

July 8th, 2021

City Council Members
City of Merced,
678 W. 18th Street
Merced, CA. 95348

Re: Request for Zoning Text Amendment

Dear City Council Members,

I am the owner Parcel 2 as shown on Parcel Map for "J.F. Collins Co." in Book 23 of Parcel Maps at page 41, Merced County Records (APM 058-030-010), that total approximately 2.8-acres of developable land, currently zoned PD-8. I am proposing a new convenience store with tobacco sale and a gas station at the southwest corner of "R" Street and Loughborough Drive. However, the current Special Land Use Regulations, Section 20.44.160 prohibits tobacco sales within 1,000 feet of schools, playgrounds, parks, youth centers, and City-owned and operated recreational facilities and libraries. Attached Exhibit 'A' shows that the project site is more than 1,000 feet from schools, but it is within 600 feet of Fahrens Creek Park. I request the City Council to allow this property to have the Tobacco Sales prohibition measurements and sensitive uses be consistent with the City's Commercial Cannabis Ordinance, Section 20.44.170. Additionally, update the exceptions section of the code to allow new retailers within 600 feet if they are approved through a Conditional Use Permit.

Thank you for your attention to this matter,

Regards,



Isaac Sargiz, Owner

LOCATION MAP



Levesque, Jennifer

From: Lynda Barbour <lynda.barbour@cancer.org>
Sent: Friday, October 15, 2021 7:33 AM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Chelsea Aivazian; Cha See
Subject: Comments in Opposition to item # 1. 2. (21-768) Merced City Council

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network opposes the amendment before you.

- 1) Increasing density of tobacco retailers by allowing them to be located more closely to youth serving areas is bad for the community health. Studies demonstrate that there is a relationship between tobacco retail density and smoking prevalence and the proliferation of these stores is much higher in black and brown, as well as lower income communities. Our youth and these communities are already targets of the tobacco industry and a change to the policy allows further encroachment by the tobacco industry into the lives of our residents.
- 2) It is unnecessary. The current ordinance allows for exemptions to be granted on a case by case basis, and this already allows council to assure that the community health is protected when an exemption is granted

Lynda Barbour, MPH

Senior Government Relations Director, So. California & Grant Program
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American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, Inc.
5333 Mission Center Road Suite 105
San Diego, CA 92108
fightcancer.org | 1.800.227.2345



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