender the same across-the-board rejection despite some data that suggests tobacco can contain higher *Aspergillus* spore counts than cannabis.³⁻⁶

San Francisco's MCDs are heavily regulated from a land-use perspective, allowing those that complete the permitting process to operate openly without fear of harassment by state or local law enforcement. However, since no reliable standards or testing methods have been developed, neither the city nor state has waded into the issue of quality control for cannabis provided to patients. The absence of any independent-verification process for monitoring contaminants and

lack of best-practices and guidelines for dispensaries may leave certain seriously ill patients at risk.

In order to adequately gauge whether *Aspergillus* species in cannabis poses a significant health threat, we propose an *Aspergillus* Threat-Assessment Research Project (ATARP). Samples of medical cannabis will be obtained from dispensaries within San Francisco and screened for *Aspergillus* species using established protocols.

**Specific Aim 2:
Monitor and screen for contaminants;
provide information on plant genetics
and active ingredients so that patients
can make safe, informed decisions
when selecting their medicine**

In addition to fungus, other contaminants can lead to adverse health effects with repeat exposure. Other contaminants include bacteria, heavy metals, and insecticides. Virtually no reliable data exists regarding the extent or type of contamination most prevalent on medical cannabis found in San Francisco, the greater Bay Area, or California.

In order to screen for different forms of contamination, we follow established guidelines and quality-control methods for medicinal plant materials as published by the World Health Organization (WHO) and other academic institutions. In order to effectively assess and respond to biological contamination of medicinal herbal products, we will continually screen samples for various potentially harmful agents and implement common sterilization techniques, such as heat sterilization or gamma irradiation.

Although over 700 varieties of cannabis have been reported around the world, there has been little

comparative research conducted on some of the unstudied medicinal properties.^{11,12} Using established forensic techniques, we can access information within the DNA of cannabis to positively identify the plant's gender, species, and potentially distinguish between related varieties. The cannabis plant contains numerous ingredients, though only five thus far have been studied extensively for therapeutic applications.¹¹

Of these compounds, tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and cannabidiol (CBD) are the most commonly occurring ingredients on the plant. While THC is often used as a measure of potency, the psychoactive effects also depend on the presence of other compounds, which have additive or inhibitory effects.^{12,13} For example, CBD blocks the intoxicating effects of THC and has also been shown to have antipsychotic, anti-inflammatory, and anxiolytic effects.¹⁴

As CBD can offset the psychoactive effects of THC, potency is not defined merely by the presence of THC. For medical-cannabis patients, potency is determined by symptom relief, which is not necessarily due to THC but rather other distinct therapeutic agents on the plant. Using standard analytical techniques, we can assay for the presence of therapeutically significant compounds.

Thus, we could provide data that informs users about the potential benefits and side effects of medical-cannabis varieties.

Section II. Analytical Laboratory

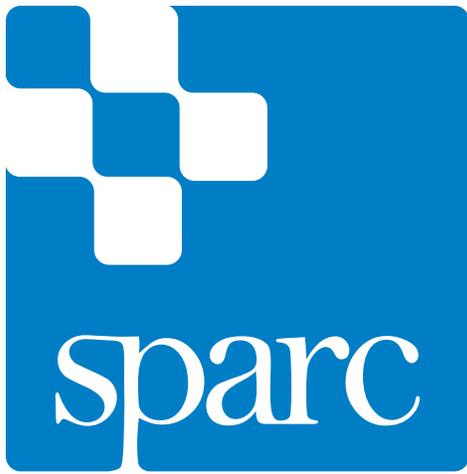
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- I. Community Engagement
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- of Delta9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) after oral application of THC versus standardized cannabis extract. *Ther Drug Monit*, 2005. 27(6): p. 799-810.

A space for your notes...

A large rectangular area with rounded corners, outlined in blue, containing 25 horizontal dotted lines for writing notes.



