



**AGENDA**  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
PLANNING COMMISSION – REGULAR MEETING  
March 25, 2019 7PM

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1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
2. PUBLIC REMARKS
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - A. March 11, 2019 Regular Meeting
5. COMMUNICATIONS
  - A. Lynne S. Page RE: Zoning Amendment #19030
  - B. Letters RE: Medical Marihuana (listed on separate page)
6. PUBLIC HEARINGS
  - A. None.
7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
  - A. Zoning Amendment #19030 (Meridian Township), amend Section 86-2 of the Code of Ordinances and add Section 86-445 to establish the Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities Overlay District.
  - B. Wetland Use Permit #19-01 (LaFontaine Automotive Group), fill regulated wetland for development of new car dealership at 1448 Grand River Avenue.
8. OTHER BUSINESS
  - A. 2019 PC Goals.
  - B. Subcommittee meetings.
9. TOWNSHIP BOARD, PLANNING COMMISSION OFFICER, COMMITTEE CHAIR, AND STAFF COMMENTS OR REPORTS
10. PROJECT UPDATES
  - A. New Applications – None
  - B. Site Plans Received
    1. Site Plan Review #19-16-15 (Forsberg Real Estate Group LLC), construct next phase of Elevation mixed use project at 2360 Jolly Oak Road.
  - C. Site Plans Approved
    1. Site Plan Review #19-02 (Meridian Township Engineering), construct parking lot addition at 5191 Meridian Road (North Meridian Road Park).
    2. Site Plan Review #19-78-11 (Delta Dental), revisions to landscape plan at 4100 Okemos Road.
11. PUBLIC REMARKS
12. ADJOURNMENT
13. POST SCRIPT: JOHN SCOTT-CRAIG

**AGENDA page 2**  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING  
March 25, 2019 7:00 pm

**TENTATIVE PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA**

**April 8, 2019**

1. PUBLIC HEARINGS
  - A. Rezoning #19050 (Fedewa Builders), rezone approximately 1.12 acres from RR (Rural Residential) to RX (One and Two Family Residential) at 5921 and 5929 Okemos Road.
  
2. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
  - A. Zoning Amendment #19030 (Meridian Township), amend Section 86-2 and add Section 86-445 of the Code of Ordinances to establish the Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities Overlay District.
  
3. OTHER BUSINESS
  - A. 2019 PC Goals.
  - B. Content neutral sign policy

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Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact: Principal Planner Peter Menser, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 or 517.853.4576 - Ten Day Notice is Required.  
Meeting Location: 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 Township Hall

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable, prime community.



**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**DRAFT**

**March 11, 2019**

**5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198**

**517-853-4560, Town Hall Room, 7:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT: Commissioners Premoe, Trezise, Lane, Scott-Craig, Hendrickson and Richards**  
**ABSENT: Commissioner Cordill and Shrewsbury**  
**STAFF: Director of Community Planning & Development Mark Kieselbach and**  
**Principal Planner Peter Menser**

**1. Call meeting to order**

Chair Scott-Craig called the regular meeting to order at 7:01 P.M.

**2. Public Remarks- None**

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Commissioner Trezise moved to approve the agenda as written.

Seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson.

VOICE VOTE: Motion approved unanimously.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

- A. February 11, 2019 Regular Meeting
- B. February 25, 2019 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Hendrickson moved to approve the minutes as written.

Seconded by Commissioner Richards.

VOICE VOTE: Motion approved unanimously.

**5. Communications**

Chair Scott-Craig noted the four communications that were received by Principal Planner Menser since the February 25, 2019 Planning Commission Meeting.

**6. Public Hearings**

- A. Wetland Use Permit #19-01 (LaFontaine Automotive Group), fill regulated wetland for development of new car dealership at 1448 Grand River Avenue.

Chair Scott-Craig opened the public hearing at 7:03 P.M.

Principal Planner Menser provided a summary of the request.

The Gary Laundroche, 4000 West Highland Road, representing the applicant LaFontaine Automotive Group, provided an update on the project. Mr. Laundroche explained they would be creating a larger wetland to the north side of the property. He noted that when the seven foot sidewalk is added across the development the pond could pose a safety hazard due to the slope.

Public Comments: None

Planning Commission Discussion:

Commissioner Premoe asked about a timetable regarding the filling of the old pond and the mitigation of the new wetland and Mr. Laundroche told him the work would be done simultaneously.

Chair Scott-Craig noted the Environmental Commission discussed the feasible alternatives to not disturbing the wetlands for the project.

Commissioner Hendrickson suggested adding the condition of the approval by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for the resolution to approve.

A straw poll conducted by Chair Scott-Craig indicated the Planning Commission would like to have a resolution to approve the Wetland Use Permit #19-01 at the next meeting.

Chair Scott-Craig closed the public hearing at 7:26 P.M.

## 7. Unfinished Business

- A. Zoning Amendment #19030 (Meridian Township), amend Section 86-2 of the Code of Ordinances and add Section 86-445 to establish the Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities Overlay District.

Principal Planner Menser noted there would be a joint meeting on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 6:00pm with the Township Board and Planning Commission to discuss the zoning and non-zoning ordinances.

Chair Scott-Craig compiled a list of important items to tackle at the joint meeting based on the previous Planning Commission meetings, including the types of facilities, the overlay district boundaries, and the special use permit process.

Commissioner Richards expressed his concern over allowing a maximum of three growers in Meridian Township. The industrial areas noted are Saginaw/Tower, Okemos Road near the railroad tracks, Jolly Road, and Dawn Avenue off Grand River. Commissioner Richards commented three growers were too many.

Commissioner Premoe stated concerns with the number of facilities and suggested limiting the numbers to one safety compliance facility and two provisioning centers. He noted that if there are 1,000 residents in the Township who have the Medical Marihuana card it is also possible to purchase in adjacent areas such as East Lansing and Lansing.

Commissioner Hendrickson stated the list created by Chair Scott-Craig reflects the discussions from past Planning Commission meetings and that the Planning Commission may not all agree on number of licenses.

- B. Zoning Amendment #19040 (Meridian Township), amend Section 86-2 and Section 86-654 of the Code of Ordinances to add Senior Living Facilities to the list of uses permitted as non-residential uses in residential zoning districts.

Principal Planner Menser provided a summary of the staff report and the changes to the draft ordinance since it was last discussed.

Planning Commission Discussion:

Commissioner Premoe stated he would like to see a 100 foot setback for accessory buildings.

Commissioner Richards supports the 100 foot setbacks suggested by Commissioner Premoe but for a buffer regarding noise potential more so than for aesthetic reasons. Commissioner Richards suggested offering an additional requirement for accessory buildings to either have a 100 foot setback or a 60 foot setback with a double row of interlocking trees.

Motion by Commissioner Richards to recommend approval of Zoning Amendment #19040 with the additional requirement that accessory buildings meet either a 100 foot setback from a residential zoning district boundary or a 60 foot setback with a double row of interlocking trees.

Supported by Commissioner Premoe.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEAS: Commissioners Richards, Premoe, Trezise, Lane, Hendrickson and Scott-Craig.

NAYS: None

MOTIONED CARRIED: 6-0

- C. Rezoning #19020 (Meridian Township), rezone 1.52 acres (10 parcels) from C-1 (Commercial) to RB (Single Family-High Density) located west of Marsh Road, north of Lake Lansing Road, and east of Martinus Street.

Motion by Commissioner Hendrickson to approve Rezoning #19020.

Supported by Commissioner Trezise.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEAS: Commissioners Hendrickson, Trezise, Premoe, Lane, Richards and Scott-Craig.

NAYS: None

MOTIONED CARRIED: 6-0

## 8. Other Business

- A. 2019 PC Goals.

Chair Scott-Craig moved this item to the March 25, 2019 meeting.

B. Subcommittee meetings.

Chair Scott-Craig moved this item to the March 25, 2019 meeting.

**9. Township Board, Planning Commission Officer, Committee Chair, and staff comments or reports**

Chair Scott-Craig provided an update from attending the Economic Development Committee meeting on March 7, 2019.

Commissioner Trezise provided an update from attending the Downtown Development Authority meeting on March 4, 2019.

**10. Project Updates**

A. New Applications – None

B. Site Plans Received

1. Site Plan Review #19-02 (Meridian Township Engineering), construct parking lot addition at 5191 Meridian Road (North Meridian Road Park).
2. Site Plan Review #19-10-02 (Midwest Power Equipment); construct parking lot addition at 2446 Jolly Road.
3. Site Plan Review #19-78-11 (Delta Dental), revisions to landscape plan at 4100 Okemos Road.

C. Site Plans Approved – None

**11. Public Remarks - None**

**12. Adjournment**

Commissioner Lane moved to adjourn the meeting.

Supported by Commissioner Richards.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Scott-Craig adjourned the regular meeting at 7:58 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie Budzynski  
Recording Secretary

Township Board-Charter Township of Meridian  
Planning Commission-Charter Township of Meridian  
Re: Medical Marijuana Zoning/Non-Zoning Ordinances (Opposition)  
March 12, 2019

To the Township Board and Planning Commission:

I oppose the adoption of Meridian Township's proposed Commercial Medical Marijuana Non-Zoning and Zoning Ordinances for the following reasons:

- Although medical marijuana is legal in the State of Michigan, no municipality is required to opt-in per the MMFLA. The adjacent cities of Lansing and East Lansing can provide adequate access to local marijuana patients, and both municipalities can collect income taxes from commercial marijuana businesses and their employees.
- Because it is not a city, Meridian Township cannot levy or collect income or sales taxes from commercial medical marijuana businesses or their employees. For businesses in Meridian Township, these taxes are imposed by and remitted directly to the State of Michigan.
- Allowing 21 Commercial Medical Marijuana businesses within the Township is disproportional given the number of registered patients and excessive when compared to other popular, necessary, commercial and retail businesses in Meridian Township such as pharmacies, grocery stores, coffee shops, and gas stations.
- Allowing commercial marijuana businesses to operate throughout our community in multiple areas raises concerns for criminal activity, public safety, and financial transparency.
- The commercial medical marijuana permit registration fees stipulated in the ordinance are not intended to and will not cover indirect costs to Meridian Township/Ingham County for police, fire, emergency services, and road/infrastructure maintenance associated with marijuana businesses.
- Unlike the City of Lansing's ordinance, Meridian Township's proposed ordinance does not contain adequate financial safeguards for insurance and surety bond coverage necessary to indemnify the Township from risk.
- Unlike the City of East Lansing's ordinance, Meridian Township's proposed ordinance does not contain a 1,000-foot setback from residential property, schools, daycares, or other commercial marijuana facilities, which is especially necessary given the "bonus" provisions of the ordinance.
- The City of East Lansing has established a medical marijuana overlay district located near Costco, bounded by Park Lake, Haslett and Merritt Roads. Establishing a contiguous corridor of commercial marijuana facilities in Meridian Township and East Lansing would be detrimental to both communities.
- The legal implications of whether establishing commercial medical marijuana facilities may extend business privileges to commercial recreational facilities are uncertain and subject to litigation.

Permitting 21 Commercial Medical marijuana facilities in Meridian Township in order to serve approximately 1,000 resident patients is excessive. Premature adoption of a deficient ordinance that does not adequately protect our Township and its residents is unnecessary. If the Board feels it is imperative to provide access to commercial medical marijuana, vote to permit a single provisioning center located away from schools and the highway, and easily accessible to law enforcement. In addition, please establish a uniform setback of 1,000-feet from any other marijuana facility, school, religious institution/house of worship, daycare, liquor store, or residential property.

Lynne S. Page  
3912 Raleigh Drive  
Okemos, MI 48864

# When could dispensaries open in East Lansing?

**Megan Banta**  
Lansing State Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

**EAST LANSING** — A medical marijuana dispensary could open in East Lansing by the end of the year.

The East Lansing City Council passed local rules allowing for dispensaries in November.

But between the application process and construction timelines, many of the companies trying to open one inside the city limits likely would not be able to until late this summer or fall.

As of Monday afternoon, the city's planning department had seven pending applications for the special use permits that will allow dispensaries to operate in East Lansing, according to city Planning and Zoning Administrator David Haywood.

Seven companies have asked to open dispensaries at locations across the city:

- 1054 E. Grand River Ave.: EL Grand Inc.
- 1100 E. Grand River Ave.: DNVK I, LLC

- 1108 E. Grand River Ave.: ABCD Properties, LLC
- 1234 E. Grand River Ave.: CA-East Lansing, Inc.
- 1415 Michigan Ave.: JBC, LLC
- 1950 Merritt Rd.: RJB Enterprises, LLC
- 3318 to 3332 West Rd.: Green Peak Industries, LLC

The city's planning commission recommended city council approve three of those, he said — the locations on Michigan Avenue and Merritt Road and at 1100 E. Grand River Ave.

Those three applications are set for introduction to the city council on Feb. 12 and a public hearing on March 26, Haywood said. The council could take action on any of them as soon as the night of the public hearing.

The rest, with the exception of 1234 E. Grand River Ave., are up for discussion at the planning commission on Feb. 13 and could also make it to the council's March 26 agenda, he said. The application from CA-East Lansing at 1234 E. Grand River is too new to make it onto an agenda yet, he said.

**East Lansing's rules regulating dispensaries don't set a hard cap on the number that can operate citywide but do limit how close they can be to one another in four zoning areas.**

**When?**

Approval wouldn't mean an immediate opening, though.

Most of the applications include plans for remodeling that call for at least a few months of construction.

The bottom line, Haywood said, is that "there's enough time for them to be opened yet in 2019."

**How many and where?**

Not all of those seven dispensaries can realistically get approval to operate.

That's because the city's rules regulating dispensaries don't set a hard cap on the number that can operate citywide but do limit how close they can be to one another in four specially-created zoning areas known as overlay districts.

These districts include:

- Land zoned for "B2" retail use south of Michigan Avenue and west of Brody Road.
- Land bounded by Abbey and Coolidge roads, east of U.S. 127 and south of the city's Office Industrial Park district.
- An area near Costco, bounded by Park Lake, Huslett and Merritt Roads.
- The East Village area, including land south of Grand River Avenue between Cedar Street and Hagadorn Road.

Because the districts are small — most cover only a few blocks — and dispensaries must be located at least 1,000 feet from each other and from a school, daycare or liquor store, the rules effectively limit the total number to about four to six, Haywood said.

Only two areas — the one including Coolidge Road and the East Village — have enough room for two to locate in the same district, he said.



## Man sentenced for 17 home invasions across Clinton County

**Kara Berg**  
Lansing State Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

**ST. JOHNS** — A Lansing man who committed 17 home invasions while he was free on bond for a bank robbery has been sentenced to prison.

Gregory Schulz, 31, will spend a minimum of 15 years in prison for crimes committed in Eaton and Clinton counties.

Schulz was sentenced Monday in Clinton County on the home invasions, which took place from July to September throughout the county. He apologized to all of the victims, several of whom were in court Monday for his sentencing.

"I know I have to pay for what I've done," Schulz said. "I don't have another chance, I know it."

Ronald Zawacki, Schulz's attorney, said once Schulz started using heroin,

things went downhill for him and he began breaking into houses.

He was out of jail on bond in Eaton County when he committed the home invasions, and was wearing an electronic tether.

"It's clear you made a choice in the past not to take the opportunity to change your conduct," Clinton County Circuit Court Judge Randy Tahvanen said. "The likelihood of lasting change is debatable."

Schulz invaded the homes of 17 people, "the one place where you should be able to feel safe and secure," Tahvanen said. That can change someone's whole way of looking at the world, he said.

Rochelle Baron-Wong, who spoke Monday at Schulz's sentencing, said Schulz broke down her front door and stole virtually every piece of jewelry she



**Gregory Schulz**

owned. "He's had plenty of time in jail to turn his life around, but he has not," Baron-Wong said Monday.

Holly Phinney, who also spoke Monday at the sentencing, said she had come home late after sitting at a hospital as her husband had surgery. She realized someone had broken in and took some of her jewelry.

Once police came, she found out Schulz had hit just about every township in Clinton County. It made her nervous, knowing someone had been in her home.

"As for feeling safe in the house, I don't anymore," Phinney said.

**The sentence**

In Eaton County, Schulz was sen-

tenced to 10 to 20 years for bank robbery and unarmed robbery in November.

In Clinton County, for 17 home invasions, he was sentenced to:

- 5 to 15 years for one count, served after his Eaton County sentence is finalized
- 8 to 15 years for four counts, at the same time as the Eaton County sentence
- 10 to 20 years for one count, at the same time as the Eaton County sentence
- 12 to 20 years for 11 counts, at the same time as the Eaton County sentence

In all, Schulz will serve 15 to 35 years in prison for the Eaton and Clinton county crimes.

Contact Kara Berg at 517-377-1133 or kberg@lsj.com.

## Obituaries

### Lilian Isabel Laverty Toomey

**LANSING** - Lilian Isabel Laverty Toomey - Born to Thomas R. and Lilian I. Laverty in Toledo, Ohio in 1945, peacefully passed away February 10th, 2019 at her home in Lansing, MI. Lilian will forever be remembered for the unconditional love and compassion that she gave to her family and friends.



Her three sons Simon, Adam and David were able to build happy and successful lives due to her endless encouragement, patience, wisdom, gentleness and stability as they grew and found their paths in life. She was the embodiment of maternal love and will always be in the hearts of those who were blessed to know her.

Lil is survived by her beloved sons Simon, Adam (Sarah), and David, as well as two cherished grandchildren, Oliver and Mae. She is also survived by her siblings Betty Lou (Dr. Timothy) Hickey, Thomas L., William W. (Donna), and Robert A (Gloria). She is preceded in death by her sister Barbara, her parents and nephew Matthew Hickey.

A service will be held to honor her life on Saturday, February 16th at Tiffany Funeral Home at 2 pm. The service will be preceded with a visitation at 1 pm.



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1 CLAIM, DEMAND, ACTION, LEGAL REDRESS, OR RECOURSE AGAINST THE  
2 CITY OF LANSING, ITS ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS AND ITS  
3 EMPLOYEES AND AGENTS FOR ANY CLAIMS, DAMAGES, LIABILITIES, CAUSES  
4 OF ACTION, DAMAGES, AND ATTORNEY FEES THE APPLICANT MAY OCCUR AS  
5 A RESULT OF THE VIOLATION BY APPLICANT, ITS OFFICIALS, MEMBERS,  
6 PARTNERS, SHAREHOLDERS, EMPLOYEES AND AGENT OF THOSE LAWS,  
7 RULES, AND REGULATIONS AND HEREBY WAIVES, AND ASSUMES THE RISK  
8 OF, ANY SUCH CLAIMS AND DAMAGES, AND LACK OF RECOURSE AGAINST  
9 THE CITY OF LANSING, ITS ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS,  
10 EMPLOYEES, ATTORNEYS, AND AGENTS.

