

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Cannabis Regulation Moving Forward in San Joaquin County**

Board of Supervisors Weigh in on Three Agenda Items Relating to Cannabis

(**Stockton, CA**) -The San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors considered three agenda items relating to cannabis during their Board meeting on January 9, 2018. The following actions were taken:

<u>Cannabis Contractor Agreement:</u> The Board approved an agreement with Colorado-based firm Freedman & Koski, Inc. for consulting services for the development and implementation of a regulatory structure for commercial and personal cannabis activities in the unincorporated areas of the County. Freedman & Koski expects the development to take at least 22 weeks.

<u>Personal Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance:</u> The Board continued this item at staff's request. Staff recommended the continuation to allow for sufficient time to consider and possibly redraft the ordinance regulating the personal cultivation of adult use cannabis in homes and accessory structures in light of Attorney General Sessions' decision to rescind the Cole memorandum and the possible sunset of the Rohrabacher-Farr amendment. The draft ordinance is continued until at least January 23, 2018.

Special Tax on Commercial Cannabis: The Board passed a motion to introduce an ordinance imposing a special tax on any commercial cannabis businesses that may be allowed to operate in the unincorporated County. The Board amended the proposed ordinance to include more detail on the make-up of the oversight committee. The change was intended to ensure that members of the committee have the proper expertise to provide meaningful recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on how to spend the cannabis tax revenue. The Board will agendize adoption of the ordinance on the January 23, 2018 meeting. If adopted by the Board, the ordinance will be placed on the November, 2018 ballot for approval by the voters.

Due to the continuance of the personal cannabis cultivation ordinance and possible revisions in light of current federal actions, the San Joaquin County Cannabis Policy Project staff is cancelling the workshop on personal cannabis cultivation scheduled for January 18, 2018. The Project staff intends to hold workshops in the future and will announce the dates and times of those meetings once the ordinance is rescheduled for the Board.

For information about the San Joaquin County Cannabis Policy Project and cannabis regulatory activities and development visit the updated www.sjccannabis.org.