San Francisco
Patient and
Resource Center

1256 Mission Street
San Francisco CA 94103

info@SPARCsf.org

www.SPARCsf.org

TEL 415 252 7727
FAX 415 252 7724

**OUTER MISSION MERCHANTS and RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
POST OFFICE BOX 34099
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94134-0099**

*Joelle A. Kenealey, President
Marleen Norman, 1st Vice President
Wayne Hemer, 2nd Vice President
Monika Yungert, Secretary
Kenneth Kalani, Treasurer
Dina Menconi, Sergeant-at-Arms*

*OMMRA was Established: 1998
Member of the following Organizations: Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods, District 11
Council, Friends of the Geneva Office Building*

October 6, 2014

Tina Chang
San Francisco Planning Department
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400
San Francisco CA 94103

**RE: Project Address: 5420 Mission Street, San Francisco CA 94112
Building Permit: 2014.0509.5362
Case No.: 2014.0979D
Hearing Date: Thursday, October 16, 2014**

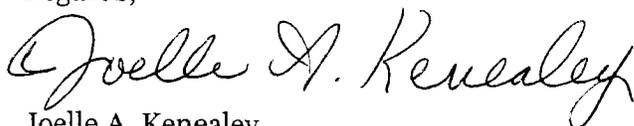
Dear Tina,

Enclosed please find the following items for the Planning Commissioner packets for the hearing scheduled for Thursday, October 16, 2014 re: 5420 Mission Street.

- Letter from the Outer Mission Merchants and Residents Association (OMMRA) urging the Planning Commission take discretionary review and oppose the project
- Letter from the District 11 Council President Mary Harris, urging the Planning Commission take discretionary review and oppose the project
- Email exchange between Sandy Cressman and Supervisor John Avalos regarding SPARC
- Change.org petition: "Three is Enough: No more MCDs on our corridor"
- Map of current MCDs and proposed MCDs
- Press release dated October 24, 2011 from RAND Corporation retracting its Report about Medical Marijuana Dispensaries and Crime

If there are any questions or you need anything further I can be reached by phone at 415-305-6065 or by email at sfommra@gmail.com.

Regards,



Joelle A. Kenealey
President
Outer Mission Merchants and Residents Association (OMMRA)

OUTER MISSION MERCHANTS *and* RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
POST OFFICE BOX 34099
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94134-0099

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October 6, 2014

Cindy Wu, President
Rodney Fong, Vice-President
Michael Antonini, Rich Hillis, Christine D. Johnson, Katharin Moore, Dennis Richards,
Commissioners
San Francisco Planning Commission
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400
San Francisco CA 94103

RE: Project Address: 5420 Mission Street, San Francisco CA 94112
Building Permit: 2014.0509.5362
Case No.: 2014.0979D
Hearing Date: Thursday, October 16, 2014

Dear President Wu and Commissioners,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Outer Mission Merchants and Residents Association (OMMRA) regarding the Project Address 5420 Mission Street. We ask you and other members of the Planning Commission to take Discretionary Review and oppose this project.

In February 2012, the Planning Commission approved three medical cannabis dispensaries in District 11, located at 4218, 5234 and 5258 Mission Street. This latest medical cannabis dispensary, also known as SPARC, would be 528 feet away from Mission Organics located at 5258 Mission Street, 0.7 mi. away from the San Mateo County line and with easy access to Highway 280.

SPARC already operates a medical cannabis dispensary located at 1256 Mission Street in the South of Market Area. They have publicly stated one of the reasons they are opening a second location in the Outer Mission is to serve residents of San Mateo County.

For those who may not know, San Mateo County does not allow medical cannabis dispensaries, or allow the delivery of medical cannabis.

President Cindy Wu
Project Address: 5420 Mission Street
October 6, 2014
Page Two

Supervisor Avalos supports SPARC moving into the neighborhood; he does not support his own electorate, which opposes a fourth MCD for Mission Street. Residents in the Outer Mission, Crocker Amazon and Excelsior neighborhoods want a vibrant merchant corridor with a variety of business offerings. Members of OMMRA, and other residents of District 11, want to know who is representing OUR interests at City Hall!

In the Spring of 2014, OMMRA testified at a Planning Commission hearing regarding the report "**Evaluating the Planning Code's Medical Cannabis Dispensaries Locational Requirements**". The Planning Commission approved this report, which had been requested by Supervisor Avalos. To date, this report has yet to be heard at the Land Use Committee of the Board of Supervisors.