11  
12  
13 (25) AS IT RELATES TO A MEDICAL MARIHUANA GROWER FACILITY, THE  
14 FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL ITEMS SHALL BE REQUIRED:

15  
16 (I) A CULTIVATION PLAN THAT INCLUDES, AT A MINIMUM, A  
17 DESCRIPTION OF THE CULTIVATION METHODS TO BE USED, INCLUDING  
18 PLANS FOR THE GROWING MEDIUMS, TREATMENTS, AND / OR ADDITIVES;

19  
20 (II) A PRODUCTION TESTING PLAN THAT INCLUDES, AT A MINIMUM, A  
21 DESCRIPTION OF HOW AND WHEN SAMPLES FOR LABORATORY TESTING  
22 BY AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION  
23 ACCREDITED TESTING FACILITY WILL BE SELECTED, WHAT TYPE OF  
24 TESTING WILL BE REQUESTED, AND HOW THE TEST RESULTS WILL BE  
25 USED;

26  
27 (III) AN AFFIDAVIT THAT ALL OPERATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED IN  
28 CONFORMANCE WITH THE MMMA, THE MMFLA, MTA AND OTHER  
29 APPLICABLE STATE LAW;

30  
31 (IV) A CHEMICAL AND PESTICIDE STORAGE PLAN THAT STATES THE  
32 NAMES OF THE PESTICIDES TO BE USED IN CULTIVATION AND WHERE AND  
33 HOW PESTICIDES AND CHEMICALS WILL BE STORED IN THE  
34 ESTABLISHMENT, ALONG WITH A PLAN FOR THE DISPOSAL OF UNUSED  
35 PESTICIDES;

36  
37 (V) ALL CULTIVATION MUST BE PERFORMED IN A BUILDING. THE  
38 APPLICANT SHALL SPECIFICALLY ACKNOWLEDGE THIS PROVISION.

39  
40 (26) PROOF OF AN INSURANCE POLICY COVERING THE ESTABLISHMENT  
41 AND NAMING THE CITY, ITS ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS,  
42 EMPLOYEES, AND AGENTS, AS ADDITIONAL INSURED PARTIES,  
43 AVAILABLE FOR THE PAYMENT OF ANY DAMAGES ARISING OUT OF AN  
44 ACT OR OMISSION OF THE APPLICANT OR ITS STAKEHOLDERS, AGENTS,  
45 EMPLOYEES, OR SUBCONTRACTORS, IN THE AMOUNT OF (A) AT LEAST  
46 ONE MILLION DOLLARS FOR PROPERTY DAMAGE; (B) AT LEAST ONE

1 MILLION DOLLARS FOR INJURY TO ONE PERSON; AND (C) AT LEAST TWO  
2 MILLION DOLLARS FOR INJURY TO TWO OR MORE PERSON RESULTING  
3 FROM THE SAME OCCURRENCE. THE INSURANCE POLICY UNDERWRITER  
4 MUST HAVE A MINIMUM A.M. BEST COMPANY INSURANCE RANKING OF  
5 B+, CONSISTENT WITH STATE LAW. THE POLICY SHALL PROVIDE THAT  
6 THE CITY SHALL BE NOTIFIED BY THE INSURANCE CARRIER THIRTY (30)  
7 DAYS IN ADVANCE OF ANY CANCELLATION.  
8

9 (27) (A) PROOF OF A SURETY BOND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000 WITH  
10 THE CITY OF LANSING LISTED AS THE OBLIGEE TO GUARANTEE  
11 PERFORMANCE BY APPLICANT OF THE TERMS, CONDITIONS AND  
12 OBLIGATIONS OF THIS CHAPTER IN A MANNER AND SURETY APPROVED  
13 BY THE CITY ATTORNEY; OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE,  
14

15 (B) CREATION OF AN ESCROW ACCOUNT AS FOLLOWS;

16 (1) THE ACCOUNT MUST BE PROVIDED BY A STATE OR FEDERALLY  
17 REGULATED FINANCIAL INSTITUTION OR OTHER FINANCIAL  
18 INSTITUTION APPROVED BY THE CITY ATTORNEY BASED UPON AN  
19 OBJECTIVE ASSESSMENT OF THE INSTITUTION'S FINANCIAL  
20 STABILITY; AND  
21

22 (2) THE ACCOUNT MUST BE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CITY TO  
23 GUARANTEE PERFORMANCE BY LICENSEE IN COMPLIANCE WITH  
24 THIS CHAPTER AND APPLICABLE LAW; AND  
25

26 (3) THE ACCOUNT MUST BE IN THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY THOUSAND  
27 (\$20,000) DOLLARS AND IN A FORM PRESCRIBED BY THE CITY  
28 ATTORNEY.  
29

30 (28) ANY OTHER INFORMATION WHICH MAY BE REQUIRED BY  
31 COMMISSION RULE OR CITY COUNCIL ORDINANCE FROM TIME TO TIME.  
32

33 (C) ALL APPLICATIONS SHALL BE ACCOMPANIED BY A LICENSE APPLICATION  
34 FEE IN AN AMOUNT OF \$5,000. SHOULD THE APPLICANT NOT RECEIVE A  
35 LICENSE, ONE-HALF OF THE APPLICATION FEE SHALL BE RETURNED.  
36

37 (D) UPON RECEIPT OF A COMPLETED APPLICATION MEETING THE  
38 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION AND THE APPROPRIATE LICENSE APPLICATION  
39 FEE, THE CITY CLERK SHALL REFER A COPY OF THE APPLICATION TO EACH OF  
40 THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR APPROVAL: THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, THE BUILDING  
41 SAFETY OFFICE, THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, THE ZONING ADMINISTRATOR, AND  
42 THE CITY TREASURER.  
43

44 (E) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 1300.18 NO APPLICATION SHALL BE  
45 APPROVED UNLESS:  
46

Medical Marihuana Correspondence  
Planning Commission (March 25, 2019)

1. Tze-Lan Sang
2. Kelli Dowling
3. Chengyin Yao
4. Mei You
5. Qun Liu
6. Cathy Liu
7. Lin Li
8. Qing Xia
9. Wei Lao
10. Yanshuo Wang
11. Taiquan Peng
12. Gang Teng
13. Xiaoshi Li
14. Tina Zhuang
15. Yun Cao
16. Yan Liu
17. Yunyan Shen
18. Wei Peng
19. Charlie Yang
20. Henry Chen
21. Jane Li
22. Guangming He
23. Qing Zhou
24. Linping Xing
25. Zhinong Yan
26. Ying Yan
27. Jianping Hu
28. Qiang Zhao
29. Christine Zong
30. Gao Li
31. Li Zhang & Lixin Dong
32. Haosu Cong
33. Yanyan Wang
34. Yu Qiu
35. Wei Zhang
36. Heidi Ma
37. Sunny Renli
38. Qiaoqin Jiang
39. Cathrine Tan
40. Youyu Feng
41. Joyce Dou
42. Tongtong Li
43. Guo-qing Song
44. Qiaoqin Jiang
45. Xiaobo Tan
46. Yiming Jerry Deng
47. Yingxin Zhou
48. Liyu He
49. Ming Yan
50. Shuangtao Ma
51. Tony Gao
52. Xiaoming Liu
53. Xuefei Hao
54. Ming Han
55. Grace Norris
56. John Zheng

57. Zhen Qiu & Jing Chen
58. Selena Zhang
59. Songqing Jin
60. Honglei Chen
61. Tim O'Neill
62. Yin Zhang & Yimin Xiao
63. Tsaii Liu
64. Hong Lin
65. Jack Zhang
66. Ning Niou
67. Haomin Chen
68. David & Patricia Hagan
69. Sue Wang
70. Yangfan Liu & Yuying Xie
71. Amanda Zhang
72. Jingjing Chang
73. Yan Liu
74. Zhenmei Zhang
75. Jian Hu
76. Max Hsu
77. Na Li
78. Lev Raphael
79. Gershen Kaufman
80. Justin Stojisih

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Tze-Lan Sang <tzelan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019 5:01 AM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Objection to marijuana in Meridian township

I object to the legalization of the growing and production of medical or recreational marijuana in Meridian township. I do not think that making the marijuana industry legal in Meridian will create a healthy environment for our children. What kind of message would we be sending to our youngsters about drug use and addiction if our township becomes a center for producing marijuana? The younger generation of today is already addicted to cell phones, video games, porn, etc. If you encourage the marijuana industry to take root in Meridian township, all our children will become the first targeted customers down the road (when medical marijuana producers apply for the license to produce recreational marijuana as well). Marijuana will become yet another addiction prevalent among our youngsters. If this happens, how will you hope to encourage students to develop a good work ethic and self-discipline? How will you hope to create productive citizens who can contribute to the economy later on in ways other than growing and selling marijuana and other drugs? This will have a long term negative impact on the economy of not only Meridian but also Michigan (and the United States). If I had known that Meridian would be in danger of becoming a center of marijuana production and of corrupting its school districts, I would not have chosen to buy a house in Okemos and pay the high property taxes. The legalization of the marijuana industry is against the long term economic interests of the majority of the families here in Meridian township. I adamantly oppose it.

Tze-lan Sang  
3717 Fairhills Drive  
Okemos, MI 48864

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Sent from Gmail Mobile

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Kelli Dowling <kellibd@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019 8:02 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** No on Pot Shops

Dear Meridian Board,

Sometimes I scratch my head when I see the things you green light (like the solar panels on that prime spot by the township hall!) but giving the okay for pot shops is a terrible idea. It wouldn't matter where you put them, I think they would be a black eye on the township. Please vote no!

Kelli Dowling

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Chengyin Yao <chengyiny@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019 10:21 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Marijuana Stores Should Not Be Opened

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Chelsea Yao and I live in Okemos. I work as a registered Pharmacist with two school aged children, 12 and 17 years old. Regarding the new proposal on marijuana, I strongly disagree with opening Marijuana stores in Meridian township for the following reasons:

1. It will lower the quality of our community.
2. It will make the city unsafe.

We live in a school district with a strong educational programs. The existence of marijuana stores would impose a poor impression on our community, affecting real estate prices, causing our homes values to go down. Okemos would lose attraction to the wealthy. I do not wish our community to be viewed as a cheap place.

If we allow marijuana stores to be opened, it would be difficult to control the amount of consumers purchasing products. I do not wish for drugs to have a negative effect on our community. Slowly our community would become unsafe, and people would start moving out.

Okemos is mainly a resident community for long-term living and raising children, with few big companies and businesses. We should protect the safety and health of our schools as a priority. Opening a marijuana store would impose a negative impression on our children. I'm afraid this would influence our children to inhabitant the drug.

To satisfy a small group of people with marijuana needs, we would be sacrificing our community's high reputation. On niche, okemos is ranked as the #4 best place to live in United States. I wish for the upward progress of our community.

<https://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/life/2017/04/21/okemos-ranked-no-4-best-places-live/100750394/>

While I understand and respect the need of others in my community who seek marijuana, I believe the opening of marijuana stores in a public busy area would have a negative impact on our community as a whole and the impression on our children growing up.

I know you have worked hard to improve our community, and I believe in the future you will continue to make Meridian Township a better place to live. My family and I thank you for your efforts towards our community.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Yao

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Mei You <youmei@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019 11:12 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Marijuana Stores Should Not Be Opened in Meridian Township

To Whom It May Concern,  
My name is Mei You. I strongly disagree with opening Marijuana stores in Meridian township for the following reasons:

It will lower the quality of our community.  
It will make the city unsafe.

We live in a school district with a strong educational programs. The existence of marijuana stores would impose a poor impression on our community, affecting real estate prices, causing our homes values to go down. Okemos would lose attraction to the wealthy. I do not wish our community to be viewed as a cheap place.

If we allow marijuana stores to be opened, it would be difficult to control the amount of consumers purchasing products. I do not wish for drugs to have a negative effect on our community. Slowly our community would become unsafe, and people would start moving out.

Okemos is mainly a resident community for long-term living and raising children, with few big companies and businesses. We should protect the safety and health of our schools as a priority. Opening a marijuana store would impose a negative impression on our children. I'm afraid this would influence our children to inhabitant the drug.

To satisfy a small group of people with marijuana needs, we would be sacrificing our community's high reputation. On niche, okemos is ranked as the #4 best place to live in United States. I wish for the upward progress of our community.

<https://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/life/2017/04/21/okemos-ranked-no-4-best-places-live/100750394/>

While I understand and respect the need of others in my community who seek marijuana, I believe the opening of marijuana stores in a public busy area would have a negative impact on our community as a whole and the impression on our children growing up.

I know you have worked hard to improve our community, and I believe in the future you will continue to make Meridian Township a better place to live. My family and I thank you for your efforts towards our community.

Sincerely,

Mei You

2690 Morning Glory Dr.  
Okemos, MI, 48864

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Qun Liu <lq\_msu@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019 11:31 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Marijuana Stores Should Not Be Opened In Meridian Township

Subject: Marijuana Stores Should Not Be Opened In Meridian Township

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Qun Liu. I strongly disagree with opening Marijuana stores in Meridian township for the following reasons:

It will lower the quality of our community.  
It will make the city unsafe.

We live in a school district with a strong educational programs. The existence of marijuana stores would impose a poor impression on our community, affecting real estate prices, causing our homes values to go down. Okemos would lose attraction to the wealthy. I do not wish our community to be viewed as a cheap place.

If we allow marijuana stores to be opened, it would be difficult to control the amount of consumers purchasing products. I do not wish for drugs to have a negative effect on our community. Slowly our community would become unsafe, and people would start moving out.

Okemos is mainly a resident community for long-term living and raising children, with few big companies and businesses. We should protect the safety and health of our schools as a priority. Opening a marijuana store would impose a negative impression on our children. I'm afraid this would influence our children to inhabitant the drug.

To satisfy a small group of people with marijuana needs, we would be sacrificing our community's high reputation. On niche, okemos is ranked as the #4 best place to live in United States. I wish for the upward progress of our community.

<https://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/life/2017/04/21/okemos-ranked-no-4-best-places-live/100750394/>

While I understand and respect the need of others in my community who seek marijuana, I believe the opening of marijuana stores in a public busy area would have a negative impact on our community as a whole and the impression on our children growing up.

I know you have worked hard to improve our community, and I believe in the future you will continue to make Meridian Township a better place to live. My family and I thank you for your efforts towards our community.

Sincerely,

Qun Liu

My contact information and home address:  
lq\_msu@yahoo.com  
616-777-7388

2690 Morning Glory Dr.  
Okemos, MI 48864

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Cathy Liu <cathylu9513@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 10:39 AM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** strong concerns about Meridian Township marijuana zoning

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am a Professor of Sociology at Michigan State University and currently a resident in Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I've been living in Okemos for 10 years and really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. Our family choose to live in Okemos because of its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for our family (and also, I believe, many other families who share our values). I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing I want to see as a mom with two young school-age sons. It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. I believe there are other families like us who share our concerns. More families with kids may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Okemos in a long-run.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community!

Respectfully,  
Hui Liu  
Home address: 1338 Spicewood Dr. Okemos

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Lin Li <lilin713@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 11:04 AM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Marijuana Zoning

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Lin Li and currently a resident of Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns regarding the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I've been living in Okemos for 4 years and really love our community and neighborhood. Our family choose to live in Okemos for its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for our family (and also, I believe, many other families who share our values). I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the last thing I would like to see as a mom of two young kids. It will also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area. Because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. I believe there are lots of other families share our concerns. More families with kids may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Okemos in a long-run.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us to make a difference in our community!

Respectfully,  
Lin Li  
Home address: 5223 Madison Ave, Apt B10, Okemos

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Xia, Qing <xiaqing@msu.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 11:04 AM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Planting & selling marijuana in the community

Dear Board,

I'm writing to you to express my deep concern of planting and selling marijuana in our community. I hope the board take cautious measures to make sure that our children and families will not be affected by these activities. I'm against legalization of marijuana.

Thanks for your consideration.

Qing Xia  
Home address: 5305 Thames Dr., Haslett, MI 48840

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Liao, Wei <liaow@msu.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 11:06 AM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** about new Marijuana store near Okemos high school

**Importance:** High

To Whom It May Concern:

I am Wei Liao, and a resident of Meridian township. My home address is: 1264 Sweetwood Dr. Okemos, MI 48864.

I just learned that there is a plan to open a new Marijuana store near Okemos high school. I have to let you know my strong voice against such a plan. I am the father of two daughters (one of them is in Okemos high). Passing the proposal 1 is already a very bad thing. What are we trying to do here? Spreading the drugs in our high school? I DO NOT think so. As a member of Okemos community, my response is a BIG NO to this plan.

Please consider our voice once you make the decision.

Thanks

Wei

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Wei Liao, Ph.D., P.E.  
Associate Professor and Director  
Anaerobic Digestion Research and Education Center Department of Biosystems & Agricultural Engineering Michigan  
State University  
524 South Shaw Lane, Room 202  
East Lansing, MI 48824-1323  
Tel: 517-432-7205  
E-mail: [liaow@msu.edu](mailto:liaow@msu.edu)  
Homepage: <http://www.egr.msu.edu/liao>  
ADREC Website: <http://www.egr.msu.edu/bae/adrec/>

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Yanshuo Wang <yanshuo48108@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 11:11 AM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Marijuana Stores Should Not Be Opened In Meridian Township

Subject: Marijuana Stores Should Not Be Opened In Meridian Township

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Yanshuo Wang. I strongly disagree with opening Marijuana stores in Meridian township for the following reasons:

It will lower the quality of our community.

It will make the city unsafe.

We live in a school district with a strong educational programs. The existence of marijuana stores would impose a poor impression on our community, affecting real estate prices, causing our homes values to go down. Okemos would lose attraction to the wealthy. I do not wish our community to be viewed as a cheap place.

If we allow marijuana stores to be opened, it would be difficult to control the amount of consumers purchasing products. I do not wish for drugs to have a negative effect on our community. Slowly our community would become unsafe, and people would start moving out.

Okemos is mainly a resident community for long-term living and raising children, with few big companies and businesses. We should protect the safety and health of our schools as a priority. Opening a marijuana store would impose a negative impression on our children. I'm afraid this would influence our children to inhabitant the drug.

To satisfy a small group of people with marijuana needs, we would be sacrificing our community's high reputation. On niche, okemos is ranked as the #4 best place to live in United States. I wish for the upward progress of our community.

