



Memorandum

TO: City Council

FROM: Councilmember Herrera

SUBJECT: Addressing the Impact of
Marijuana Dispensaries

DATE: 06/09/14

APPROVE

Rose Herrera

DATE: 6/10/14

Recommendation

1. Direct staff to look into the following:
 - a. Charitable contributions by dispensaries to anti-drug non-profits and;
 - b. A policy dedicating a percentage of the Marijuana Business Tax (MBT) to address the public cost of medical marijuana dispensaries and;

Background

During the four years that marijuana dispensaries have grown unregulated in San Jose, so has a corresponding well documented list of negative impacts to our community that have both social and economic costs. Most notable are the impacts to our kids with increased student suspensions in some schools due to marijuana use that parents and teachers believe are created by the increased availability of marijuana that dispensaries provide. Apart from this we must also address the negative environment that dispensaries can create for neighboring businesses. When public urination, threats of violence, trespassing, noxious smells, and other negative factors associated with dispensaries occur it interferes with the neighboring businesses' ability to retain customers or conduct their business. The revenue we take in as a city from the MBT must be in part utilized to mitigate these negative impacts to our community