

Dear Sutter Creek City Council Members

I am writing out of concern regarding the consideration of a retail cannabis dispensary in Sutter Creek. I understand that many cities across our state are welcoming this regulated business in hopes of raising revenues and using the argument that this provides a safe way for people to purchase a recreational substance that they are otherwise getting through dangerous means. While I can appreciate that stance, it is my opinion that we would be adding an unnecessary evil that has costs which far outweigh any financial benefit the city hopes to see.

And while it can be tempting to look at other small cities and fear that we may be missing out on something everyone else is doing, Sutter Creek has long prided itself on being a different kind of town to call home. A cannabis dispensary would be part of an erosion of the character that our community rightfully sells itself on.

I strongly urge you to consider not only the city's bottom line, but the kind of town you wish for your children to inherit. Please do your part to keep the small town character and charm in and leave cannabis out.

Pastor Mark Smith

Creekside United Methodist Church