<https://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/life/2017/04/21/okemos-ranked-no-4-best-places-live/100750394/>

While I understand and respect the need of others in my community who seek marijuana, I believe the opening of marijuana stores in a public busy area would have a negative impact on our community as a whole and the impression on our children growing up.

I know you have worked hard to improve our community, and I believe in the future you will continue to make Meridian Township a better place to live. My family and I thank you for your efforts towards our community.

Sincerely,

Yanshuo Wang  
734 927 2072  
3566 Hyacinth St..

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Peng, Taiquan <pengtaiq@msu.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 11:27 AM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Concern about Meridian Township Marijuana Zoning Ordinance

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Taiquan Peng and currently a resident in Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I've been living in Okemos for 2 years and really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. Our family choose to live in Okemos because of its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for our family (and also, I believe, many other families who share our values). I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing I want to see as a father with two young school-age kids. It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. I believe there are other families like us who share our concerns. More families with kids may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Okemos in a long-run.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community!

Respectfully,

Taiquan Peng  
Home address: 1392 Silkwood Dr, Okemos

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Gang Teng <tenggang@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 11:33 AM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** marijuana facilities plan

Hi meridian township board members,

My name is Gang Teng, and I live in College Fields with my wife and daughter. This week we received the below plan from a friend and was told the red-circled areas are to be proposed/planned for marijuana facilities.

I'm writing this email to express our strong against towards this plan. We live right between #5 and #6 and both of them are very close to schools - Bennett Woods elementary school and Okemos High School. These are all good schools in the area and good schools not only provide great education but also offer a safe environment for the kids.

However by looking at the plan, #6 is getting into the 500 radius of the Church and just a few blocks away from Okemos high school. Bennett Woods elementary school is also not far from #5 plat neither.

With those facilities being so close to the schools, we're deeply concerned that the kids will be exposed to marijuana, before they'd be able to take independent decisions on this matter.

5&6 would have the most direct impact on our family but the others are not better. they're all either close to the residential areas or in the middle of the city. The designated 500/1000ft buffer doesn't provide any isolation/shield from important functioning facilities such as churches/libraries at all. it's literally walking distance.

With full respect to people who need access to those facilities, we, who don't like the access , shall also be considered and respected.

Those facilities should be planned in more rural areas with less residential exposure, certainly not within walking distance. Within a reasonable driving distance, people can still get access to them and in the meanwhile, for people who don't like it, there is still enough buffer zone and we will not be so concerned that our kids can just walk into those facilities.

We're urging the township board to consider our concerns and replan it.

Best Regards,  
Gang



## Riley Millard

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**From:** Li, Xiaoshi <xli@msu.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 11:45 AM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Strong Concern about Marijuana Zoning Ordinances

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Xiaoshi Li, an associate professor of Chinese at Michigan State University. I am currently a resident in Okemos, living on 3852 Baulistrol Drive of College Fields. I am writing to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

We have lived in Okemos school district for 11 years and really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. We choose to live in Okemos because of its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The recent marijuana zoning ordinances in Meridian Township really raised our extremely strong concerns for our families and children. Although there appears to be some short-term financial benefits that marijuana business is supposed to bring, I strongly believe that long-term damage will definitely happen to the community's family-friendly tradition. It will drastically increase our kids' and residents' exposure and access to marijuana and relevant crimes. This is the worst thing I want to see as a mom of two young school-aged children. It will also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. I believe there are other families like us who share our concerns. More families may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Okemos in a long run.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many many families with kids share similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our children and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community!

Respectfully,

Xiaoshi Li  
Home address: 3852 Baulistrol Drive, Okemos, MI

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Tina Zhuang <Zhuangy@uadv.msu.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 12:15 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Marijuana

Dear Meridian Township Board:

I am Yitian Zhuang, an Okemos resident of fourteen years. I write this message to express my strong concerns about the recent ordinance and vote No to the current board members in the next election if it is approved by Meridian Township this Friday.

I have served as the board member in Okemos Education Foundation and was the treasurer of Chippewa Middle School PTO. I am a High School Music Patron. I am a full time MSU staff working at MSU Alumni Association. The reason why I sacrifice my spare time to serve the community and felt blessed to have my daughter in Okemos Public School system for high quality of learning resources and safe environment. I understand the importance of marijuana usage, but the location of production and sale should not close to our school and our neighborhoods. You do not think our township needs to open marijuana stores in financial need. More families have moved to Meridian Township in the past few years and township does not have any excuses to open marijuana stores but greedy and short-vision of your board members. During the past few years, you might be a parent, a grandparent, a uncle/aunt of an Okemos child, please image the pain when losing your loved one because of marijuana usage.

I live in 1200 Starboard Dr. in Okemos, MI. 48864. My full name is Yitian Zhuang. I look forward to hearing from you soon about the ordinance and prevent our community from crimes.

Thanks,

Yitian Zhuang

**Yitian (Tina) Zhuang**

*Accountant*

**MSU Alumni**

535 Chestnut, Room 300 | E. Lansing, MI 48824

Phone: 517.884.4564

[zhuangy@msu.edu](mailto:zhuangy@msu.edu)

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Yun Cao <micaoyun@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 12:25 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Against Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Yun Cao and currently a resident in Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

We moved to Okemos almost two years. Before we moved here, we did lots of search and decided to live in Okemos. We are currently building our home in Okemos. Our family choose to live in Okemos because of its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for our family (and also, I believe, many other families who share our values). I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing I want to see as a mom with two young school-age sons. It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. I believe there are other families like us who share our concerns. More families with kids may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Okemos in a long-run.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community!

Respectfully,  
Yun Cao  
Home address:  
1445 E Pond Dr. Apt 33  
Okemos, MI 48864

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Yan liu <susieyanliu@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 12:29 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Yan Liu and currently a resident in Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I've been living in Okemos for 12 years and really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. Our family choose to live in Okemos because of its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for our family (and also, I believe, many other families who share our values). I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing I want to see as a mom with two young school-age daughters. It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. I believe there are other families like us who share our concerns. More families with kids may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Okemos in a long-run.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community!

Respectfully,  
Yan Liu  
Home address: 1264 Sweetwood Drive, Okemos, MI 48864

Sent from my iPhone

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Yunyan Shen <shenp86@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 12:37 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** object to plant Marijuana in Okemos

Dear Meridian township Board,

As a family living in Okemos, for our kids and families, we plea you to object planting marijuana in our city Okemos. Really appreciate for your act for the future of our town.

Yunyan Shen  
3979 E Sunwind Dr  
Okemos,MI,48864

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Wei Peng <pengweikaren@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 12:38 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Oppose marijuana business

Dear Meridian Township board members

My name is Wei Peng and our family moved to Okemos last fall (2520 Kevern Way, Okemos, MI). The news that the township plans to expand business in marijuana is disbursing. I am all for medical Marijuana and it is important for individuals who are in need. However, is it really necessary to open 6 shops in our small township? Food delivery and grocery delivery are widely available now and I do not see why it is necessary to open that many marijuana shops so that people can conveniently walk to the shop to purchase it. The idea of future marijuana plantations or processing centers is even more disturbing. We pay high property tax in Okemos in exchange for good school and tranquility, not the hustle and bustle of Cannabis business. Please think about the residents and children when you make this decision.

Sincerely

Wei Peng

Sent from my iPhone

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Charlie Yang <charley789@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 12:39 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Please vote NO for "opening marijuana stores in Okemos"

Dear Sir/Madam,

I come to know that the Meridian township considers opening marijuana stores in Okemos, so I want to make my voice to be heard clearly. Please vote NO to this!!!! absolutely NO marijuana stores in Okemos and its neighborhood! We have lived in this beautiful city for nearly twenty years, and love people, schools, and diverse living environment, and most importantly excellent place to raise kids. We hope that the city is kept this way or getting better. I am strongly against the marijuana stores because of the following reasons:

- 1) bad to mental health
- 2) bad to physical health
- 3) not proven to be good for people
- 4) mess up kids' growing up and lives.
- 5) there are alternatives to marijuana for people who need this or medical prescription on marijuana
- 6) people can easily get addictive to it

Thank for reading my letter and taking it for consideration!

Changlai Yang  
1805 Yosemite Drive  
Okemos.

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Henry Chen <hchen168@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 12:44 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Strongest possible opposition to opioid business in our communities.

Dear Meridian Township Board,

My name Honglei Chen and I moved to Okemos about 3 years ago to take my professorship position at MSU. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I am a public health scientist and tremendously concern about the physical, mental, financial, and societal impacts of additive behaviors, including opioid use. The presumed short-term financial benefit is nothing compared to its long-term harm. It will destroy our community and the next generations to come. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing you want to see as a parent. It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. I believe there are other families like us who share our concerns. More families with kids may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Okemos in a long-run.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community!

Respectfully,  
Honglei Chen, Spring Lake

## Riley Millard

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**From:** jane li <jiae48108@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 12:55 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Marijuana stores should not be opened in okemos

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Jane Li and currently a resident in Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I've been living in Okemos for 8 years and really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. Our family choose to live in Okemos because of its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for our family (and also, I believe, many other families who share our values). I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing I want to see as a mom with two young school-age sons. It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. I believe there are other families like us who share our concerns. More families with kids may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Okemos in a long-run.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community!

Respectfully,  
Jane Li  
Home address: 3566 hyacinth, okemos, mi 48864

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

## Riley Millard

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**From:** He, Guangming <heguangm@msu.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 12:57 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** we don't need anything related to marijuana in our community

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Guangming He and currently a resident in Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I've been living in Okemos for 10+ years and really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. Our family choose to live in Okemos because of its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for our family (and also, I believe, many other families who share our values). I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing I want to see as a mom with two young school-age sons. It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. I believe there are other families like us who share our concerns. More families with kids may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Okemos in a long-run.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community!

Respectfully,

Guangming He

Home address: 2550 Lupine Ct., Okemos MI

[Information Management Developer / Analyst](#)

[Business Connect, MSU Innovation Center](#)  
[Room 311, 325 E. Grand River Ave, Suite 350 \(@MSU Technologies\)](#)  
[East Lansing MI 48823](#)

## **SAVE the DATE:**

**[2019 MSU INNOVATION CELEBRATION](#)**

**4-6 p.m. Thursday, April 18**

**Huntington Room, Spartan Stadium**

## Riley Millard

---

**From:** Qing Zhou <qing.zhou1205@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 1:01 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** we don't need anything related to marijuana in our community

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Qing Zhou and currently a resident in Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I've been living in Okemos for 10+ years and really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. Our family choose to live in Okemos because of its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for our family (and also, I believe, many other families who share our values). I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing I want to see as a mom with two young school-age sons. It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. I believe there are other families like us who share our concerns. More families with kids may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Okemos in a long-run.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community!

Respectfully,

Qing Zhou

Home address: 2550 Lupine Ct., Okemos MI

## Riley Millard

---

**From:** linping xing <paperink13@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 1:02 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Against marijuana zoning

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Ping xing and currently a resident in Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I've been living in Okemos over 20 years and really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. Our family choose to live in Okemos because of its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for our family (and also, I believe, many other families who share our values). I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing I want to see as a mom, It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. I believe there are other families like us who share our concerns. More families with kids may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Okemos in a long-run.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community!

Respectfully,  
Ping xing  
Home address: 2166 longleaf trl.

Sent from my iPhone

## Riley Millard

---

**From:** 13683050951 <13683050951@139.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 1:05 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Against Marijuana!

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Zhinong Yan, and currently a resident in Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I've been living in Okemos for more than 10 years and really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. Our family choose to live in Okemos because of its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for our family (and also, I believe, many other families who share our values). I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing I want to see as a mom with two young school-age sons. It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. I believe there are other families like us who share our concerns. More families with kids may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Okemos in a long-run.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community!

Respectfully,  
Zhinong Yan  
Home address: 1363 Sebewaing Rd, Okemos MI 48864

--发自139邮箱APP

点击下载使用 · 轻松管理邮箱 [app.mail.10086.cn/d/d.html](http://app.mail.10086.cn/d/d.html)

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Ying Yan <yingyan217@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 1:08 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Marijuana stores SHOULD NOT be opened

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Ying Yan and currently a resident in Haslett. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I've been living in Meridian Township for 10 years and really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. Our family choose to live here because of its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for our family (and also, I believe, many other families who share our values). I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing I want to see as a mom with two young sons. It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. I believe there are other families like us who share our concerns. More families with kids may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Meridian Township in a long-run.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community!

Respectfully,  
Ying Yan  
Home address: 697 Emily Lane Haslett

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Jianping Hu <huyidao92122@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 1:11 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Serious concerns over marijuana planting and sale in Meridian Township

To whom it may concern at Meridian Township Board,

With this letter I am expressing my strong concerns over planting and selling marijuana in Meridian Township. I have been a resident of the township for nearly 16 years and proud of the high-quality schools and family friendly communities. I was shocked to hear about the Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinance and believe that it will have a negative impact on the family friendly, safe and clean atmosphere in this area. I have a high school boy and I do not want him to be exposed to this drug, which I believe is a gateway drug to more detrimental and addictive drugs.

As a parent and concerned citizen, I sincerely hope that the township board can take our requests into consideration and vote against this bill. Please keep Meridian Township a safe and clean environment for our kids!

Sincerely,

Jianping Hu

1299 Silverwood Drive, Okemos MI 48864

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Qiang Zhao <zhaq6@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 1:13 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Against Marijuana

Dear board members:

I would strongly voice against the cultivation and sell of marijuana in Meridian township. Thank you for your kind consideration.

Qiang Zhao  
1922 Atherton, Okemos

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Christine Zong <zongcq@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 1:15 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** From Christine

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Christine Zong and currently a resident in Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I've been living in Okemos for 19 years and really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. Our family choose to live in Okemos because of its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for our family (and also, I believe, many other families who share our values). I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing I want to see as a mom with two young school-age sons. It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. I believe there are other families like us who share our concerns. More families with kids may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Okemos in a long-run.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community!

Respectfully,  
Christine Zong  
Home address: 1783 Elk.lane, Okemos

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Gao Li <gaolikun@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 1:16 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Concern Meridian marijuana ordinances

Sent from my iPhoneDear Meridian Township Board,

I am Kun Li and currently a resident in Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I've been living in Okemos for 11 years and really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. Our family choose to live in Okemos because of its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for our family (and also, I believe, many other families who share our values). I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing I want to see as a mom with two young school-age kids. It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. I believe there are other families like us who share our concerns. More families with kids may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Okemos in a long-run.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community!

Respectfully,  
Kun li  
Home address: 2592 Dustin rd  
Okemos

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Li Zhang <dlxzldhz@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 1:18 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** No Marijuana in Okemos

As parents, we are against any Marijuana activity in Okemos.

Li Zhang & Lixin Dong

4162 Cornell Road, Okemos. Mi

发自我的 iPhone

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Haosu Cong <haosucong@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 1:24 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Attitudes to marijuana zoning ordinances

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Haosu Cong and currently a resident in Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I've been living in Okemos for just 2 months, but really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. As a new PhD student in MSU, I chose to live in Okemos because of its high quality public security and friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for myself (and also, I believe, many other families who share my values). I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its friendly atmosphere. My father is a pharmacist and thus I know that marijuana is directly related to the crime rate. And it will increase kids' and teenagers', even college students' exposure and access to marijuana, as you know, they cannot prevent them from opening that Pandora's box. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for me to consider moving out of this area because I am concerning about my own safety. More families with kids may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Okemos in a long-run. Okemos would not be my lovely Okemos! It will no longer be a friendly and safe community, but a drab town fulfilled with awful marijuana smell.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider my concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a safe and aound community!

Respectfully,  
Haosu Cong  
Home address: 4398 Okemos Road, Apt F209, Okemos, MI 48864

## Riley Millard

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**From:** yanyan wang <yayawa@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 1:30 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Cc:** yanyan wang  
**Subject:** Marijuana issue

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am a Professor of Accounting at Michigan State University. My family has lived in Okemos since 2013. I'm writing to express my strong opposition to the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I moved from East Lansing to Okemos in 2013 because of the high-quality education systems and cultural diversity Okemos has to offer. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances worried me due to the concern that the meridian township may be trading off long-term school district ranking/reputation for the short-term gain that the marijuana business may generate. While it's the parents' job to raise their children with the right values, school children also are the most vulnerable to temptations to become users of marijuana either under the peer pressure to be the "cool kid" or due to the fact that marijuana becomes easily accessible to them. As a result, their academic performance will suffer and our school district ranking will deteriorate.

Our family is seriously discussing the possibility of moving out of the Okemos area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. Many other families in our neighborhood share the same concerns. Moving is costly. There's no doubt about that. But if it has to come down to raising our kids the right way and shield them from the undue influence of drug use, we'll do it in a heartbeat. Property values will go down significantly if more families are moving out of the area.

As a concerned parent and a well-educated academic researcher, I'm asking you to please try your best to keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood. You are the ones who can make a real difference for our community!

Respectfully,  
Isabel Wang  
Home address: 2699 Sophiea Pkwy, Okemos, MI 48864

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Yu Qiu <yuqiu01@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 1:39 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Concerns about marijuana zoning ordinances

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Yu Qiu and currently a resident in Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I've been living in Okemos for 18 years and really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. Our family choose to live in Okemos because of its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for our family (and also, I believe, many other families who share our values). I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing I want to see as a mom with two young school-age sons. It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. I believe there are other families like us who share our concerns. More families with kids may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Okemos in a long-run.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community!

Respectfully,  
Yu Qiu  
Home address: 1272 Starboard Drive, Okemos,MI 48864

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邱峪---全世界最牛逼的人民教师

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Wei Zhang <weizhng@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 1:43 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Opposition to marijuana zoning ordinances

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Wei Zhang and currently a resident in Okemos at 3585 Hyacinth ST. I am writing to express my strong opposition to the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I've been living in Okemos for 7 years and I strongly believe it is way too premature for Meridian Township to establish the marijuana zoning ordinances without detailed and robust impact assessment on our community and neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Wei Zhang

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Heidi Ma <heidima@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 1:52 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Against marijuana dispensaries in Meridian Township

Hi,

My name is Huibo Ma. My address is 4573 Spicewood Dr, Okemos MI 48864.

I heard the board will vote for adding marijuana dispensaries in Meridian Township soon. I highly against establishing marijuana dispensaries in the area, especially the ones near Okemos High School and Okemos downtown.

We all know the negative effect marijuana does to people, especially young people. Have the dispensaries so close to the youth in our community is very dangerous.

I hope you would consider these and vote against it. Thanks for your consideration.