OMMRA is very aware there are two more medical cannabis clubs that would like to open at 4130 Mission Street and 5201 Mission Street. To my knowledge, there is no other district in the City in recent years that has had this many medical cannabis dispensaries approved in a short amount of time. Having three medical cannabis dispensaries approved in one night is not a memory I will soon forget! Has District 11 reached the saturation point? OMMRA believes we have.

No one in the public can accuse OMMRA of being NIMBYs. Our community has had to deal with the challenges and issues with the three existing medical cannabis dispensaries. It has not been an easy transition, but OMMRA is working with the MCDs already in operation.

We feel there is a simple solution to this issue. If SPARC believes its needs a second location to service its clients residing in San Mateo County, then perhaps SPARC could partner with any of the three medical cannabis dispensaries already in operation.

Once again, we ask the Planning Commissioners take Discretionary Review and oppose this project. Thank you for your time. I would be happy to discuss further with you any concerns expressed in this letter. I can be reached at 415-305-6065 or by email at sfommra@gmail.com

Regards,



Joelle A. Kenealey
President

Outer Mission Merchants and Residents Association

District 11 Council

127 Granada Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94112

October 6, 2014

Cindy Wu, President
Rodney Fong, Vice-President
Michael Antonini, Rich Hillis, Christine D. Johnson, Katharin Moore, Dennis Richards,
Commissioners
San Francisco Planning Commission
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400
San Francisco CA 94103

RE: Project Address: 5420 Mission Street, San Francisco CA 94112
Building Permit: 2014.0509.5362
Case No.: 2014.0979D
Hearing Date: Thursday, October 16, 2014

Dear President Wu and Commissioners,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the District 11 Council regarding the above project address of 5420 Mission Street. We ask the Planning Commissioners take Discretionary Review and oppose this project.

In February 2012, the Planning Commission approved three medical cannabis dispensaries in District 11, located at 4218, 5234 and 5258 Mission Street. This latest medical cannabis dispensary, also known as SPARC, would be 528 feet away from Mission Organics located at 5258 Mission Street, 0.7 mi away from the San Mateo County line and with easy access to Highway 280.

SPARC already operates a medical cannabis dispensary located at 1256 Mission Street in the South of Market Area. They have publicly stated one of the reasons they are opening a second location in the Outer Mission is to serve residents of San Mateo County. For those who may not know, San Mateo County does not allow medical cannabis dispensaries, nor delivery service of medical cannabis.

It is the position of District 11 Council that permitting SPARC to open is asking merchants, residents and law enforcement personnel to bear a considerable burden, when the sole purpose benefits one merchant by circumventing the laws of another county. We also believe that the three medical cannabis dispensaries already in operation are serving the needs of District 11. We see no reason for a FOURTH medical cannabis dispensary be permitted to open.

Once again, we ask the Planning Commissioners take Discretionary Review and oppose this project.

Regards,

Mary Harris
President
District 11 Council



Joelle Kenealey <sfommra@gmail.com>

Fwd: MCD's in Crocker Amazon

1 message

Sandy Cressman <cressmanmusic@mac.com>
To: "sfommra@gmail.com" <sfommra@gmail.com>

Mon, Oct 6, 2014 at 8:09 AM

Hi Joelle,

Here's the message.

Thanks for representing us at the meeting.

I hope we meet sometime. I walk at San Bruno Mountain sometimes and often go to the Dark Horse for dinner.

Sandy
Pope St.

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Avalos, John (BOS)" <john.avalos@sfgov.org>
Date: September 29, 2014 at 6:09:43 PM PDT
To: Sandy Cressman <cressmanmusic@mac.com>
Subject: Re: MCD's in Crocker Amazon

Thanks for writing.

