

- **My name is Shauna Mindt. I am a Redmond resident and the owner of Always Greener Downtown, Redmond's first Cannabis retail store.**
- **Jenny and I are here this evening to update you on the status of marijuana zoning in Redmond and ask that you accept the issue on your docket for 2019-2020.**
- **As you may recall, our original process to amend the comp plan to allow of marijuana zoning in the City was a three-year endeavor. We are hoping this time will go more swiftly.**
- **We are asking you to expand marijuana retail as an allowed use in more zones, specifically Business Parks, Manufacturing, Industrial, NC1 & NC2.**
- **Due to the unique nature of the legal cannabis industry finding locations to lease or even purchase is extremely difficult. Basically, we cannot locate in a building where there is a mortgage or note that is backed by an FDIC bank or financial institution. Because of the current Federal status of cannabis, the note can be called by bank and the landlord or management company can lose their funding if they lease to the industry.**
- **This means that buildings such as strip malls and all the new mixed use buildings that are prime spots for retail are mostly not available to us.**
- **Currently the City has 4 licensed cannabis stores and they are all now looking to locate within blocks from each other - all concentrated on Redmond Way and Cleveland. This is not ideal for business and especially not ideal for our residents who need access.**
- **Opening up zoning would increase to opportunity to more evenly disperse stores across all of Redmond - including areas such as Willows and Overlake to name a few.**
  
- **I'd like to also take this opportunity to remind everyone that Always Greener Downtown (and other stores as well) have been good businesses in our community and we are proud to be the stewards of cannabis in Redmond.**
- **There have been no major issues related to the stores and we continue to maintain a good supportive relationship with the Redmond Police Department.**
- **Business is good in Redmond and continues to grow each month. We are definitely filling a need in our city.**
- **Again, it is us here in front of you in an effort to educate and work cooperatively.**
  
- **We hope that you will take this issue under consideration and look forward to working with you.**
  
- **Thank you.**