Huibo Ma

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Sunny Renli <ren.jian.usa@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 1:54 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Strongly against the

As residents of Okemos for more than 16 years, our whole family is strongly against the Marijuana Non-Zoning/Zoning Ordinances. Please give our kid a clear and drug free environment, instead of just seeking a temporary relief. We have already witnessed too many mental problems and suicide incidences, much more than we could imagine twenty or thirty years ago. It's a responsibility for each and everyone individual to think wisely and take appropriate actions to create a healthy and clear environment. We do not want to become criminals for the future generations.

Please cast your vote with responsibility and consciousness in your mind.

Sincerely,  
Jian Ren  
1840 Elk Lane

## Riley Millard

---

**From:** Qiaoqin Jiang <qiaoqin\_jiang@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 1:55 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Marijuana Stores and Marijuana planting Should Not Allowed In Meridian Township

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Qiaoqin Jiang. I strongly oppose with opening Marijuana stores and planting Marijuana in Meridian township!

Residents are proud of Okemos, prospect families choose to come to live in Okemos because Okemos is a well known safe place, and it has best school district around Lansing area.

If we were to allow Marijuana store to open, or Marijuana planting in Okemos. We are putting our Children's future in risk. By having Marijuana physically in Meridian Township, we are opening a door for people to drug. We are endorsing and encouraging people to take the first step to drug. People would have more chance to make bad decisions because of the easy access to it. Students will lose focus on academic because the worsen environment. Families who are serious about Children's future will be afraid of letting their children grown up here, and eventually they will be moving away. New families will not want to move in for the same reason.

For the sake of the future of our children and all the people in the community, please stop considering having Marijuana businesses in Meridian Township!

Sincerely,

Qiaoqin Jiang

1805  
Sent from my iPhone

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Cathrine Tan <ctan0008@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 2:07 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Voting for/against the marijuana growing and cannabis shop

Hi,  
I heard that there will be a voting at 5 pm today regarding growing marijuana and cannabis shop in Meridian township.  
I am concerned and would like to vote no, please don't grow marijuana and don't open cannabis shop in Meridian township.  
Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Cathrine Tan  
2594 Lupine Dr.  
Okemos, MI 48864.

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Youyu Feng <txyouyu@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 2:09 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Concerns about opening Marijuana business in Meridian

Dear Meridian Township Board,

My name is Youyu Feng. My family moved to 2017 Timberview Dr, Okemos last summer because Okemos is one of the best places to live in the United States. It has highly educated residents, high quality schools and family friendly communities. Now I am worried that allowing marijuana businesses in our community would affect all of these.

Nearly 300 communities across Michigan have voted to prohibit marijuana businesses. 75 percent of communities in Colorado, the first state to legalize marijuana, have decided to ban the businesses. And there are reasons why others said NO to marijuana businesses.

According to an analysis from the Washington Post, wholesale marijuana prices are dropping at insane rates in states that have legalized. This means that the tax revenue generated by marijuana business will decrease sharply in a few years. On the other hand, a study by the Centennial Institute at the acclaimed Colorado Christian University found that "for every dollar gained in tax revenue, Coloradans spent approximately \$4.50 to mitigate the effects of legalization." This hasn't taken into account the costs associated with long-term health consequences.

In the long-run, marijuana business brings not Economy benefits, but a less safe, less family-friendly and less valuable community according to studies/researches:

- Marijuana use remains more prevalent in the population with less education.
- Research shows a connection between marijuana use and the use of alcohol and other substances.
- Sixty-nine percent of marijuana users say they have driven under the influence of marijuana at least once, and 27 percent admit to driving under the influence on a daily basis.
- The marijuana industry has adverse impact on the environment including CO2 emissions, electricity consumption and plastic packaging.

Many families with kids in our neighborhood and schools share the same concerns as we do. We urge the Board to consider our concerns and vote to prohibit marijuana businesses in our township.

Thank you for making our township a better place to live!

Sincerely,  
Youyu Feng  
2017 Timberview Dr.

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Joyce Dou <joycedd781028@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 2:10 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am siqi Xu and currently a resident in Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

We moved here from Chicago 4 years ago. My friends highly recommend Okemos. That is why we decided to move in and bought the house. Our family chose to live in Okemos because of its high quality schools and safe, friendly communities. Lansing is known as MSU, which brings together scholars from all over the world. Should the smell of marijuana replace the smell of books? I believe marijuana will bring benefits to the city, but the troubles it brings are endless. I remember when we lived in Chicago, my daughter was afraid to go out at night. As a mother, I don't want my daughter to fall back into fear again.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a safe, kind community!

Respectfully,

Siqi Xu

Home address: 2476 Burcham Dr. East Lansing, Michigan

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Tongtong Li <tongli@egr.msu.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 2:14 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Cc:** 'Tongtong Li'  
**Subject:** About the cultivation of Marijuana in Okemos

Dear Meridian Township Board Members,

I was very surprised to hear that some people are considering the cultivation of Marijuana in Okemos. Marijuana is actually a kind of drug. Though its cultivation may bring some income for Okemos, however, what is the price we pay? We would be surrounded by crimes, Okemos will be no longer be the beautiful, peaceful, lovely little town. Our children will be facing much higher dangers of all the problems caused by the drug. People will be moving away, and our city will be ruined.

My family has been living in Okemos for 17 years, and I strongly wish the board will NOT approve the cultivation of Marijuana in Okemos. It is a very short sighted motion that will have profound, long-term and destructive impact on Okemos. Please say "NO."

Tongtong Li  
19840 Elk Lane  
Okemos, MI 48864

Tongtong Li  
Associate Professor  
Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Michigan State University  
428 S. Shaw Lane, Room 2120  
East Lansing, MI 48824-1226  
Phone: (517)355-7688  
Email: [tongli@egr.msu.edu](mailto:tongli@egr.msu.edu)

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Song, Guo-Qing <songg@msu.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 2:17 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Please Veto Medical Cannabis

Hello,

I am resident of Okemos (5403 Lampen Dr., East Lansing, MI 48823). I have some big concerns about the adoption of growing of and opening shops of medical cannabis in the area of Meridian township. Please **Veto** medical Cannabis in Okemos. I would not support any representative who vote for this.

Name: Guo-qing Song  
Home address: 5403 Lampen Drive, East Lansing, MI 48823  
Phone: 517-402-6620

Thank you,

Guo-qing

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Qiaoqin Jiang <qiaoqin\_jiang@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 2:17 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Marijuana Stores and Marijuana planting Should Not Allowed In Meridian Township

To Whom It May Concern,

I am sorry that I forgot to include address in my previous email.

My name is Qiaoqin Jiang. I strongly oppose with opening Marijuana stores and planting Marijuana in Meridian township!

Residents are proud of Okemos, and prospect families choose to come to live in Okemos because Okemos is a well known safe place, and it has best school district around Lansing area.

If we were to allow Marijuana store to open, or Marijuana planting in Okemos, we would be putting our Children's future in risk. By having Marijuana physically in Meridian Township, we would be endorsing and encouraging people to take the first step to drug. People would have more chances to make bad decisions because of the easy access. Students would lose focus on academic because the worsen environment and their declining health. Property value would go down. Families who are serious about Children's future would be afraid of letting their children grown up here, and eventually they would have to move away. New families would not want to move in for the same reason.

For the sake of the future of our children and all the people in the community, please stop considering having Marijuana businesses in Meridian Township!

Sincerely,

Qiaoqin Jiang  
1805 Yosemite Dr, Okemos, MI 48864

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Xiaobo Tan <tanxb76@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 2:23 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Cc:** Xiaobo Tan  
**Subject:** Concern over marijuana zoning ordinances

Dear Meridian Township Board:

I am Xiaobo Tan, Professor in Electrical and Computer Engineering at Michigan State University. I am writing to express my serious concerns over the marijuana zoning ordinances in the Township.

My family just moved into Okemos last summer. The good school district and family-friendly environment were the most important reasons for us to come to Okemos. Despite the assumed, possible short-term economic benefit marijuana could bring to the community, I am very concerned about its negative impact on the surroundings, including, in particular, the easier access to marijuana by school children including my daughter and son. I am also concerned the potential negative impact on the value of our property.

I hope my voice is heard, and please keep marijuana away from our community and our kids!

Thank you,

Xiaobo Tan  
2017 Timberview Dr  
Okemos, MI 48864

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Yiming Jerry Deng <jerry.deng.colorado@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 2:25 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Objection for Meridian Township Marijuana Zoning Ordinances

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I have sure you have received many objection voices from voters/residents like me. The marijuana zoning ordinances and the plan of opening marijuana business in the township is really short-sighted in my personal opinion.

I strongly against it as a voter, a father and a long-time resident in the city of Okemos. Thank you for your consideration.

Best Regards,  
Yiming Deng  
Home address: 2536 Kevern Way

Yiming "Jerry" Deng, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Michigan State University  
Office: 517-884-0926  
Email: [dengyimi@egr.msu.edu](mailto:dengyimi@egr.msu.edu)  
Web: [www.egr.msu.edu/deng/](http://www.egr.msu.edu/deng/)

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Yiming Jerry Deng <jerry.deng.colorado@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 2:29 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Re: Objection for Meridian Township Marijuana Zoning Ordinances

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am sure you have received many objection voices from voters/residents like me. The marijuana zoning ordinances and the plan of opening marijuana business in the township is really short-sighted in my personal opinion.

I strongly against it as a voter, a father and a long-time resident in the city of Okemos. Thank you for your consideration.

Best Regards,  
Yiming Deng  
Home address: 2536 Kevern Way

Yiming "Jerry" Deng, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Michigan State University  
Office: 517-884-0926  
Email: [dengyimi@egr.msu.edu](mailto:dengyimi@egr.msu.edu)  
Web: [www.egr.msu.edu/deng/](http://www.egr.msu.edu/deng/)

On Thu, Mar 14, 2019 at 2:25 PM Yiming Jerry Deng <[jerry.deng.colorado@gmail.com](mailto:jerry.deng.colorado@gmail.com)> wrote:  
Dear Meridian Township Board,

I have sure you have received many objection voices from voters/residents like me. The marijuana zoning ordinances and the plan of opening marijuana business in the township is really short-sighted in my personal opinion.

I strongly against it as a voter, a father and a long-time resident in the city of Okemos. Thank you for your consideration.

Best Regards,  
Yiming Deng  
Home address: 2536 Kevern Way

Yiming "Jerry" Deng, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Michigan State University  
Office: 517-884-0926

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Yingxin Zhou <zhou0824@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 2:31 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Medical Marijuana Facilities

Dear Board members,

I live on Sophiea Pkwy, Okemos, Michigan. I heard 6 facilities have been identified for the sale of medical marijuana. It doesn't make sense to me. The FDA has only approved it for treatment of two rare and severe forms of epilepsy, Dravet syndrome and Lennox-Gastaut syndrome. Meridian Township is a small area with small population of 39,688. Is statistics number available regarding the patients with these two diseases in our Township? Is it possible to obtain the number from local hospitals? Since they are rare and severe diseases, I don't expect the patient population to be large. Therefore in my opinion opening one store is enough. Why 6?

Also have you considered given permits to pharmacies at Walgreens, Meijer, Target, Kroger etc to sell medical marijuana? If they are given the permits, the 6 facilities already identified can be used for other purposes.

Your consideration is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Yingxin Zhou  
Equities Trader, CPA  
Zhou0824@gmail.com  
517-518-2638

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Liyu <liyuworkweek@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 2:34 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Say no to Marijuana

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Liyu He and currently a resident in Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I've been living in Okemos for 2 years and really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. Our family choose to live in Okemos because of its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for our family. I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing I get to see as a mom with my kids. It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community!

Respectfully,  
Liyu He  
Home address:  
2694 Elderberry Drive  
Okemos MI 48864

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Ming Yan <basca.yan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 2:41 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Regarding the recent marijuana zoning ordinances

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Ming Yan and currently a resident in Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I've been living in Okemos for 2 years and really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. Our family choose to live in Okemos because of its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for our family (and also, I believe, many other families who share our values). I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business might bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing I want to see. It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. I believe there are other families like us who share our concerns. More families with kids may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Okemos in a long-run.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with or without kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community!

Respectfully,  
Ming Yan  
Home address: 3834 Fossum Ln, Okemos, MI

Best regards,

Ming Yan

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Shuangtao Ma <shuangtaoma@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 2:50 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Concerns about marijuana zoning ordinances

Dear Meridian Township Board,

This is Shuangtao Ma and currently a resident living at 3885 Baulistrol Dr in Okemos. I heard about the Board is deciding marijuana zoning ordinances in Meridian Township. I am writing this letter to express my strongest objection against marijuana planting and businesses in the community.

We moved into this area two years ago since I joined MSU. After careful consideration, we purchased a house and settled down in Okemos because my wife and I recognized this is a peace, highly safe, and family-friendly community. More importantly, it is great for our 6-year-old daughter as there are wonderful schools. Even though we pay much more property taxes than people who live in nearby communities, we still think that's worth. However, I really do not want this paradise to be poisoned by marijuana.

As an Assistant Professor of Medicine, I understand that marijuana is a dangerous drug with very limited medical value or without therapeutic value. To date, the FDA has not approved a marketing application for marijuana for any indication ([FDA and Marijuana: Questions and Answers](#)). The FDA only approved a couple of medicines which contains cannabidiol for rare and severe forms of epilepsy, and the FDA is still concerning the safety of the drug. I believe marijuana has much more been abused than appropriate medical use in the United States. It is no doubt that marijuana does much more harm than benefit to the human body as it causes a lot of detrimental effects including brain damage. What's more, marijuana is a gateway drug that leads people to move on to harder and more dangerous drugs. It is a terrible thing for children to have access to marijuana and expose children to marijuana abusers. I also don't want my daughter think that marijuana plants growing in our living community and along the walkway to school is a normal thing. More dangerous drivers induced by marijuana will further damage the peace of the community.

Therefore, I believe marijuana will definitely bring much more damage than short-term economic benefits to the community. As people who want to live in a healthier community moving out and more marijuana abuser moving in, this paradise will finally and soon turn into hell.

I hope you could consider my concerns and think a long run for the beautiful kids who live in this community and the future of the community.

Best regards,  
Shuangtao

### **FDA and Marijuana: Questions and Answers**

Office of the Commissioner

Questions and answers about FDA and marijuana

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Tony Gao <tonygao15@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 2:54 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** No Marijuana

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Tong Gao, a professor at MSU, and a resident in Okemos. I have strong concerns about the recent Marijuana zoning ordinance, and I am strongly against it. The township should be proud of its value of high quality schools and family friendly community. Nevertheless, introduction of marijuana will change everything in the long term, with increasing crime rate and safety issues. The loss will be huge compared to the possible short-term economic benefits. I am actually surprised to see motions like this to occur in Meridian or East Lansing. Please keep marijuana away!

Sincerely,  
Tong Gao  
4381 Alderwood Dr. Okemos 48864

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Xiaoming Liu <xiaoming.lxm@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 2:57 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Marijuana stores should NOT be opened

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Xiaoming Liu, a Professor in Michigan State University and a resident in Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I've been living in Okemos for 7 years and really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. Our family choose to live in Okemos because of its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for our family (and also, I believe, many other families who share our values). I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing I want to see as a mom with two young school-age sons. It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. In fact, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. I believe there are other families like us who share our concerns. More families with kids may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Okemos in a long-run.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with similar education background have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood!

Respectfully,  
Xiaoming Liu

Home address: 2607 Sophica Pkwy, Okemos MI 48864

## Riley Millard

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**From:** xuefei hao <yalehxf@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 3:05 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Against planting marijuana and opening cannabis shop!

To whom it may concern,

I am Xuefei Hao, a current resident in East Lansing. I heard that you plan to plant marijuana, and open cannabis shops in Okemos and East Lansing area. This is a terrible news for my entire family and all my friends! We all think it will destroy our kids and community in near future. Human beings should control this kind of desires. For us, marijuana is "drug". Do not ruin our kids and lives! If you insist to do so, it may result in the loss of your valuable residents and tax income: we and our friends may move out from this area. **The re-election of Meridian Township board members will be started next year in 2020. we and all our friends and will not vote for you next November, if the ordinance is approved.**

Please consider this seriously!

Thanks,  
Xuefei Hao  
Home address: 2189 Burcham Dr. East Lansing. MI 48823

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Ming Han <hanmsym@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 3:11 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Oppose Proposed Marijuana Dispensary in Meridian Township

Ming Han  
2305 Knob Hill Dr.  
Apt 12  
Okemos, MI 48824

Dear Meridian Township Board,

My name is Ming Han, an Okemos resident that just moved here from Lincoln, Nebraska in early 2018. I am writing to oppose the recent movement toward allowing medical marijuana business to set up shops in Meridian township.

My concern is mostly about children. And I believe you all agree with me that their safety and well-being should be our priority. A marijuana dispensary, no matter medical or recreational, does not belong next to us. There are several significant concerns:

- 1) A marijuana dispensary could significantly increase the chances of drivers under the influence in the area near the facility.
- 2) It would give the children much easier opportunities to access marijuana.
- 3) The easy access to marijuana could also give the children a false impression of the safety of marijuana.
- 4) It could bring crime to the area.

I totally understand that marijuana can have legitimate medical benefits, but we should also be aware of the major risks that medical marijuana dispensaries might pose to children. I also understand the short-term economic benefit that could bring to the township, but in the long run, marijuana dispensaries could hurt the income of the township by losing many residents with concerns on the risks to their children.

As I am living in an apartment now and actively looking for a house, I have never thought about anywhere else other than Okemos because of its excellent schools. However, if Meridian Township allows marijuana facility nearby our kids, I would seriously consider a different place.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Ming Han

## Riley Millard

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**From:** GS N <gracesunorris@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 3:15 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Marijuana Stores Should Not Be Opened In Meridian Township

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Grace Norris. I strongly disagree with opening Marijuana stores in Meridian Township for the following reasons:

It does not help the State/County/Township economy.

It is not in accordance with Pure Michigan nor in line with environment-friendly.

It will make the community unsafe.

It will lower the quality of our community.

The existence of marijuana stores would not help the economy nor tax eventually because the cost of fixing issues caused by the easy access to marijuana is bigger than the revenue according to statistics in Colorado.

it would not comply with Pure Michigan. Waters will be impacted; Air will be toxic thus the rest residents would have to breathe second-hand marijuana smoke.

When easy access Marijuana stores are open in our community, irresponsible people would try them with overdose, driving under influence, causing more traffic accidents, even stealing in occasions of lack of money and losing behavioral control. Do you want this?

