



Dear District 2 Residents:

This week, the Sacramento City Council, through one of its committees, will consider an [ordinance](#) to allow up to 10 more cannabis dispensaries on Del Paso Blvd. Yes, you read that right: ten.

This proposal is being championed by my opponent as a measure that will bring “equality” to our neighborhoods. That’s a slap in the face. In reality, it’s a backroom deal that will benefit a few, elite folks who have the means during a down economy to take advantage of any potential enterprise. That is straight up dishonest.

True equality is providing residents with a free atmosphere and the real opportunity to chart their own futures. As a longtime business owner in this neighborhood, I know what it means to help foster success and this isn’t what it looks like. Del Paso Blvd. should be a family-friendly environment that attracts the types of businesses that will enrich our communities.

Forcing more drugs, legal or otherwise, into a community that needs diverse job opportunities isn’t equality. I’m sensitive to the fact that many communities unfairly suffered through disproportionate sentencing guidelines when marijuana was illegal and I agree we should do what we can to correct those mistakes and heal old wounds.

But, we can’t turn a blind eye to all the problems associated with cannabis cultivation. We must ask the tough question of whether this is what our community needs right now. To me, the answer is no. Some people say that more dispensaries means less drug dealers, but in the end, more dispensaries means more drugs in our neighborhoods.

Ask yourself: In which other Council District would an additional 10 marijuana dispensaries be acceptable? Why is it only being championed in low-income communities? What percentage of new licenses will go to District 2 residents who are not affiliated with a non-profit or the City of Sacramento? These are questions that need answers as they will reveal the mindset of our current leadership and what they think of the spirit that makes up our neighborhoods.

To that end, I am opposing this ordinance and hope you will do the same. There should be no vote held on this matter until after the November elections where the people can decide what type of vision they want for our community. Please join me in opposing this poor attempt at equality by submitting a public comment to the City to ensure your voice is heard.

It’s time for new leadership that approaches our toughest challenges in an innovative way. Let’s join together and create real change.

Best,
Sean Looee