I have done a lot of work to make improvements to the corridor and have worked to attract businesses too. Due to my direct efforts the district will gain a neighborhood serving credit union on the corner of Onondaga and Mission. I have worked with the police and city attorney to close down three on line gambling joints that were big contributors to crime. I have worked to bring extra cleaning services to the district commercial corridor and have funded murals and organizations like Clean City which has made improvements to the buildings on Geneva and mission. I have called for greater enforcement against illegal dumping and graffiti. Funded neighborhood art and green space. Most recently this weekend at Sunday streets (which I brought to the Excelsior) we opened our latest park lot on the corner of ocean and mission.

I am not a fan of Mission Organics and Tree Med. I believe they can take into account community concerns and work harder to build relationships and support community projects. The Green Cross has been a good neighbor. They have helped with pedestrian safety and neighborhood beautification. They have also contributed money to the vitality of the neighborhood. I have every confidence that the new MCD will do just the same if not better. Why? Because they already have a track record in the south of market.

The new MCD will create a new standard for the neighborhood. The other two MCDs close by will have to step up their game working with the neighborhood or fall by the wayside. I have already spoken with our new Captain Joseph McFadden who will be watching all the MCDs closely. While he has received no

complaints about Green Cross he tells me that is not the same for the other two and will work to bring them into compliance or shut them down.

There are many absentee property owners and land lords with property on the commercial corridor. Many have little interest in actively finding commercial tenants. Many hold out for businesses that can pay a higher rent but find no takers. Many are just satisfied holding on to the property and doing nothing with it. The BoS has passed legislation to raise fees on property owners keeping vacant storefronts all to little avail.

Much of our infrastructure is old and crumbling. I have fought hard for the little we have and have been challenged by how this city tends to support the most wealthy and focuses on downtown infrastructure and not that of our neighborhoods and outer neighborhoods.

I will continue to fight for mixed use development and denser housing that will rebuild the corridor and build the kind of infrastructure and public space that will attract a greater variety of neighborhood services and businesses. Many are in the pipeline from the former Joe's Cable Car site to the Mission and Seneca site, Valente Funeral home and beyond.

I realize nothing gets built over night and I appreciate your concern and patience.

Sincerely,

Supervisor John Avalos

Sent from an electronic mobile communication device

On Sep 29, 2014, at 10:56 AM, Sandy Cressman <cressmanmusic@mac.com> wrote:

Dear Supervisor Avalos,

I reside on Pope St. near Mission in Crocker Amazon.

I learned from our neighborhood Next Door site that there has been another MCD approved for very close to the two that are already within a block of each other on Mission near Mt. Vernon.

I understand that one of my neighbors has already written to you and that you answered that this newest MCD will be "better integrated" into the neighborhood. I wonder what that means. So far, for those of us who shop and patronize the restaurants on Mission in that area, there is no "integration"... no great value for the neighborhood and actually its a bit weird to have security guards out front and people coming and going from those businesses that aren't from the neighborhood--and don't seem to be filing local restaurants etc.-- it would be interesting for you to query the surrounding businesses on that.

My children are grown, but if I was one of the many new families who are buying homes up in CA and in Southern Hills where I live, I would be hesitant to take my kids to the restaurants on Mission before they could intelligently make up their growing minds about the positives and negatives of pot use... second hand smoke being more pervasive now then before the MCDs came in.

Have you advocated for other types of businesses to come into that specific area? There are many empty storefronts, yet no café, relatively few restaurants (of any quality for sure).

Please share your vision and your plans for the CA Mission corridor as they relate to the MCDs and other businesses,

Sincerely,

Sandy Cressman
Homenagem Brasileira/Connected Voice
415 290 7467
cressmanmusic@mac.com
cressmanmusic@me.com
<http://www.cressmanmusic.com>

change.org

Excelsior Outer Mission Merchants

Recipient: San Francisco Planning Department

Letter: Greetings,

Three Is Enough: No more MCDs on our corridor

Next month, the Planning Commission will conduct their Mandatory Discretionary Review of SPARC's application to open a Medical Cannabis Dispensary at 5420 Mission Street. This proposed location is two blocks (under 1000') from two existing MCDs.

Both TreeMed (5234 Mission St.) and Mission Organics (5258 Mission St.) service the south end of the corridor. Along with the Green Cross (4218 Mission St.), the Excelsior Outer Mission Neighborhood Commercial District already houses three MCDs, some of which also deliver.