We live in a school district with a strong educational program. Allowing Marijuana stores open and with the foreseeable issues, it would impose a poor impression on our community, therefore, Meridian Township would lose attraction to business investments. Eventually, our community would become economically weak area: less business and low employment. Do most people want this? I do not wish our community to be viewed as a cheap unsafe place.

If we allow marijuana stores to be opened, it would be difficult to control the number of consumers purchasing products. I do not wish for drugs to have a negative effect on our community. Slowly our community would become unsafe, and people would start moving out.

Haslett is mainly a residential community for long-term living and raising children, with some small companies and businesses. We should protect the safety and health of our schools as a priority. Opening a marijuana store would impose a negative impression on our children. I'm afraid this would influence our children to inhabitant the drug.

To satisfy a small group of people with marijuana needs, we would be sacrificing our community's high reputation. On niche, Meridian Township is coming back to a good place to live in the United States. I wish for the upward progress of our community.

While I understand and respect the need of others in my community who seek marijuana, I believe the opening of marijuana stores in a public busy area would have a negative impact on our community as a whole and the impression on our children growing up.

I also understand that you have been working hard to improve our community, and I believe in the future you will continue to make Meridian Township a better place to live. My family and I thank you for your efforts towards our community.

Sincerely,

Grace Norris

Please don't hesitate to contact me by

[gracesunorris@gmail.com](mailto:gracesunorris@gmail.com)

425-449-2943

5574 White Ash Lane, Haslett MI 48840

## Riley Millard

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**From:** John Zheng <jhn\_zheng@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 3:24 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Please Do Not Open Marijuana Stores

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is John Zheng and I live in Okemos. Regarding the new proposal on marijuana, I strongly disagree with opening Marijuana stores in [Meridian township](#) for the following reasons:

1. It will lower the quality of our community.
2. It will make the city unsafe.

We live in a school district with a strong educational programs. The existence of marijuana stores would impose a poor impression on our community, affecting real estate prices, causing our homes values to go down. Okemos would lose attraction to the wealthy. I do not wish our community to be viewed as a cheap place.

If we allow marijuana stores to be opened, it would be difficult to control the amount of consumers purchasing products. I do not wish for drugs to have a negative effect on our community. Slowly our community would become unsafe, and people would start moving out.

Okemos is mainly a resident community for long-term living and raising children, with few big companies and businesses. We should protect the safety and health of our schools as a priority. Opening a marijuana store would impose a negative impression on our children. I'm afraid this would influence our children to inhabitant the drug.

To satisfy a small group of people with marijuana needs, we would be sacrificing our community's high reputation. On niche, okemos is ranked as the #4 best place to live in United States. I wish for the upward progress of our community.

<https://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/life/2017/04/21/okemos-ranked-no-4-best-places-live/100750394/>

While I understand and respect the need of others in my community who seek marijuana, I believe the opening of marijuana stores in a public busy area would have a negative impact on our community as a whole and the impression on our children growing up.

I know you have worked hard to improve our community, and I believe in the future you will continue to make [Meridian Township](#) a better place to live. My family and I thank you for your efforts towards our community.

Sincerely,

John Zheng

(P): [\(734\)-239-3604](tel:734-239-3604)

## Riley Millard

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**From:** t t <tiaotiao\_a2@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 3:24 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** STRONG CONCERNS about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances. I am living in Okemos and really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. Our family chose to live in Okemos because of its safe, high quality schools and family friendly communities. Now I am worried that allowing marijuana businesses in our community would affect all of these.

In the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana. It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment.

In addition, according to an analysis from the Washington Post, wholesale marijuana prices are dropping at insane rates in states that have legalized. This means that the tax revenue generated by marijuana business will decrease sharply in a few years.

Many families with kids in our neighborhood and schools share the same concerns as we do. We urge the Board to consider our concerns and vote to prohibit marijuana businesses in our township.

Thank you for making our township a better place to live!

Zhen Qiu  
and  
Jing Chen

Home Address:  
1526 Belvedere Ave, Okemos, MI, 48864

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Selena Zhang <selena1207@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 3:26 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Resist Marijuana

To whom it may be concerned,

I am a resident of Okemos. I heard that marijuana zoning ordinances are under discussing by the Board. I want to express my object opinion on the whole planning.

My family immigrated here two years ago due to the high qualified education and good neighborhood. My son goes to middle school in Okemos now, and planned to continue to study here until high school graduate. He has excellent scores and gains a lot of confident of being a contribution person in the future here. As a parent, I put much emphasis on kid's education, and cares about the growing environment of him, which should be benefit for his growing, and in return he can contribute to this society. But recently the marijuana legalized bothers me a lot. I think it will definitely has bad influent on kids, which may cost a lot for government to educate students in the future, not mention the result of the education. It will be a threat for kids, family and community. I cannot understand why it was legalized. I think every good thing should be encouraged, and bad things should be banned by authority. If the marijuana zoning become truth, I would rather move out of here, maybe back to my coming place, from which I thought here should be a paradise for children.

Thank you for taking time to read my letter, and I hope you can consider about my feelings just like other caring and upright parents. I believe the children are not only the hope of family, but also the whole country. Think about them!

Best regards,  
Shu Zhang  
2266 Knob Hill Dr. Apt.3 Okemos 48864

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Songqing Jin <songqingj@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 3:35 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Concern about Legalization of Marijuana Business in Meridian Township

Dear Meridian Township Board,

My name is Songqing Jin. My wife and I have lived in Okemos for 8 years with two young children. I write to voice my strong concern about the legalization of the growing and dispensary of medical marijuana in Meridian township. Making the marijuana business legal in Meridian will not create a healthy environment for our community, especially for our children. What kind of message would we be sending to our children about drug use and addiction if our township becomes a site for producing and selling marijuana? If you encourage the marijuana business to take root in Meridian township, all our children will become the first targeted customers down the road. If this happens, how will you hope to encourage students to develop a good work ethic and self-discipline? How will you hope to create productive citizens who can contribute to the economy later on in ways other than growing and selling marijuana and other drugs? This will have a long-term negative impact on the economy of not only Meridian but also Michigan.

Making the marijuana business legal in Meridian will also attract drug users and drug dealers to our community which will hurt the safety of community cause housing value to decline. If I had known that Meridian would be in danger of becoming a heaven for drug producers and drug users, I would not have chosen to buy a house in Okemos and pay the high property taxes. The legalization of the marijuana business in Meridian township is against the long-term economic and social interests of the majority of the families here.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns.

Respectfully,

Songqing Jin

Home address: 1931 Atherton Way, Okemos, MI 48864

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Honglei Chen <chenhonglei2012@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 3:41 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Marijuana Stores Should NOT Be Opened

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Honglei Chen, and currently a resident in Okemos.

I object to the legalization of the growing and dispensary of medical marijuana in Meridian township. Making the marijuana business legal in Meridian will not create a healthy environment for our children. Allowing multiple dispensaries to be set up in our township has a high potential of leading to abuse. It will increase public security costs and tarnish the family friendly image of Okemos. What kind of message would we be sending to our youngsters about drug use and addiction if our township becomes a site for producing and selling marijuana? The younger generation of today is already addicted to social media, video games, etc. If you encourage the marijuana business to take root in Meridian township, all our children will become the first targeted customers down the road (when medical marijuana producers lobby for the legalization of recreational marijuana as well). Marijuana will become yet another addiction prevalent among our youngsters. If this happens, how will you hope to encourage students to develop a good work ethic and self-discipline? How will you hope to create productive citizens who can contribute to the economy later on in ways other than growing and selling marijuana and other drugs? This will have a long-term negative impact on the economy of not only Meridian but also Michigan. If I had known that Meridian would be in danger of becoming a site where the marijuana business proliferates and of corrupting its school districts, I would not have chosen to buy a house in Okemos and pay the high property taxes. The legalization of the marijuana business in Meridian township is against the long-term economic interests of the majority of the families here. I adamantly oppose it. I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns.

Respectfully,  
Honglei Chen  
Home Address: 4376 OKEMOS RD, APT C115.

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Tim O'NEILL <arrestu@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 3:55 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Marijuana zoning

Tim O'NEILL 1560 Birchwood Dr. Okemos.

I'm against zoning for marijuana. Growing and sales

## Riley Millard

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**From:** zhang yin <yinzhang99@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 3:58 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Marijuana Zoning

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Yin Zhang and currently a resident in Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I've been living in Okemos for 15 years and really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. Our family choose to live in Okemos because of its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for our family. I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing I want to see as a mom with three sons. It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community!

Respectfully,  
Yin Zhang , Yimin Xiao  
Home address: 4223 Mariner Lane, Okemos , MI 48864

## Riley Millard

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**From:** my1314melody@yahoo.com.tw  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 4:10 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Okemos

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Tsaii and currently a resident in Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I've been living in Okemos for 10 years and really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. Our family choose to live in Okemos because of its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for our family (and also, I believe, many other families who share our values). I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing I want to see as a mom with two young school-age sons. It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. I believe there are other families like us who share our concerns. More families with kids may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Okemos in a long-run.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community!

Respectfully,  
Tsaii Liu, PE,RA  
Professional Engineer (Civil)& Registered Architect PE (VA, GU, FL, MI ,WA, OR),RA (MD,GU,MI)

Home address: 4695 Kingswood Dr  
Okemos 48864 MI

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Hong L. <honglin2005@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 4:12 PM  
**To:** Board

Dear Board Members,

My name is Hong Lin, a resident with Okemos since 2006. I am writing this e-mail to express my frustrations of learning the plan of the potential Marijuana Facilities are being built in Okemos.

We moved to Michigan in the summer of 2005 from California. While we were renting in East Lansing, we did researches and made the decision to buy a house in Okemos and settled in this neighborhood in the Spring of 2006. Since then, we fully enjoyed the well-educated and generous neighbors, safe environments and diverse cultures Okemos has been offering to its residents. When we traveled out of the town, we were always proud to introduce ourselves to strangers we met during the trip that we were from Okemos, Michigan. And, many times, there were people responded to us with "I/we knew Okemos!" Then, all the sudden, various beautiful memories were brought up! Life-long stories about the old high school, currently Chippewa Middle school, weddings held in the historical village, famous township fair works, fine dining experiences with local restaurants, strong athletic influences, and many other inspiring events. Even, one businessman shared with us that his favorite attorney was from Okemos. They have been working together for more than two decades! All are pleasant stories about Okemos!

Do we need to damage and change the established Brand Name of Okemos to the hometown of Marijuana Facilities? True, they will bring the revenues. But the negative effects will cause more problems in the long run – in a costly way. And, as the resident, we have been paying a decent amount of Property Taxes. The average range of annual property tax of my neighbor is \$5,000 to \$10,000. Would these incomes not good enough to maintain the city we love? If there is a shortage, then raise the property tax, or find other reasonable and healthy sources to balance the book.

I truly believe that the board members will consider the whole picture and provide us the best options!

Respectfully,

Hong Lin

Home Address: 1300 Sweetwood Dr. Okemos, MI 48864

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Zhang, Jack (DTMB) <ZhangJ@michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 4:16 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Please Vote Against Marijuana in Meridian Township!!!!

Marijuana is not good for the township, the kids, the people, the school, the community. the society!! Please Vote Against Marijuana in Meridian Township!!

My name is haibiao zhang and I live in 4719 Powell Road, Okemos, MI.

*Jack Zhang*

IT Manager  
Department of Technology, Management & Budget  
[zhangj@michigan.gov](mailto:zhangj@michigan.gov)  
Office: 517-241-2927  
Cell: 517-242-4525



**HELP. CONNECT. SOLVE.**

## Riley Millard

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**From:** ning niou <ningniou66@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 4:17 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Opposition to Zoning for growing marijuana

My name is Yungning Niou, resident at 1466 Mercer Dr.

I truly don't think growing marijuana in this township will bring in any long term economic benefit at all.

Most importantly, marijuana is a drug that has many controversial medical effects on human bodies and mind. Why bother to lead, to temp our young lives into such a dangerous situation-addiction to substance- that they may do more harm than good physically and mentally?

Sent from my iPhone

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Chen, Haomin <chenhaom@msu.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 4:24 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Strongly Against the Opening of Marijuana Stores in Meridian Township

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for accepting responses from the community on this important decision.

I am greatly concerned about the potential opening of marijuana stores in the Meridian Township. If the selling and planting of recreational marijuana were approved, it would no doubly cast very negative influence on the living environment for the residents, especially negatively affecting the up-bringing of our children and youth!

I am fine with medical use of marijuana. However, making it recreational and opening multiple stores in the area would almost make the drug freely accessible. This would have unmeasurable negative effects on economics, safety and the overall value of our community.

The schools have been working very hard to keep our youth from the drugs. Making marijuana easily available is not respecting all the investment the schools have put in the wellbeing of our young people. It is heartbreaking to think about all the foundation the schools have been building little by little would face disruption, because of the environment these stores would throw the kids in. Allowing these stores to open is to allow the temptation to increase dramatically in their surroundings. We already have some drug abuse problems in the schools. Opening these stores is indeed counterproductive while educators and parents are trying so hard to stay proactive in drug abuse prevention for the youth.

Would the economic benefit really be worth that much, more than the precious wellbeing and future of our next (and the next...) generation?

Meridian Township is a great place to live, study and raise families. But would people still be interested in moving here if marijuana is freely accessible here?

Using marijuanas could be just the beginning leading to other worse drugs, which would put people in greater danger of addition, long term health problems, and economic strain. Furthermore, it can be a public safety hazard! There would be more people driving under the influence of marijuana, more accidents on the road, more tax dollars spent remediating the consequences. Eventually the community has to pay for all these. The sacrifice is simply too huge to ignore.

I would like to urge the Board to consider all the concerns from the community members and vote to ban the recreational marijuana businesses in our township.

Thank you for striving to make our township a safe place to live!

Haomin Chen  
517-980-2168  
2374 Burcham Dr. East Lansing, MI 48823 (belongs to Meridian Township)

## Riley Millard

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**From:** David Hagan <dhsurg@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 4:28 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Cc:** Patty  
**Subject:** Vote on marijuana businesses

I wanted to voice my opinion on the proposed marijuana businesses. I am against having them in Meridian Township. That isn't the kind of community that I want to live in. Thank you.  
Patricia Hagan

Sent from my iPad

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Sue Wang <suewang\_ou@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 4:38 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Please vote NO on opening Marijuana Stores in Meridian Township

Dear Members of Meridian Township Board,

My name is Suning Wang, a homeowner of Meridian Township. I'm writing to address my concerns about opening stores to sell Marijuana in Meridian Township.

The proposal of opening Marijuana business in Meridian township scared many residents in this area, including me, a mother of two young children. We pay premiums for housing and high property taxes of Meridian Township, in order to provide a safe, family friendly neighborhood for our kids.

Researches show that Marijuana use remains more prevalent in the population with less education, and over 95% of marijuana users admitted that they had driven under the influence of Marijuana at least once. We don't want to see the school kids in Meridian Township get easy access to Marijuana, and don't want to see the Marijuana business hurt the value of our communities.

We appreciate that you take into consideration of concerns and worries of Meridian residents, when you vote.

Best Regards,

Suning Wang  
2176 Sacramento Way, East Lansing, MI 48823  
517-505-0881

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Yangfan (Phoebe) Liu <liu.yangfan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 4:42 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Cc:** yuying xie  
**Subject:** NO marijuana store in Meridian, Please!

Dear Meridian Township Board,

Our names are Yangfan Liu and Yuying Xie, the homeowners of and the residents at 2165 Long Leaf Trl, Okemos, MI. We are writing to express our strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances, including the harmful impacts the marijuana stores were going to have on the children, the safety in the neighborhood, and the real estate market.

On [niche.com](http://niche.com), Okemos is ranked as the #8 best place to live in the United States. Ever since we moved here in 2015, we've been proud of the excellent wonderful school district and family-friendly community. Now if there are going to be marijuana stores (up to six!) around, we are very concerned the dramatically increased chance of our two kids exposure to it. Also, the customers who need marijuana and come to shop from other places will also add to concerns to the safety in the community. We believe many families share these concerns with us. We used to think both our kids (still preschooler and elementary) will stay and graduate from Okemos High one day. Now, we are not quite sure about it because of the foreseen problems coming with marijuana stores. If more and more families stop view Okemos as a family-friendly educational town for children, I think the long-run harm on the real estate market and other economic aspects of the township will outweigh the short-term tax income from the marijuana stores.

With the faith in the board members to make the choice that in long-run benefits the township and its residents, I sincerely ask you to consider our concerns and vote "No" for marijuana stores in our lovely hometown.

Respectfully,  
Yangfan Liu and Yuying Xie  
Home address: 2165 Long Leaf Trl, Okemos, MI

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Amanda Zhang <zhangmanaz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 4:42 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Ban Marijuana

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I'm Man Zhang. I've been Okemos resident since 2014. I'm writing to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

Okemos is one of the best places to live in the United States. It has highly educated residents, high quality schools and family friendly communities. However, allowance of marijuana in this area may change it fundamentally towards severe negative way.

I have 3 school age kids expected to grow up in the peaceful well-maintained community. If allowing marijuana business in this area, it will increase our kids to be exposed to access it. In addition, it will incur security and safety concerns as illegal marijuana users can be attracted to our society. I've spoke to some of my family friends of Okemos residents. We all express our big concerns about it and will seriously consider moving out of this area if it starts in practice.

Nearly 300 communities across Michigan have voted to prohibit marijuana businesses. 75 percent of communities in Colorado, the first state to legalize marijuana, have decided to ban the businesses. And there are reasons why others said NO to marijuana businesses. When more and more american realize negative impacts of marijuana, allowing marijuana in Meridian and spread negative signals to our kids, our safe society, our future of living conditions will be unwise decision without fully consideration to my understanding.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider my concerns, the future of the community and the future of kids.

Thank you.  
Man Zhang  
1268 Sebewaing Rd. Okemos, MI, 48864

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Jingjing Chang <jingjing.chang1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 4:53 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Strong Objection on Opening Marijuana Business in Meridian Township

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am writing this letter to express my strong objection about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

We have been living in Okemos since 2012 and we chose this unique place to settle down because of its high quality of education within this area and its safety. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances made me deeply worried about our children and future generations.

I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring into to the State. However, I do not believe the benefits would overcome the risks and lost we will have to face if we open up the business for our township, especially in the long-run. It will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing I want to see as a mom with two young school-age sons.

Haven't we had enough issues to deal with already? The roads, the healthcare, the retirement plan, the education, the environment, and the list can go on and on. I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to expense my concerns and thank you for your time and consideration.

