

This is a posting to help our residents to be aware of a proposed Marijuana Dispensary to be established in the Pines Shopping Center at Center and Jacaranda. Trulieve Medical is proceeding with a special exception petition which at present is going through a first round Completeness Review by Sarasota County staff. It is in the early stages of review and no dates have yet been set for the eventual public hearings. There is an active petition opposing the Compassionate Cannabis group locating in this shopping center. The desire is to stop the location in our shopping center with the hope that it locate somewhere else, ie., a health park. This petition will be stronger with more area residents involved in the signing. It has been strongly recommended that we get the petition signed and filed for both the Planning Commission and the County Commission, as soon as possible.

The essence of the opposition petition is specific with concerns involving the following:

\*The school close by and the church less than a block away, both involve individuals both young and old. The Sarasota Military school children meet public transportation at the corner of the Pines Shopping Center. Big Olaf's ice cream shop is just a few doors away from the proposed dispensary. This, unfortunately, could open up areas to be used for making money, illegally, by selling marijuana products to innocent children and young adults

\*This is a very busy shopping center with a full parking lot most of the day time hours. As quoted at the November 11, 2017 meeting, the expected number of staff is 12 plus 2 armed guards and an estimated 40 per day patient load. The numbers for parking for the Dispensary will place a load on the established businesses already located in the Shopping Center.

\*Also stated at the open meeting in November is the fact that they have no control of use after the patient exits to the parking lot.

\*This Shopping Center is a busy neighborhood shopping area and well used by residents living close by.

\*The intersection of Center and Jacaranda is very busy all day long with entrance and exiting the parking lot extremely challenging without the added numbers projected by clinic operators.

\*There are many concerns regarding the safety of mostly retired and elderly residents in the surrounding area of the proposed Marijuana Dispensary.

As residents of our area we should be vitally interested in voicing our concerns regarding establishing this dispensary in our shopping center. You are welcome to carry a copy of the petition already in circulation or if you would like to sign the one being carried please contact Celless Beck at [bgarcell@verizon.net](mailto:bgarcell@verizon.net).