We don't need another.

Excelsior/Outer Mission is a diverse residential neighborhood with a large number of families and children. Despite being a large residential district, the commercial corridor has a staggering lack of amenities. The business types that do exist are repeated up and down the corridor – nail salons, taquerias, dollar stores – and now the pattern is being repeated with MCDs. Only, the MCDs (especially those near the county line) aren't there for residents or local businesses. They largely serve customers from outside of the district - customers who come in only for their one stop and leave the area without supporting other local businesses.

It has been a challenge to attract new businesses to the corridor, and homogenizing what does open will only make it more difficult. Please, urge the Planning Commission not to allow any additional MCDs on our corridor.

Excelsior Outer Mission MCDs

Existing

 All items

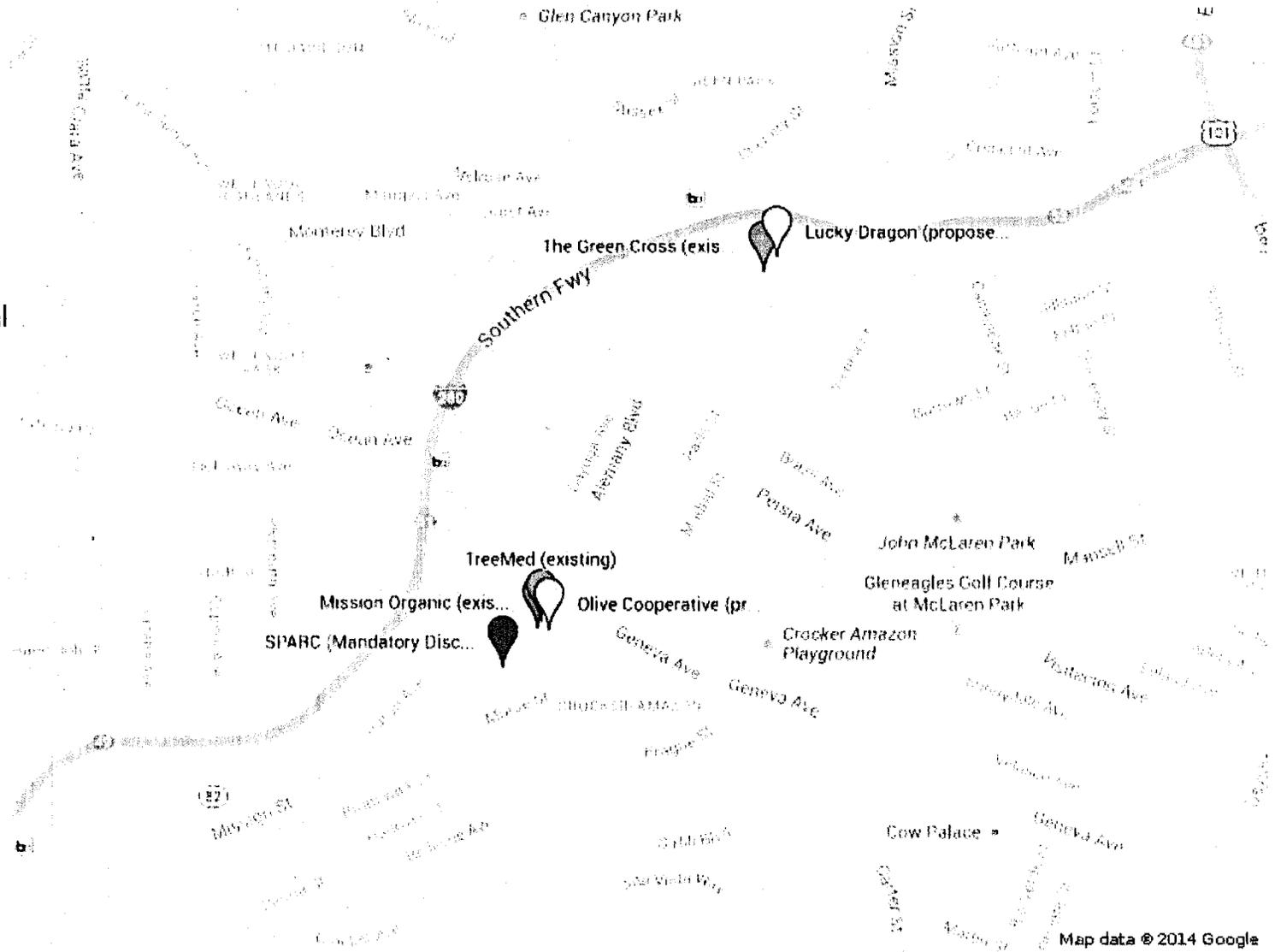
Proposed

 4130 Mission St

 5201 Mission St

 5420 Mission St

Existing and proposed Medical Cannabis Dispensaries in the Excelsior Outer Mission Neighborhood Commercial District



Signatures

NO MORE MCD's

| Name | Location | Date |
|---|---|----------------------|
| Marleen E. Norman <i>Marleen Norman</i> | 363 Prague St. San Francisco, CA 94112 | 10/02/14 |
| Alan Mills <i>Alan Mills</i> | 363 Prague St, S.F., Ca. 94112 | 10/3/14 |
| JOE NOCT <i>Joe Noct</i> | 730 Conner St. S.F. Ca 94112 | 10/3/14 |
| ANGELIQUE MAHAN <i>Angie</i> | 339 Prague St SF 94112 | 10/5/14 |
| THERESA FACTORA <i>Theresa Factora</i> | 371 PRAGUE ST SF CA 94112 | 10/5/14 |
| Albert Factora <i>Albert</i> | 371 Prague St. SF, CA 94112 | 10/5/14 |
| Jenny Hughton | 326 Prague St. S.F. CA 94112 | 10/5/14 |