Please keep marijuana away from our Township! Let's protect our beautiful community, as well as the youngsters for the future.

Respectfully,

Jingjing Chang  
4158 Usiak cir.  
Okemos, MI 48864

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Yan liu <susieyanliu@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 4:57 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Re: Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood

>  
>  
> Dear Meridian Township Board,  
>  
> I am Yan Liu and currently a resident in Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.  
>  
> I've been living in Okemos for 12 years and really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. Our family choose to live in Okemos because of its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for our family (and also, I believe, many other families who share our values). I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing I want to see as a mom with two young school-age daughters. It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. I believe there are other families like us who share our concerns. More families with kids may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Okemos in a long-run.  
>  
> I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community!  
>  
> Respectfully,  
> Yan Liu  
> Home address: 1264 Sweetwood Drive, Okemos, MI 48864  
>  
> Sent from my iPhone

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Zhenmei Zhang <zhenmeizh@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 4:59 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** marijuana

Dear Meridian Township Board members,

I am a resident (1253 Mizzen, Okemos) in the township for 12 years and am concerned about the marijuana zoning ordinance. I am against allowing the growth of marijuana near our k-12 schools. I hope the board can consider the long-term impact of their decisions on families with children in the township.

Thanks,  
Zhenmei Zhang

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Hu, Jian <hujian1@msu.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 5:02 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Strong objection

Hi there,

My ten years old son is schooling in Okemos. I strongly object the proposal that medical marijuana planting in Okemos.

My name is Jian Hu, address 2189 Burcham Drive, East LANSING, MI 48823

Jian

Sent from my iPhone

## Riley Millard

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**From:** max hsu <hsu.maximus@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 5:13 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** I oppose marijuana in Meridian township

I object to the legalization of the growing and dispensary of medical marijuana in Meridian township. Making the marijuana business legal in our township will not create a healthy environment for our children. Allowing multiple dispensaries to be set up in Meridian has a high potential of leading to abuse. It will increase public security costs and tarnish the family friendly image of Okemos. What kind of message would we be sending to our youngsters about drug use and addiction if our township becomes a site where the marijuana business proliferates? If you encourage the marijuana business to take root in Meridian township, all our children will become the first targeted customers down the road (when medical marijuana growers lobby for the legalization of the selling and buying of recreational marijuana). Although the law may say that pot cannot be sold to children, how much police force would you have to allocate in order to enforce this law? Marijuana will become yet another addiction prevalent among our youngsters. If this happens, how will you hope to encourage students to develop a good work ethic and self-discipline? How will you hope to create productive citizens who can contribute to the economy later on in ways other than trading marijuana and other drugs? This will have a long term negative impact on the economy of not only Meridian but also Michigan. If we had known that Meridian would be in danger of letting marijuana corrupt its school districts and deflating its real estate market, we would not have chosen to buy a house in Okemos and pay the high property taxes. The legalization of the marijuana business in our township is against the long-term economic interests of the majority of the families here. I adamantly oppose it.

Max Hsu  
3717 Fairhills Dr.  
Okemos, MI 49964

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Na Li <joicy.li0919@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 10:36 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Marijuana Stores Should Not Be Opened In Meridian Township

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am Na Li and currently a resident in Okemos. I write to express my strong concerns about the recent Meridian Township marijuana zoning ordinances.

I've been living in Okemos for almost 3 years and really feel proud of our community and neighborhood. Our family choose to live in Okemos because of its high quality schools and family friendly communities. The Township's recent marijuana zoning ordinances really raised concerns for our family (and also, I believe, many other families who share our values). I understand the appeared short-term economic benefit that marijuana business is assumed to bring to the Township. However, I believe in the long-run, it will destroy our community's tradition, known for its family friendly atmosphere. It will increase our kids' exposure and access to marijuana, which is the worst thing I want to see as a mom with a young school-age son. It may also affect the safety of our neighborhood due to the very likely increased rate of illegal marijuana use. Seriously, the marijuana business is the biggest reason now for our family to consider moving out of this area because we want our kids to be raised in a safe and friendly environment. I believe there are other families like us who share our concerns. More families with kids may move out which may hurt the housing market and economy of Okemos in a long-run.

I sincerely hope you could seriously consider our concerns. I know many families with kids have similar concerns. Please keep marijuana away from our kids and our neighborhood! Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community!

Respectfully,

Na Li

Home address: 5231 Madison Avenue apt B 11 Okemos

## **Riley Millard**

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**From:** LEV RAPHAEL <levraphael@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 3:49 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Marijuana dispensaries

To the Board:

I've been living in Okemos for over 30 years and as someone who lives with chronic pain, I support the opening of marijuana dispensaries in Meridian township.

Sincerely,

Lev Raphael

**State University of Murder  
will be out April 7, 2019  
"The Borgias would not be  
bored at the State University  
of Michigan, that snake pit  
of academic politics."  
New York Times Book Review**

## **Riley Millard**

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**From:** Kaufman, Gershen <gershk@msu.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 3:45 PM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Opening Marijuana Stores

I fully support the opening of marijuana stores in Meridian Township.

Gershen Kaufman  
4695 Chippewa Drive  
Okemos, MI 48864

## Riley Millard

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**From:** Justin Stojsih <jstojsih722@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 10:53 AM  
**To:** Board  
**Subject:** Marijuana Provisioning Centers

Hello,

I'd like to voice my support for the approval of the proposed allowable locations for medical marijuana provisioning centers, possibly with one exception.

Location #6 is the furthest away from any police support. Since these are cash-based businesses, I worry that the distance from MTPD and ICSO, plus its quick access to the freeway make it the most likely target for robbery if such a business were put in here.

I like in the neighborhood behind this proposed location, and would otherwise support this location if there were a stronger police presence in this area.

Thanks,  
Justin Stojsih  
2669 Lupine Dr, Okemos



**To:** Planning Commission

**From:** Peter Menser, Principal Planner

**Date:** March 22, 2019

**Re:** Zoning Amendment #19030 (Township Board), amend Section 86-2 and add Section 86-445 of the Code of Ordinances to establish the Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities Overlay District.

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The Planning Commission discussed Zoning Amendment #19030 at its last meeting on March 11, 2019. The joint meeting between the Planning Commission and Township Board was held on March 12, 2019. At the joint meeting there appeared to be consensus that the special use permit for commercial medical marihuana facilities would go on to the Township Board for a final decision after a recommendation from the Planning Commission. The draft ordinance language has been updated to include this additional step in the review process.

At the meeting on March 25, 2019 the plan will be to further review the six overlay areas and the zoning districts where each type of commercial medical marihuana facility license could locate.

Based on comments from the joint meeting the Township Board will not be discussing the non-zoning ordinance until the Planning Commission has provided a recommendation on the zoning ordinance.

### **Planning Commission Options**

The Planning Commission may recommend approval as written, recommend approval of a revised version, or recommend denial of the proposed zoning amendment. A resolution will be provided at a future meeting.

### **Attachments**

1. Revised draft ordinance dated March 12, 2019.
2. Overlay area maps

G:\Community Planning & Development\Planning\ZONING AMENDMENTS (ZA)\2019\ZA 19030 (Township Board)\Zoning Amendment 19030.pc4.docx

**DRAFT ORDINANCE  
COMMERCIAL MEDICAL MARIHUANA FACILITIES OVERLAY DISTRICT  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN**

**Chapter 86: Zoning  
Article I: In General  
Section 86-2: Definitions**

1. “Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility” or “Facility” means one of the following:
  - a. “Provisioning Center,” as that term is defined in the Medical Marihuana Facilities Licensing Act, Public Act 281 of 2016 (“MMFLA”);
  - b. “Processor,” as that term is defined in the MMFLA;
  - c. “Secure Transporter,” as that term in the MMFLA;
  - d. “Grower,” including Class A, Class B and Class C, as those terms are defined in the MMFLA;
  - e. “Safety Compliance Facility,” as that term is defined in the MMFLA.
2. “Marihuana” means that term as defined in Section 7106 of the Michigan Public Health Code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7106.
3. “Medical Marihuana” means that term as defined in MCL 333.26423.
4. “Patient” means a “registered qualifying patient” or a “visiting qualifying patient” as those terms are defined by MCL 333.26421, et seq.
5. “Permit” means a current and valid permit for a Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility issued under the Charter Township of Meridian Ordinance Authorizing and Permitting Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities, Charter Township of Meridian Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_, which shall be granted to a Permit Holder only for and limited to a specific Permitted Premises and a specific Permitted Property. Said Permit shall be in addition to the Special Use Permit required to be obtained under this Zoning Ordinance.
6. “Person” means a natural person, company, partnership, profit or non-profit corporation, limited liability company, or any joint venture for a common purpose.

**Medical Marihuana draft ordinance**

**REVISED March 12, 2019**

**Page 2**

**Chapter 86: Zoning**

**Article IV: District Regulations**

**Division 4: Other Districts**

**Section 86-445 Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities Overlay District**

(a) Applicability. The Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities overlay district shall apply to all lots within the areas shown on Map (s) \_\_\_\_ (the "Overlay Areas"). All lots included in the overlay district shall be subject to the terms and conditions imposed in this section, in addition to the terms and conditions imposed by the zoning district where such lots may be located, any other applicable ordinance and the requirements of Section (Ordinance Authorizing and Permitting Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities).

(b) Uses permitted by right. All uses permitted by right in the underlying zoning districts.

(c) Uses permitted by special use permit. All uses permitted by special use permit in the underlying zoning district and all types of Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities subject to the number of available Permits allowed per Section (Ordinance Authorizing and Permitting Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities).

(d) Uses not permitted. Any use not permitted in the underlying zoning district is not permitted in the Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities overlay district.

(e) Permitted locations.

1. Grower Class A, Class B, or Class C in the I (Industrial) district.
2. Processor in the I (Industrial) district; C-1, C-2, or C-3 (Commercial) districts; and RP (Research and Office Park) district.
3. Provisioning Center in the I (Industrial) district; C-1, C-2, or C-3 (Commercial) districts; and RP (Research and Office Park) district.
4. Safety Compliance Facility in the I (Industrial) district; C-1, C-2, or C-3 (Commercial) districts; and RP (Research and Office Park) district.
5. Secure Transporter in the I (Industrial) district; C-1, C-2, or C-3 (Commercial) districts; and RP (Research and Office Park) district.

(f) Application and departmental reviews

1. Application. The application for a special use permit shall be submitted to the Director of Community Planning and Development in accordance with Section 86-124.

**Medical Marihuana draft ordinance**

**REVISED March 12, 2019**

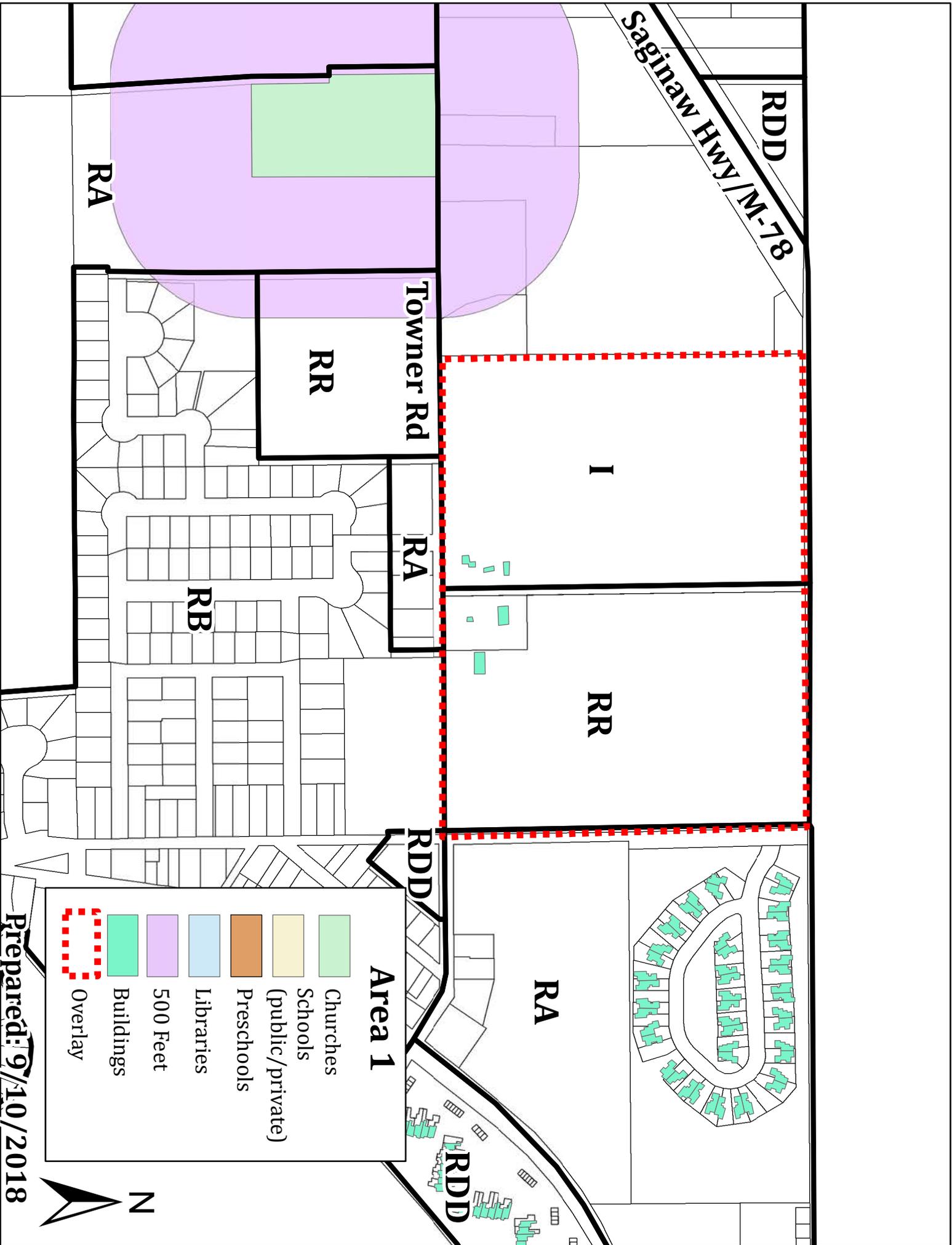
**Page 3**

2. Departmental reviews. The applicant's plan shall be reviewed by the Township Department of Community Planning and Development, the Township EMS/Fire Department, the Township Police Department, the Township Public Works/Engineering Department, the county drain commissioner, and the county road department or the state department of transportation, whichever road agency has jurisdiction over roads in the immediate vicinity, in order to ensure that public utilities, road, and other infrastructure systems are or will be adequate to support the proposed development.

(g) Review process. Upon determination that the application is complete, the Director of Community Planning and Development shall initiate a review process in accordance with Section 86-125 of this chapter, subject to all hearings and other provisions set forth therein, as applicable, **EXCEPT THE FINAL DECISION ON THE SPECIAL USE PERMIT SHALL BE MADE BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD.**

1. **PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION. THE PLANNING COMMISSION AFTER HOLDING A PUBLIC HEARING SHALL MAKE A RECOMMENDATION TO THE TOWNSHIP BOARD. IN MAKING A RECOMMENDATION THE PLANNING COMMISSION SHALL FOLLOW THE REVIEW CRITERIA IN § 86-126 AND MAY RECOMMEND CONDITIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 86-127.**
2. **TOWNSHIP BOARD ACTION. FOLLOWING REVIEW OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION AND RECORD, THE TOWNSHIP BOARD MAY DENY, APPROVE, OR APPROVE WITH CONDITIONS AN APPLICATION FOR A SPECIAL USE PERMIT. PRIOR TO MAKING A DECISION ON A SPECIAL USE PERMIT, THE TOWNSHIP BOARD MAY HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE REQUEST. NOTICE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING SHALL BE GIVEN IN THE SAME MANNER AS OUTLINED IN § 86-65 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES.**

(h) Amendments. Any amendments to an approved special use permit shall be in accordance with Section 86-129.

