**From:** Elle Zernia
**To:** Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored)
**Cc:** clerk@cityofseward.net
**Subject:** OBJECTION to Tufted Puffin Lic. Application # 36580
**Date:** Wednesday, January 24, 2024 10:15:48 AM

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Hello AMCO representatives,

My name is Elle Zernia and I am writing in objection to the Tufted Puffin LLC application for an onsite outdoor cannabis consumption area, lic #36580 at 408 Port Ave. Our landlord, Siren Station LLC, received a letter on Jan. 2nd from the applicant with their intent. Mermaid Grotto did not receive a notification letter.

Mermaid Grotto Cafe rents the building and property at 412 Port Ave, next to the proposed Tufted Puffin and the Alaska Railroad Depot, from Siren Station Llc. We have a ten year lease. We are a locally owned restaurant less than 250 feet from the proposed site. We have many valid concerns with secondhand smoke and odors coming onto our property and inside our building due to our close proximity to Tufted Puffin (currently Tufted Teapot). We have a designated outdoor eating patio (25 ft by 30 ft) and a large 16 foot by 12 foot garage door that we open on a daily basis in the summer. We also have intake fans forcing outside air (make up air for our kitchen)into our establishment at almost all times. We do NOT consent to have the air, containing secondhand smoke and smelling of cannabis entering our business while families eat their meals inside and outside. There is substantial research out regarding the negative health effects of secondhand smoke of any kind. In addition the CDC states there is NO safe level of any kind of second hand smoke exposure. Restaurants are not even allowed to have cigarette smoking.

I am also concerned with people consuming cannabis, getting into vehicles and potentially endangering the public. I also agree with the below statements made by Siren Station Llc, our landlord in their letter of objection.

"In addition, this proposed site sits within 37 feet of the busy community sidewalk/bike path. Families with children use this path when coming in and out of the Seward harbor from their homes and our schools. They have the right to travel these public paths without the fear of encountering secondhand cannabis smoke and odor.

This specific property is a poor choice for outdoor consumption due to its location and the effects it would have to the established businesses and public services already in use."

Please do not approve license #36580 at this location for outdoor consumption for the safety of my staff and customers. Please contact me with any questions you may have for me at 907-362-1353.

Regards,
Elle Zernia
Owner - Mermaid Grotto Cafe
907-362-1353 cell