| Gordon Pham | 326 Prague St / SF CA 94112 | 10/5/14 |
| Marwan Nassrah | 943 Geneva Ave Daniel's Pharmacy | 10/6/14 |
| NAIEL NASRAH | 943 Geneva Ave Daniel's Pharmacy | 10/6/14 |
| Marwan Totah ^{dir. Totah} | 929 Geneva Ave J & J Hardware | 10/6/14 |
| <i>Abdel Omar</i> | 901 Geneva Ave GENVA SNACK STORE | 10/6/14 |
| BILL LITCHFIELD | <i>Will Litchfield</i> 5159 MISSION ST | ACME SURPLIS 10/6/14 |
| Sean Fahey | <i>Sean Fahey</i> 21 Naylor St | 10/6/14 |
| SAM THAWANI | <i>Sam</i> Cordova Mkt 301 Rolph St, | 10/06/14 |

Signatures

NO MORE MCD'S

| Name | Location | Date |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| Antonio Factora <i>[Signature]</i> | 1100 RUSSIA AVE. SF, CA 94112 | 10/5/2014 |
| Elena Factora <i>[Signature]</i> | 1100 RUSSIA AVE. SF, CA 94112 | 10/5/2014 |
| Maria Factora <i>[Signature]</i> | 1100 RUSSIA AVE. SF, CA 94112 | 10/5/2014 |
| Miguel Factora <i>[Signature]</i> | 319 PRAGUE ST, SF, CA 94112 | 10/5/2014 |
| Nora Factora <i>[Signature]</i> | 319 PRAGUE ST. SF. CA 94112 | 10/5/2014 |
| REGINA DELANNO <i>[Signature]</i> | 319 PRAGUE ST. SF. CA 94112 | 10/05/2014 |
| Rafaela Delanno <i>[Signature]</i> | 374 Prague St. SF. CA 94112 | 10/5/2014 |
| Rafaela Delanno <i>[Signature]</i> | 374 Prague St. SF CA 94112 | 10/5/2014 |
| Rafaela Delanno <i>[Signature]</i> | 374 PRAGUE ST SF CA 94112 | 10/5/2014 |
| Rafaela Delanno <i>[Signature]</i> | 319 PRAGUE ST. SF CA 94112 | 10/3/14 |
| Rafaela Delanno <i>[Signature]</i> | 712 PARIS ST SF CA 94112 | 10/5/14 |
| Rafaela Delanno <i>[Signature]</i> | 712 PARIS ST. SF CA 94112 | 10/5/14 |
| Rafaela Delanno <i>[Signature]</i> | 110 CASUGA AVE, SF, CA 94112 | 10/5/14 |
| Rafaela Delanno <i>[Signature]</i> | 110 CASUGA AVE, SF CA 94112 | 10/5/14 |