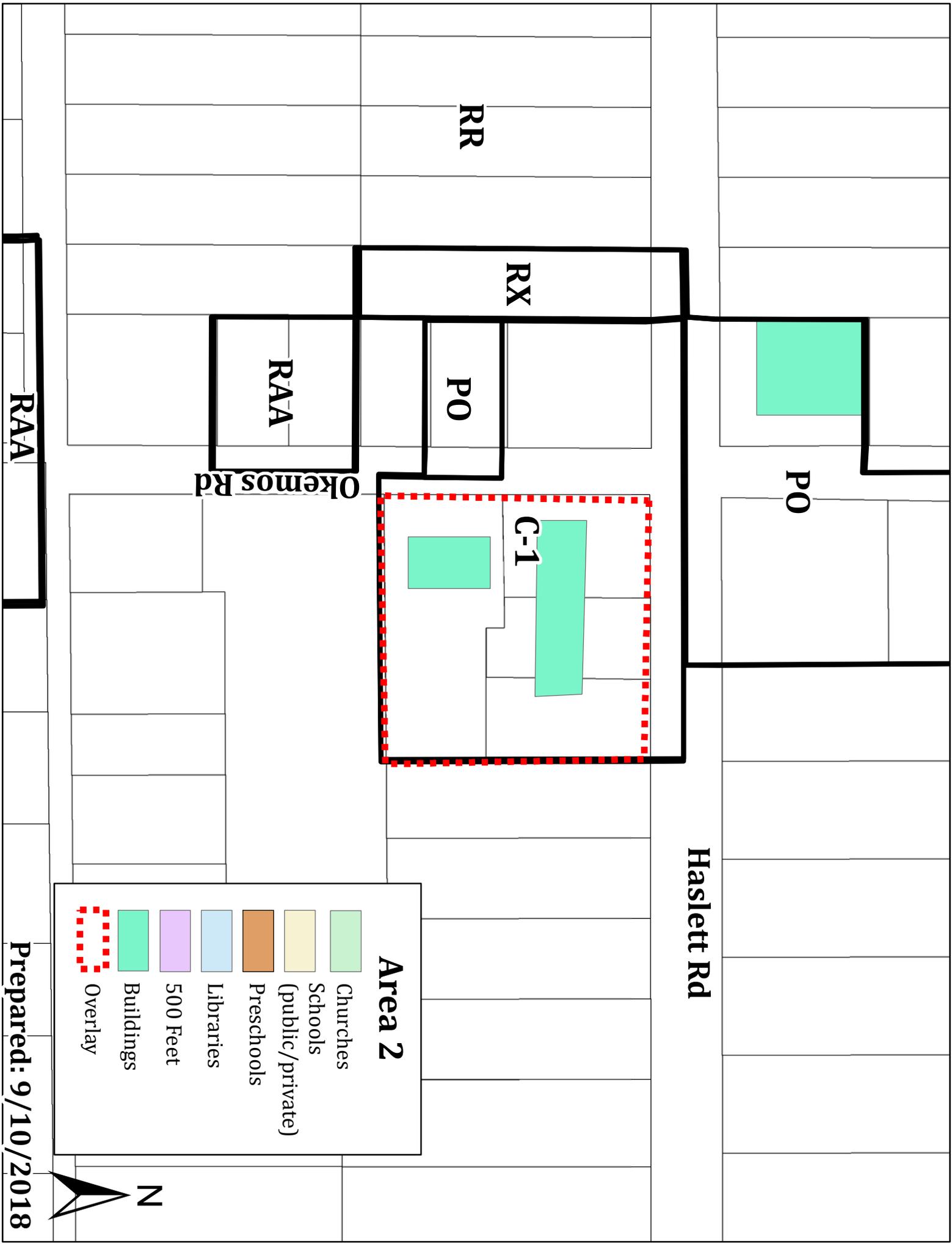


**Area 1**

- Churches
- Schools (public/private)
- Preschools
- Libraries
- 500 Feet
- Buildings
- Overlay



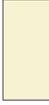
Prepared: 9/10/2018



Haslett Rd

Okemos Rd

**Area 2**

-  Churches
-  Schools (public/private)
-  Preschools
-  Libraries
-  500 Feet
-  Buildings
-  Overlay



Prepared: 9/10/2018

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RR

RX

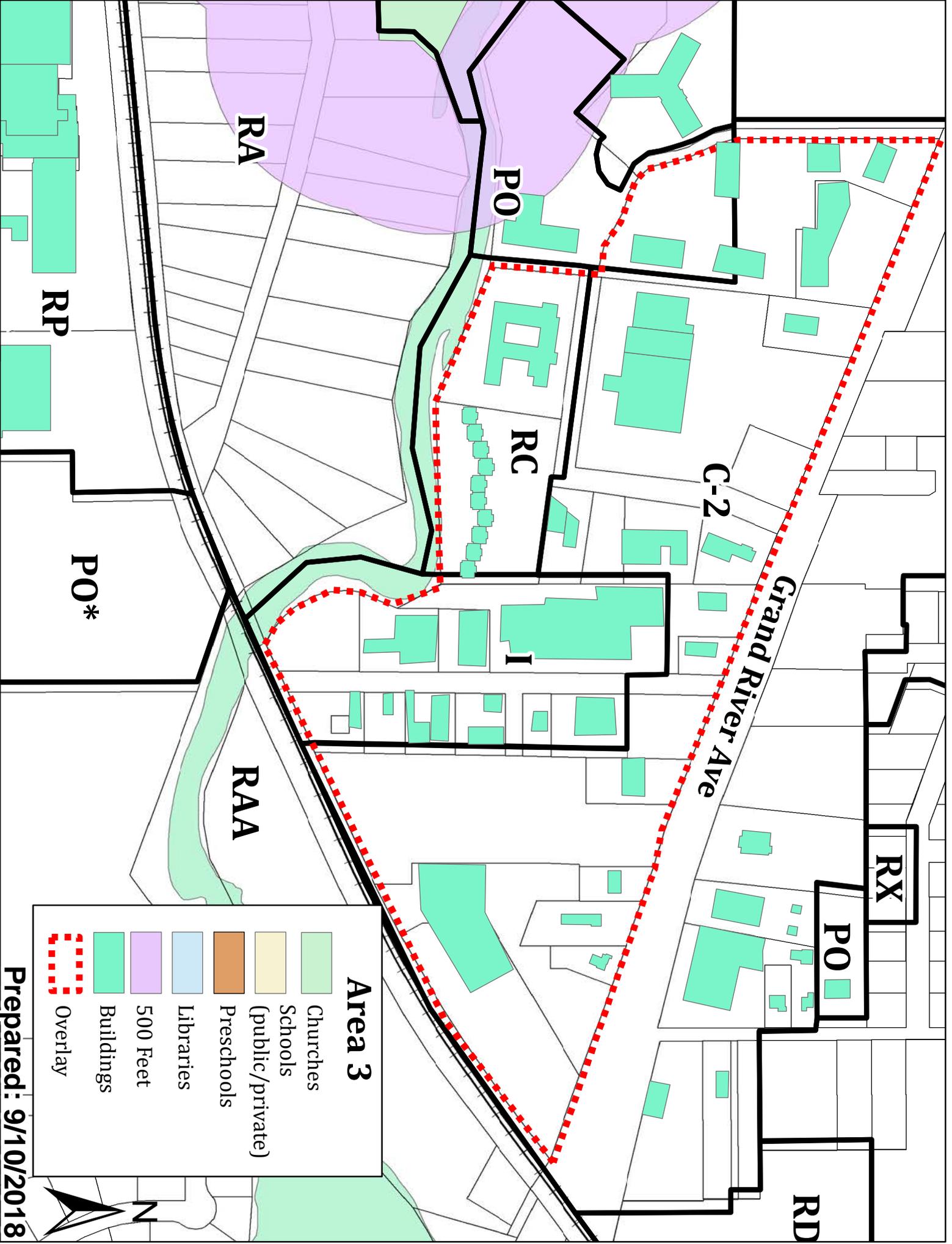
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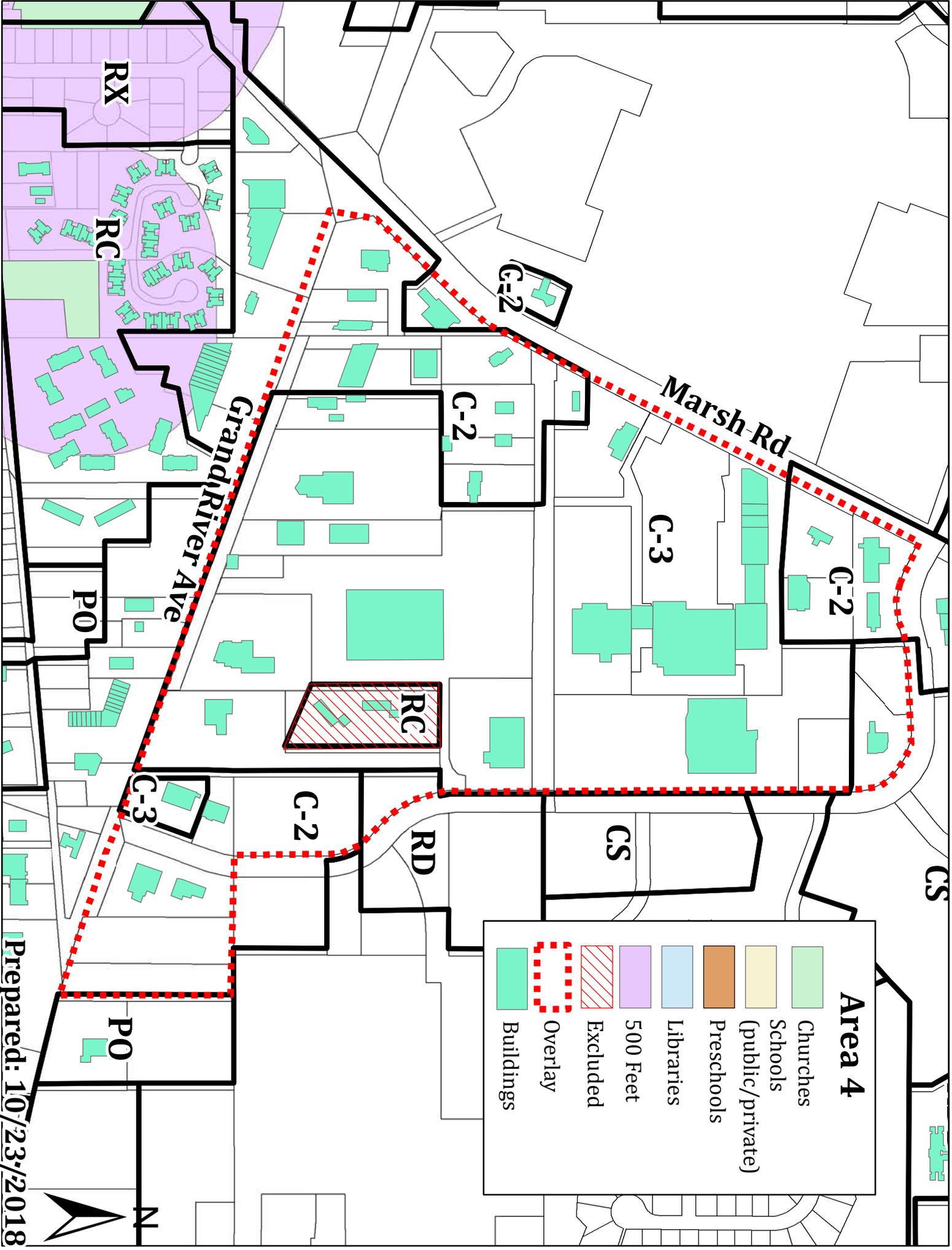


Prepared: 9/10/2018

**Area 3**

-  Churches
-  Schools (public/private)
-  Preschools
-  Libraries
-  500 Feet
-  Buildings
-  Overlay



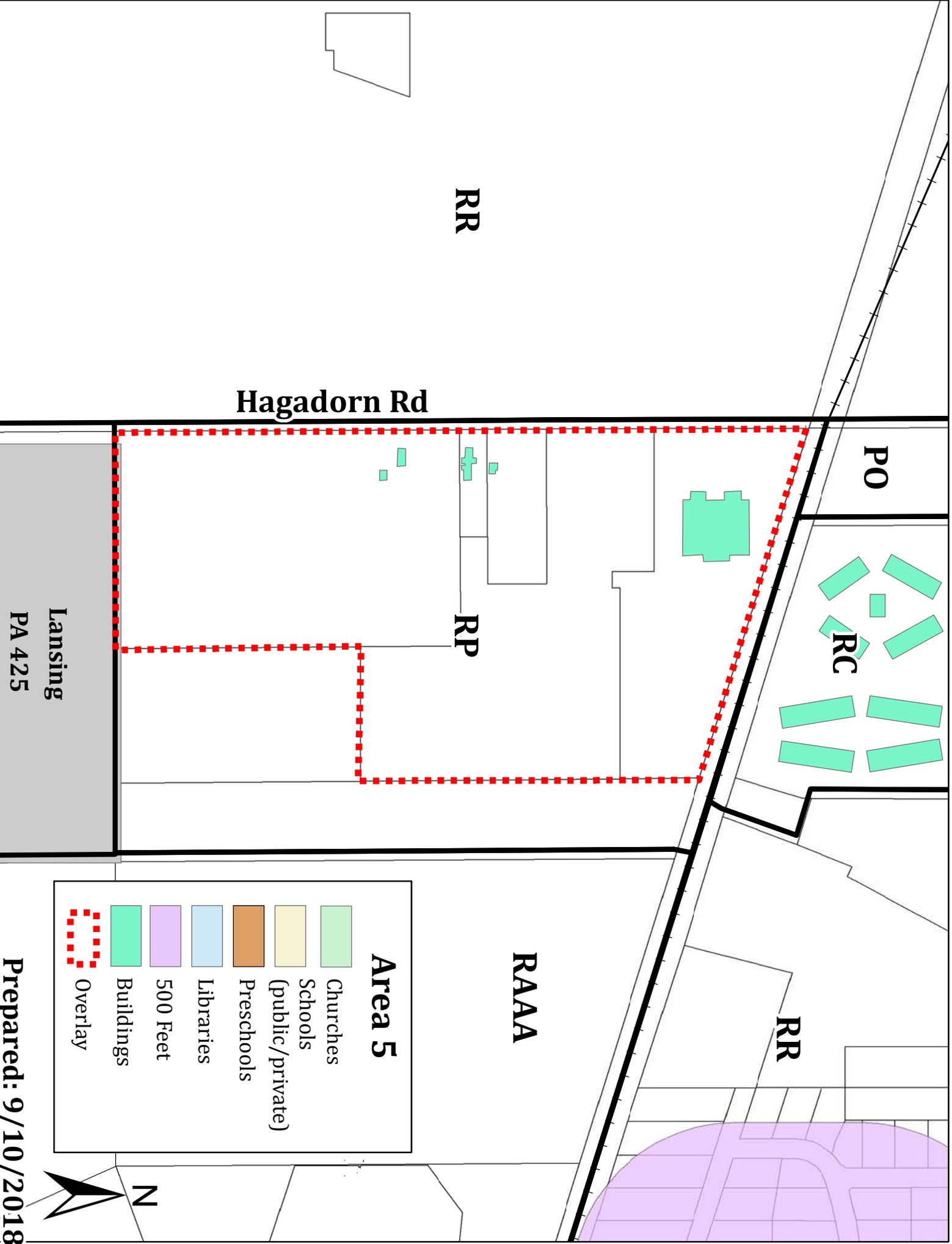


**Area 4**

- Churches
- Schools (public/private)
- Preschools
- Libraries
- 500 Feet
- Excluded
- Overlay
- Buildings

Prepared: 10/23/2018





Hagadorn Rd

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RC

RR

RP

RR

RAAM

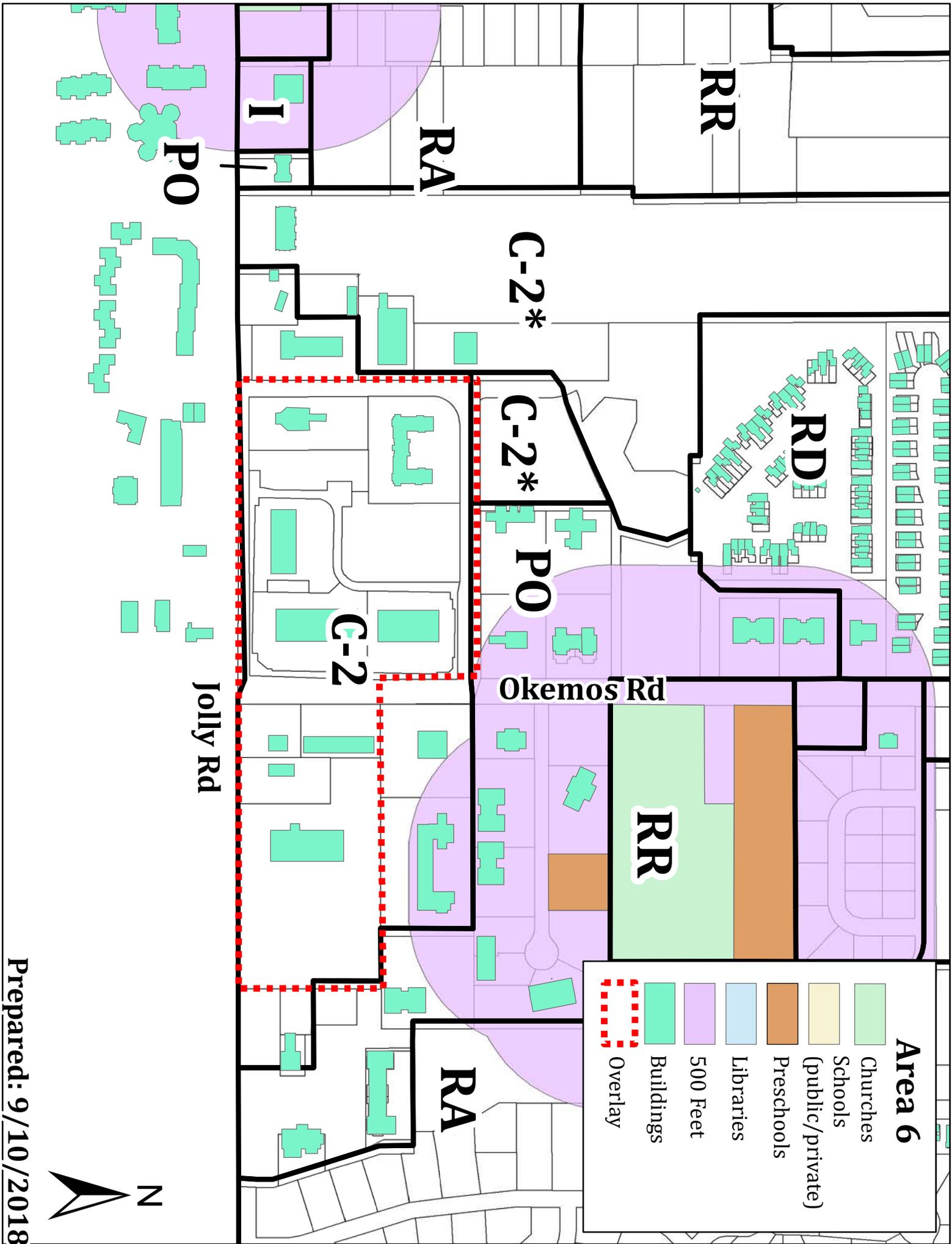
Lansing  
PA 425

**Area 5**

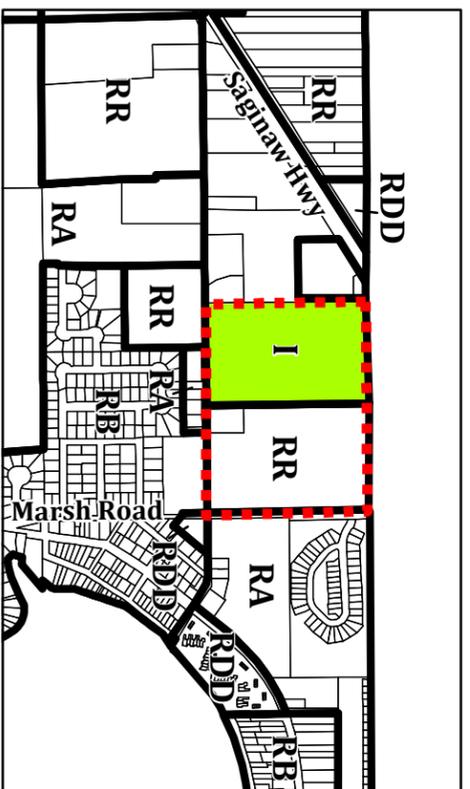
-  Churches
-  Schools (public/private)
-  Preschools
-  Libraries
-  500 Feet
-  Buildings
-  Overlay



