

## Adam Zack

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**From:** Elisabeth Robson <bethrobson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 1, 2020 8:00 AM  
**To:** Marijuana Comments  
**Subject:** Marijuana Ordinance

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Dear Adam,

I am writing to comment on the upcoming SJC hearing on marijuana production and processing regulations.

I would like to express my support to ban both marijuana production (at the farm/industrial scale) and processing in SJC completely.

When WA state voted to legalize marijuana, I voted against it, not because I have an issue with people smoking pot now and then or with home grown pot (i.e. a very small amount in someone's back yard). The issue I have is that legalizing marijuana encourages the growth of marijuana at industrial scale, as a cash crop. We have seen this happen in other places, even where it is illegal (e.g. northern CA), as well as where it is legal.

Industrial agriculture, no matter where it takes place and no matter what crop is grown, is terrible for the environment. Prior to the state vote on marijuana, I studied the impacts of industrial marijuana growth on the environment in other locations and quickly came to the conclusion that it is unsustainable for the environment, terrible for wildlife, and pretty awful for the humans that live nearby too. So, I voted against it for the state at the time.

Since that time I have seen more proof that industrial marijuana farming and processing is bad for the environment. For instance, northern CA populations of various wild animals and birds have been dramatically impacted by water pollution, light pollution, and pesticide and herbicide use associated with industrial marijuana farming.

I also think that industrial marijuana farming in this county will encourage some nefarious characters to move here. Certainly not everyone associated with the business is "nefarious" but I think some are, and I would be very sad to see our communities be impacted by that.

Thank you,  
Elisabeth Robson