Signatures

| Name | Location | Date |
|----------|-----------------------|----------|
| Ben | Mission St. & Francis | 09/27/14 |
| Addy | Mission St. & Francis | 09/27/14 |
| Gwynn M. | 137 Otsego Ave | 9/27/14 |
| Polly | Alemany Ave. | 09/27/14 |
| Ellena | Cotter St | 09/27/14 |
| Khine | | 9/27/14 |
| Beth | 612 Lisbon | 9/27/14 |
| Martin | 612 Lisbon | 9/27/14 |

Signatures

| Name | Location | Date |
|----------------------|---------------------------|---------|
| Rachel Santos | 117 Madrid St. 94112 | 9.30.14 |
| Snoan Blaschak | 215 Santa Rosa Ave. 94112 | 9-30-14 |
| Valentina Ceccarelli | 632 Athens St. 94112 | 9-30-14 |
| Tom Herron | 1234 Buchanan 94115 | 9-30-14 |
| Denise Jimenez | 114 KATHLEEN Ct 94044 | 9-30-14 |
| EL BORDJIDAVE | 256 THERESA 94112 | 10/1/14 |
| Hilda Lussier | 236 Polph 94112 | 10/1/14 |
| Mary Stone | 22 Santa Maria 94118 | 10/1/14 |
| Rupeta B. Alvir | 425 Avalon Ave. 94112 | 10/1/14 |
| Benjamin Jeter | 36 Santa Ysabe Ave 94112 | 10/1/14 |
| Jaime Stella | 2134 35th Ave 94116 | 10/1/14 |
| Joann Stevini | | 10/1/14 |
| Yvettchen Mervee | 228 Lisbon St. 94112 | 10/2/14 |
| El Oney | 1276 Alamy 94112 | 10/2/14 |
| Julio Nifon | 1276 Alamy Blvd 94112 | 10/2/14 |
| Edward Wrenshaw | 1276 Alamy 94117 | 10/3/14 |
| L Yanco | 220 Santa Rosa Ave 94112 | 10/2/14 |
| Alba M. Canale | 2436 Alamy Blvd 94112 | 10/2/14 |
| Mary Hopkins | 1480 Newcomb Ave. 94124 | 10/2/14 |

Signatures

Name

Location

Date

Jerry Tonelli 4494 Mission St 9/29/14

Augustina Arellano 4494 Mission St 9/29/14

Esteban, Joseli 4494 Mission St, SF 9/29/14

James Hodge 228 Lisbon St. 9-29-14

Cuba Keller 511 " 9-29-14

Aura Cruz 4495 Mission St. 9/29/14

Irma Orjca 694 Madrid St. 9-29-14

Emilia Bula 631 Felton Street 9-29-14

M. Menez 362 Athens St. 9-29-14

Joyce Kubich 43 Mignel St. 9-29-14

Rico Martinez 295 Moscow St. 9-30-14

Patty Vallejante 615 Prague St 9/30/14

John Smith 2929 Mission St 9-30-14

Grady Cew 176-2640. 9-30-14

Maria Gutierrez 278 Ney St. 9-30-14

Martha Ortega 64 Barnock St. 9-30-14

Elena Soto 4534 Mission St. #11 9-30-14

M. Emerson 720 Dartmouth St. 9-30-14

Signatures

| Name | Location | Date |
|------------------|-------------|---------|
| Dorothy Baker | 350 Madrid | 10-2-14 |
| Shirley | 350 Madrid | 10-2-14 |
| Janis Pharis | 875 Geneva | 10/2/14 |
| V. Campos | 21 Flood | 10/2/14 |
| José L. Quiñones | 331 Peru Av | 10/2/14 |