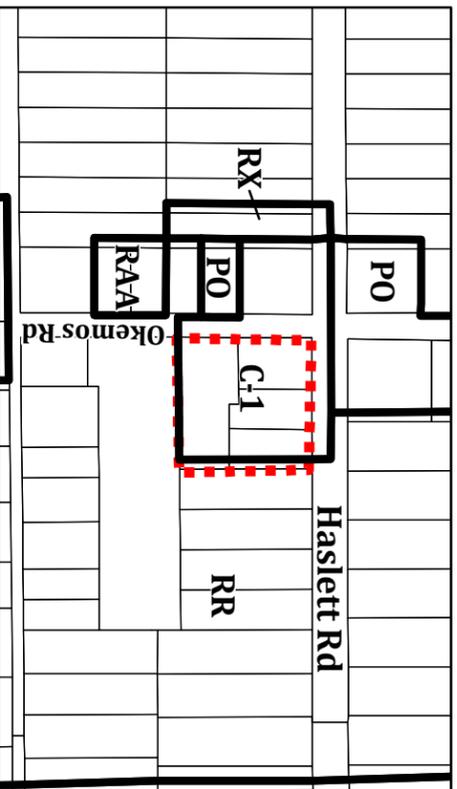
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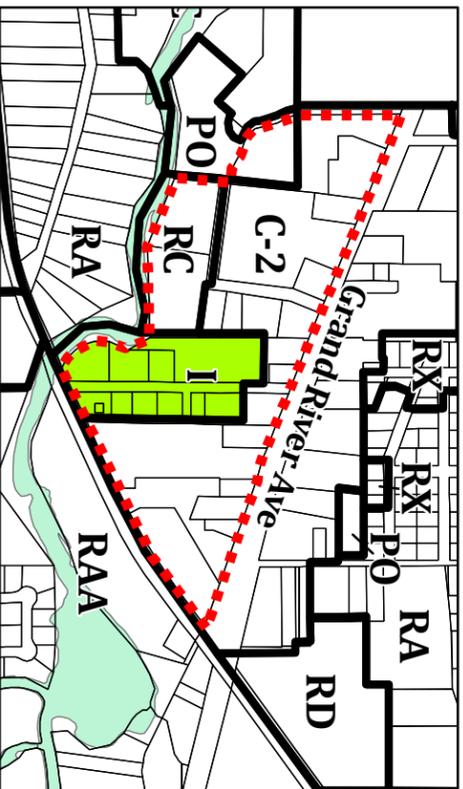
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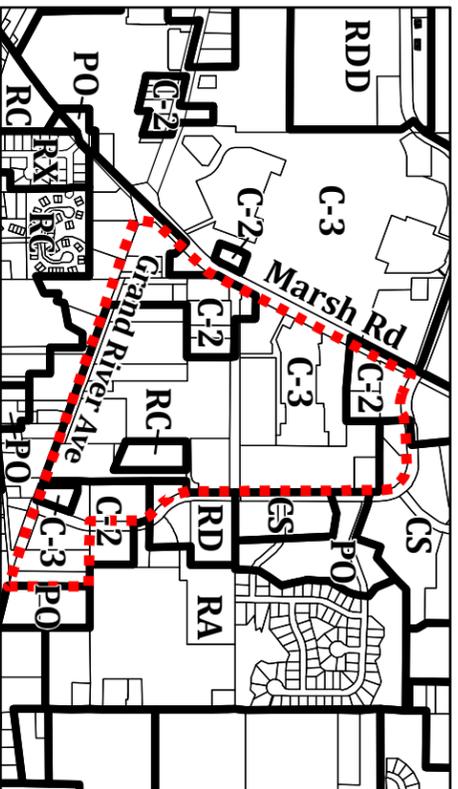
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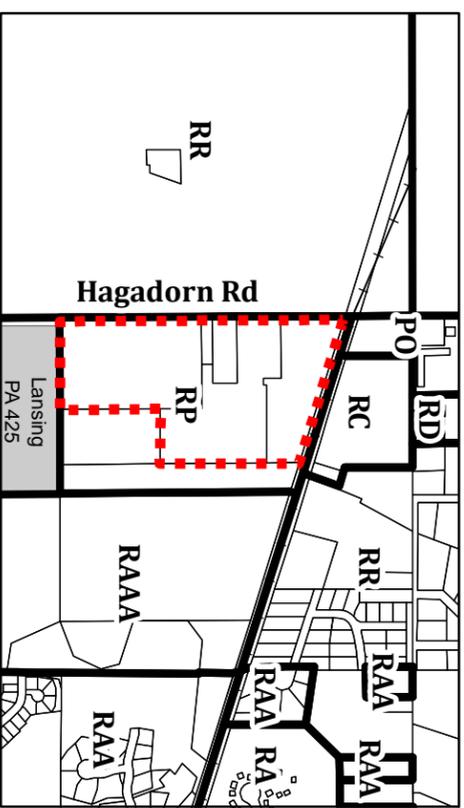
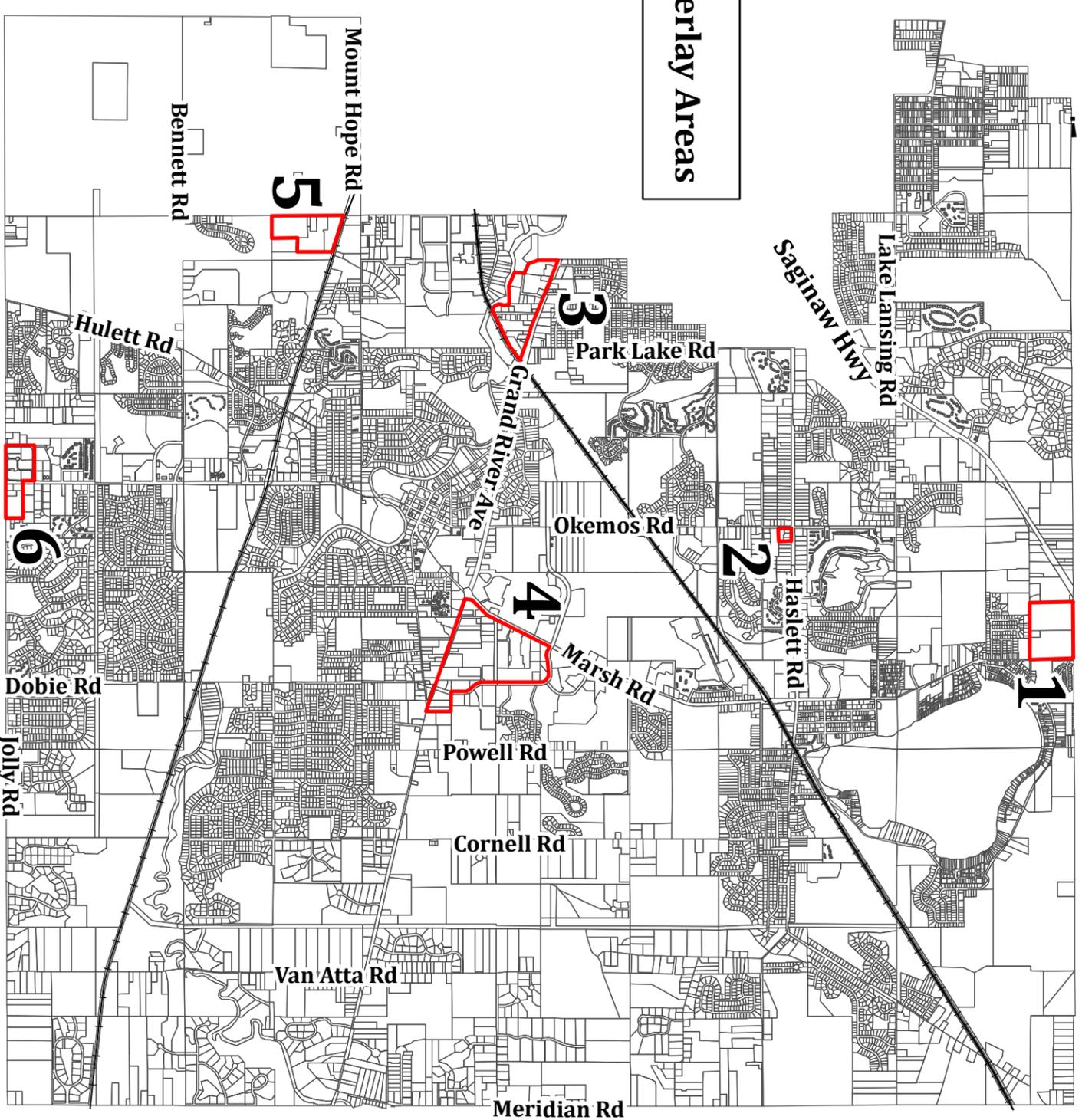


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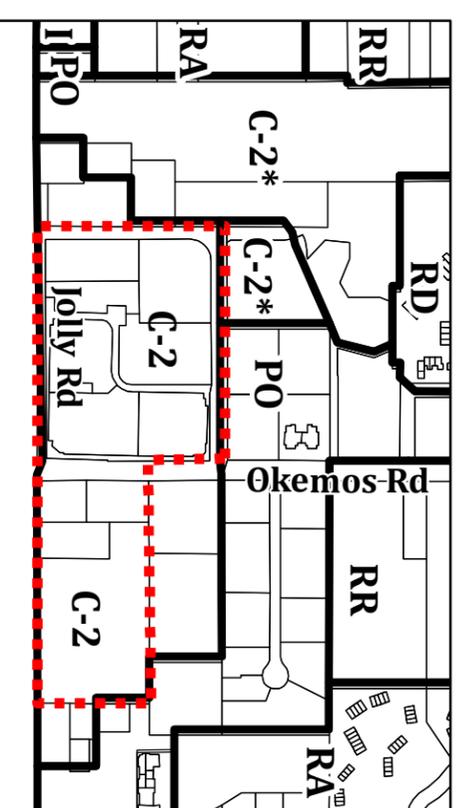


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Proposed Overlay Areas



5



6



Updated:  
1/24/19



**To:** Planning Commission

**From:** Peter Menser, Principal Planner

**Date:** March 19, 2019

**Re:** Wetland Use Permit #19-01 (LaFontaine Automotive Group), fill a 0.007 acre (304 square feet) regulated wetland at 1448 Grand River Avenue.

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The Planning Commission held the public hearing for Wetland Use Permit #19-01 at its last meeting on March 11, 2019. At the meeting the Planning Commission agreed to consider a resolution to approve the request at its next meeting. The resolution includes a series of conditions intended to ensure performance of the wetland mitigation area, including regular inspections and establishment of a financial assurance.

### **Planning Commission Options**

Pursuant to Section 22-157(1) of the Code of Ordinances, the Planning Commission has the option to approve, approve with conditions, or deny Wetland Use Permit #19-01. Based on the submittal date of January 24, 2019 and the 90 day review timeline established in the State Wetland Act and the Township's Wetland Ordinance, the deadline for action is April 24, 2019. A resolution to approve the wetland use permit with conditions is provided.

- **Motion to adopt the resolution to approve Wetland Use Permit #19-01 with conditions.**

### **Attachment**

1. Resolution to approve

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE**

**Wetland Use Permit #19-01  
(LaFontaine Automotive Group)**

**RESOLUTION**

At a regular meeting of the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held at the Meridian Municipal Building, in said Township on the 25th day of March, 2019, at 7:00 p.m., Local Time.

PRESENT: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

The following resolution was offered by \_\_\_\_\_ and supported by \_\_\_\_\_.

WHEREAS, the LaFontaine Automotive Group requested a wetland use permit (WUP #19-01) to fill a 0.007 acre (304 square feet) wetland at 1448 Grand River Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the Township Wetland Protection Ordinance, Section 22-151, requires a wetland use permit for the proposed activity impacting a regulated wetland; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission held a public hearing and discussed the wetland use permit at its meeting on March 11, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission reviewed and discussed the staff material provided under a cover memorandum dated March 7, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Township’s Environmental Commission and the Township Environmental Consultant recommended approval of the wetland use permit with conditions; and

WHEREAS, the wetland in the manmade water feature presents a public hazard due to its steep, rocky side slopes; and

WHEREAS, the wetland impact is limited to a small area of emergent wetland that is fragmented and of poor quality; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is providing the required wetland mitigation at a ratio of 1.5 to 1 to account for the impacted wetland; and

WHEREAS, construction of the wetland mitigation will provide groundwater recharge, water storage and improvement to water quality.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN hereby approves Wetland Use Permit #19-01 to fill a 0.007 acre (304 square feet) wetland at 1448 Grand River Avenue, subject to the following conditions:

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Wetland Use Permit #19-01 (LaFontaine Automotive Group)**

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1. Approval is based on the wetland application prepared by Marx Wetlands, LLC, received by the Township on January 17, 2019.
2. Approval is based on the Wetland Mitigation Plan prepared by Marx Wetlands, LLC dated February 12, 2019 and received by the Township on February 11, 2019.
3. Approval of the wetland use permit is conditioned on approval of a permit from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) for the proposed wetland fill and mitigation.
4. The applicant shall obtain all necessary permits, licenses and approvals from the Ingham County Drain Commissioner's office, and the Township prior to any work taking place. Copies of all permits, licenses and approvals shall be submitted to the Department of Community Planning & Development.
5. The applicant shall mitigate wetland impacts at a ratio of 1.5:1, constructing an emergent wetland at the northwest end of the site in accordance with the proposed mitigation plan. The minimum size of the mitigation wetland must be 456 square feet.
6. The applicant shall implement appropriate erosion and sedimentation control measures during construction to ensure there are no impacts to the wetland mitigation area as a result of eroding soil.
7. Prior to construction, erosion control fencing shall be installed to prevent sedimentation from infiltrating into the wetlands. The erosion control fencing shall be maintained throughout the duration of the project and shall be removed after construction is completed and the area is stabilized.
8. The applicant shall periodically inspect the subject site during the first year after construction to identify and correct any erosion issues.
9. No fill or excess soil or other material shall be placed in any wetland or surface water area not specifically authorized by this permit, its plans and specifications.
10. The six-inches of topsoil placed in the mitigation wetland shall consist of mineral topsoil (not soil primarily composed of organic matter, such as muck).
11. The mitigation wetland shall be monitored for a period of five years, starting in the first full growing season after construction. Therefore, if construction is finalized after June 1, a monitoring report will not be required until the following year.
12. The mitigation wetland must meet the following performance standards at the end of five full growing seasons:
  - a. 80% cover of native, wetland species comprised of at least 8 species.
  - b. Less than 10% cover of invasive species, as noted in the mitigation plan.
13. Should the mitigation area fail to establish wetland vegetation after one growing season, or fail to progress satisfactorily to a self-sustaining wetland as designed, the applicant shall conduct corrective measures as directed by the Township's Environmental Consultant to ensure successful wetland establishment.

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14. Prior to the start of construction the applicant shall establish an escrow account with the Township in an amount to be determined by the Director of Community Planning and Development to ensure completion of the wetland mitigation and annual monitoring.
15. Upon completion of construction for the wetland mitigation, the applicant shall contact the Director of Community Planning & Development for an inspection of the site to ensure compliance with the permit.
16. A copy of the approved wetland use permit containing the conditions of issuance shall be posted on the subject site in a conspicuous manner such that the wording of the permit is available for public inspection and the posting shall remain in place throughout the duration of the project.

ADOPTED:      YEAS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

                  NAYS: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF MICHIGAN )

) ss

COUNTY OF INGHAM )

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Chair of the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and a complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Planning Commission on the 25th day of March, 2019.

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Scott-Craig  
Planning Commission Chair



**To: Planning Commission**

**From: Peter Menser, Principal Planner**

**Date: January 25, 2019**

**Re: 2018 Planning Commission goals**

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In 2018 Planning Commission adopted goals to work on throughout the year. The 2018 goals included the following:

1. Implementation of 2017 Master Plan.
  - a. Consider development of form-based code ordinance for Potential Intensity Change Areas (PICAs) and Grand River Avenue corridor.
  - b. Develop regulations for Accessory Dwelling Units as identified in the R-3 Future Land Use Map category.
  - c. Address the revisions to the Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map identified in the Action Plan on Page 15 of the Master Plan.
2. Update the Mixed Use Planned Unit Development ordinance.
3. Consider policy options related to “tiny” housing.
4. Identify training opportunities for new and current Planning Commission members.
5. Engage subject matter experts for presentations to the Planning Commission on policy-related topics of interest.

The Planning Commission may again choose to consider goals for 2019 and objectives that can be used to accomplish them. The adoption of goals for the year will not preclude the Planning Commission from working on other projects; they simply provide a guide for activities for the year. The Township Board adopted its own set of 2019 goals, which are attached to this memorandum. The Department of Community Planning and Development was assigned a set of goals as part of the yearly plan as well, which are also attached. It would make sense that the Planning Commission goals work to fulfill or address both sets of goals whenever possible. At a future meeting the Planning Commission can consider a motion to formally adopt a set of goals of 2019.

#### **Attachments**

1. 2019 Township Board Goals/Action Plan.
2. 2019 Department of Community Planning and Development goals.

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# 2019 GOALS ACTION PLAN

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- A. In conjunction with the Transportation Commission, and Township Board, develop and implement a strategic plan to increase our annual funding for local roads.**
- B. Complete the relocation of the Farmers' Market to the "Marketplace on the Greens" at the Meridian Mall.**
- C. Break ground on redevelopment of Downtown Okemos and Downtown Haslett.**
- D. With the support of the Transportation Commission, and Township Board, finalize and implement a long term funding plan for public transportation. The plan shall include a detailed scope for Redi-Ride services.**
- E. Continue to work to connect the Township's pathway system, including construction of the Okemos Road Boardwalk.**
- F. Work closely with Meridian Mall ownership to strengthen the vitality of the mall's future within our community.**
- G. Develop a plan to fairly negotiate new labor agreements with our seven bargaining groups.**
- H. Complete state accreditation of the Meridian Township Police Department through the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police.**
- I. Continue to maximize recruiting and networking efforts to achieve increased diversity in our workforce.**
- J. Explore housing options and alternatives to encourage diverse populations and targeted groups to live in the Township.**

**COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
2019 DEPARTMENT PLAN**

- Redevelopment of Downtown Okemos and Haslett
- Consider adoption of Form Base Code in portions of the Township
- Complete a plan for the review and update of the Master Plan in 2020
- Update and amend the Mixed Use Planned Unit Development ordinance
- Revise the sign ordinance so it is content neutral
- Finish updating all applications used by the Department
- Adopt 2018 International Property Maintenance Code
- Evaluate the need for an additional part-time rental housing inspector
- Streamline the scheduling of mechanical, electrical and plumbing inspections
- Evaluate providing office hours to the City of Mason for reviewing and issuing building permits
- Complete ordinances for Commercial Medical Marijuana Facilities