

From: Keith Graham <kagm10@gmail.com>
To: grandclerk@co.grand.co.us
Date: 11/08/2015 12:00 PM
Subject: Application for marijuana license at 10863 Highway 34, Grand Lake, CO

To the Grand County Clerk and Recorder,

Thank you for the opportunity to express our views on the application for a marijuana facility license on 10863 Highway 34, Grand Lake. Since we are presently in Illinois, we will be unable to attend the hearing meeting on November 17. We do appreciate the opportunity to express our concerns via email in regard to this issue.

We have owned property in Wildacres II for 16 years, and we spend about 4 months a year there. Having been volunteers in Rocky Mountain National Park every summer since 1997, we are very concerned about the locations on Route 34 that can potentially become marijuana retail facilities. We are especially concerned about the particular location at 10863 Highway 34 as this location is not only within the 2 mile radius of our home, but it is very close to the Rocky Mountain National Park West entrance.

We are fully aware that marijuana facilities are now legal in Colorado. But that does not mean communities are obligated to accept them. We suggest that this application should be denied for the following reasons:

1. We strongly object to such a facility being so close to our home. We are one of many residents who simply do not agree with marijuana facilities being located so close to our homes. We noted with interest the clause in the Notification of a Retail Marijuana License Application that reads:

Note: No retail or medical marijuana license shall be issued within 1,000 feet of any school, childcare establishment, alcohol or drug treatment facility or church.

We find it very interesting that such a clause would be necessary. We do not believe such a clause would apply to other types of businesses seeking approval. There are good reasons why this applies to marijuana facilities. If it is not acceptable for such facilities to be located near the mentioned establishments, why is it acceptable for them to be located anywhere else? The fact that such a clause is necessary implies something is wrong with a marijuana facility, and they should not be allowed any place where residents feel they will be negatively impacted by their presence.

2. Throughout our 19 years as volunteers in Rocky Mountain National Park, we have come to know the challenges faced by Law Enforcement in the Park. Marijuana is illegal in the Park, and to enforce this can pose a real problem. With such a facility being so close to the West entrance to the Park means a much greater possibility of marijuana being brought in to the Park and being used there. This would put additional unnecessary burden on our law enforcement personnel. As Park volunteers, we would not want to have to deal with visitors who are under the influence of marijuana, and we are certain our visitors, many families with children, would not want to deal with them either. A marijuana facility so close to the Park entrance increases the likelihood of marijuana possession and use in the Park. and this is totally unacceptable.

Marijuana facilities in our county are simply a very bad idea. We realize there have already been some approvals in the county for such facilities, but please do not set additional precedence by approving this application. Let's put a stop to this right now, and let it be known that marijuana retail outlets in our community are not welcome and that such applications will not be approved.

We see only one favorable comment of the many that have been submitted opposing both this facility and the one located at 12365 Highway 34, Grand Lake. Whereas we understand this person's medicinal need for marijuana, may we suggest that it is only a short trip to Tabernash to obtain the marijuana he needs.

Respectfully,
Keith and Karen Graham
962 CR 464
Grand Lake, CO 80447