



Tanaina Community Council of Wasilla
P. O. Box 870236
Wasilla, AK 99687

Dept. of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development
Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office
550 W 7th Avenue, #1600
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Practical planning for permitting marijuana-grow operations within the Tanaina Community is needed with respect to placement. Notably a 1.5 square mile area of Schrock Road in Wasilla whereas there exists four approved grow operations within a square mile and two more now proposed in close proximity thereof.

We urge AMCO for prudent discretion considering the permit-review process in residential areas of the Matanuska-Susitna Valley. Please find attached a Matanuska-Susitna Borough approved map of the Tanaina Community area for your reference.

Subdivision-saturation of marijuana businesses, *regardless of security* is a matter of perception; both sentimentally and materialistically with respect to property values of tasteful family-valued neighborhoods. An example of more judicious distribution might be as applied to similar Alaska Alcohol AS04 which disciplines the placement of like-kind mind altering product within a geographic area *with respect to per capita population* (AS Section 04.11.400, subsections A & B). Additionally, we request AMCO work with the Department of Commerce to create a new NAICS for marijuana commercialization under Category 11: Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting. This will provide greater transparency, and allow users to quickly determine the density and physical location of these businesses within their communities.

Please consider sensitive and more sensible placement of such recreational products for the family-minded and residential property owners of the Tanaina Community and the Matanuska Valley, now and in the future.

Respectfully,

The Tanaina Community Council Board of Directors
Corine Hickey
Rachel Lund
Michelle LaRose
Gretchen Watson
Will Hastings

AMCO
AUG 30 2022

cc: Mark Whisenhunt-Planner II, Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission

Ali, Maya M (CED)

From: Alexandra Pepper <alexandrapepper97@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 11:08 AM
To: AMCO Admin (CED sponsored)
Subject: ATTN Christopher Jaime

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Mr. Jaime

I am emailing in regards to an issue of public safety; specifically the safety of children. As a cannabis user, as well as worker in the industry this issue has been on my mind for quite a while but as a new mother I feel I must bring it to light. Currently when purchasing cannabis products parents are unable to bring their children into the retail stores. Inherently retail stores are safe, as there is no smoke, all the products are behind the counter, and even if they weren't any items that might be decarbed are packaged in a way children shouldn't be able to easily open them before an adult intervenes. As safe as stores are, children must be left in the car, often alone. As you may or may not know there are many safety issues that can arise from this. As a budtender I have personally stood outside and watched STRANGERS children so that they could do their shopping. However babysitting was not part of my job duties, and was something I was only able to do if we were not busy. Now as a parent myself I see how problematic this is, especially if budtenders are unable or unwilling to help the parent. Parents are then often forced to choose between locking their children in a car during extreme temperatures or leaving the car running and unlocked, in which both the car and the child within are at risk for being taken. In the sun car temperatures can rise 20 degrees in just 10 minutes and I'm sure you don't need to know how cold it can get especially in the northern parts of the state, and the younger the child the harder it is for them to regulate their temperature. This is especially true for single and/or low income parents, as it's hard and extremely expensive to find child care while working let alone for shopping, especially if they can be brought along to the grocery and liquor stores. Thank you for considering this issue and helping work towards a solution. Feel free to email back if you have any questions.

-Alexandra Pepper