Signatures

| Name | Location | Date |
|--------------------|--|---------|
| Nguyen Kim | 1839 40 th AVE | 9/28/14 |
| Horacio Parrales | 915 Colliuza | 9/28/14 |
| Lisa Li | 231 London St. | 9/28/14 |
| Susana Puelar | 129 SANTA Gray Ave | 9/28/14 |
| JJ Seiter | 577 Laidlaw ST | 9-28-14 |
| Cecilia Compami | 94112 ²³⁵ - Dublin St | 9-28-14 |
| Erin Savage | 94112 - Madrid St. | 9/28/14 |
| Donielle Del Carlo | 734 Silver Ave | |
| Jamie Murray | SF 94134 822 4 th Ave SF | 9/28/14 |
| Thany Wu | 511 Campbell Ave SF | 9/28/14 |
| COLLEEN Carrigan | 20 Cotton St. SF | 9/28/14 |
| Brian Danks | 8 Colonial Way SF | 9/28/14 |
| Alex Cabrer | Alex Cabrer | 9/28/14 |
| Cyrus Mays | 454 London St SF CA 94112 | 9/28/14 |
| Lilia Lee | 924 Hamilton St. SF 94134 | 9/28/14 |

Signatures

| Name | Location | Date |
|-------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| Alberik Boero | 50 Negy St | 9/29/14 |
| EJB | 50 Negy St | 9/29/14 |
| D SALAZAR | MISSION ST | 9-29-14 |
| D Perez | ATHENS ST | 9-29-14 |
| W Sanguinetti | 4526 mission | 9/29/14 |
| J. Stillman | 584 SILVER | 9/29/14 |
| Gabriel Hernandez | 66 vienna St | 9/29/14 |
| Dennis Haaf | 59 Niagara Ave | 9/30/14 |
| JOHNN MAYORGA | 836 DWIGHT ST. | 9/30/14 |
| Raymond Bonvan | 59 Molimo Dr | 9/30/14 |
| Sherry Wang | 59 Molimo Dr. | 9/30/14 |
| Sergio Casilla | 4490 mission St. | 9/30/14 |
| Glen Zorrilla | 230 GAVEN ST. | 9/30/14 |
| ROLANDO GUARDADO | 235 WHIPPLE AVE. | 10/01/14 |
| Anthony J. Davis | 1285 SILVER AVE | 10/01/14 |
| HARVEY DAVENPORT | 262 VIENNA | 10/1/14 |
| Josh Calero | 133 Santa Rosa ave | 10/1/14 |
| Feliciano Aranda | 350 Madrid | |



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RAND Retracts Report about Medical Marijuana Dispensaries and Crime



FOR RELEASE

Monday

October 24, 2011

The RAND Corporation today retracted the study "Regulating Medical Marijuana Dispensaries: An Overview with Preliminary Evidence of Their Impact on Crime" that was released in September.

Questions raised following publication prompted RAND to undertake an unusual post-publication internal review of the study. That review determined the crime data used in the analysis are insufficient to answer the questions targeted by the study.

The primary issue discovered during the internal review was that the data described as covering the city of Los Angeles and surrounding areas did not include crime data reported by the Los Angeles Police Department.

RAND researchers intend to conduct a new analysis once they have an adequate set of crime information and those results will be posted to www.rand.org. Because that work could take many weeks, RAND officials wanted to be clear that the study's findings cannot be validated at this time. [Update 12/2013: RAND no longer plans to publish a revised analysis.]

"This was a rare failure of our peer review system," said Debra Knopman, vice president of the RAND Infrastructure, Safety, and Environment division. "We take our

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commitment to quality and objectivity seriously so we have retracted the study in order to correct it."

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The RAND Corporation is a research organization that develops solutions to public policy challenges to help make communities throughout the world safer and more secure, healthier and more prosperous.

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Regulating Medical Marijuana Dispensaries: An Overview with Preliminary Evidence of Their Impact on Crime

Sep 20, 2011



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