

Cannabis Lounge Ordinance Presentation

Cannabis Committee
October 22, 2025



Background Information

- Cannabis Regulation—Retail Allowed
 - County Code-Zoning, Permitting and Licensing
 - Land Use Compatibility
 - Findings Required
- Board of Supervisors Direction
- Outreach to Industry
- Discuss Concepts with County Staff
- Cannabis Committee



Commercial Cannabis Website

Interactive Map Showing

- Zoning Districts
 - All Cannabis Uses
 - Retail Districts
 - Light Commercial, Heavy Commercial
 - Moss Landing Commercial, Coastal General Commercial
- Buffers for Cannabis Retail Zoned Areas
- Sites for Schools, Child Care, Youth Center, Playground, Drug Recovery Facility
- Web Address is
<https://montereyco.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e547350530340bdaaa5458039adb9d0>



Proposed Ordinance Concept

- Allow Cannabis Lounge Use as an Allowed Use
 - Cannabis Retailer
 - Ministerial Permit Through Cannabis Program
 - Rigorous Review For Retail Permit
- Need To Meet Requirements
 - Ventilation
 - Construction to Building Code
- Allow Cannabis Lounge Use Upon Obtaining a Discretionary Permit
 - Need to expand the property to accommodate the lounge use
 - Seek Outdoor Cannabis Lounge



Santa Cruz County Regulations

- Allow Cannabis Lounge Use as an Allowed Use
 - Cannabis Retailer
 - Employee Protection
 - Ventilation
 - Separate Area and Access Controls
 - Construction to Building Code
- Public Concerns
 - Impaired Driving
 - Road Conditions
 - Youth Exposure
 - Proximity to School Routes



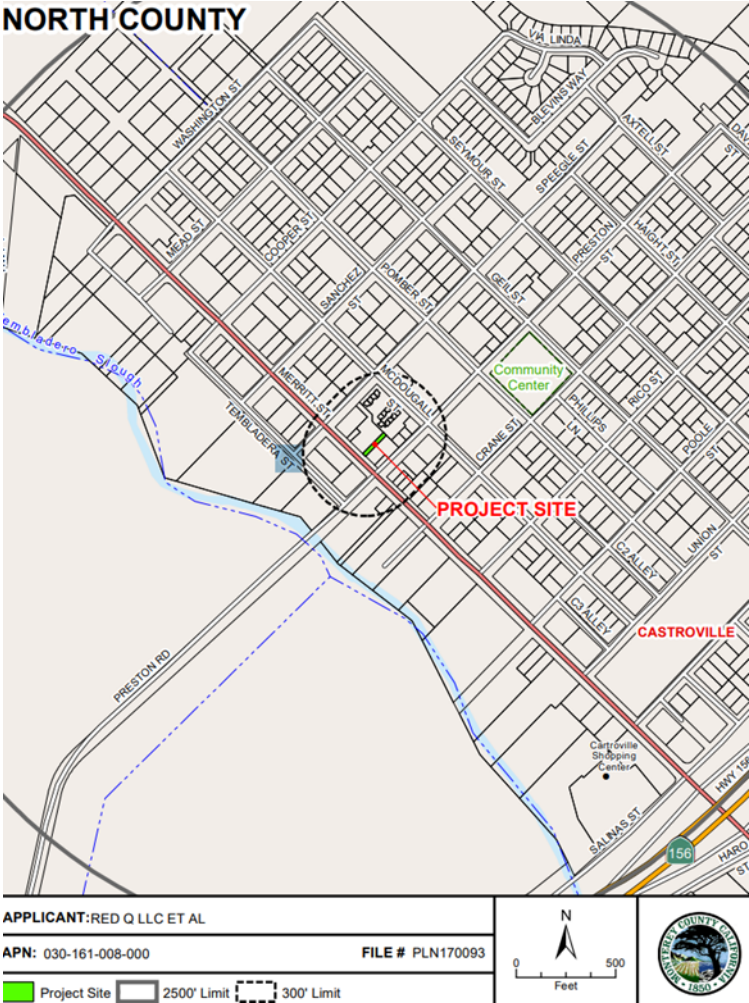
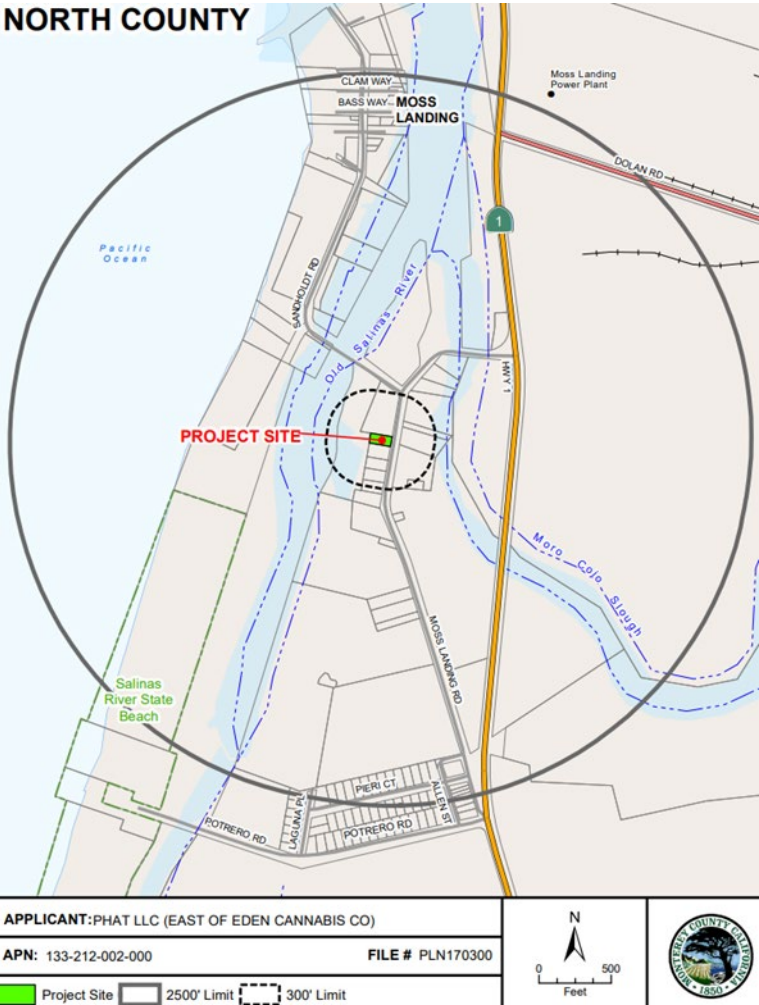
Commercial Cannabis Retail Locations

Eight Approved and Operating

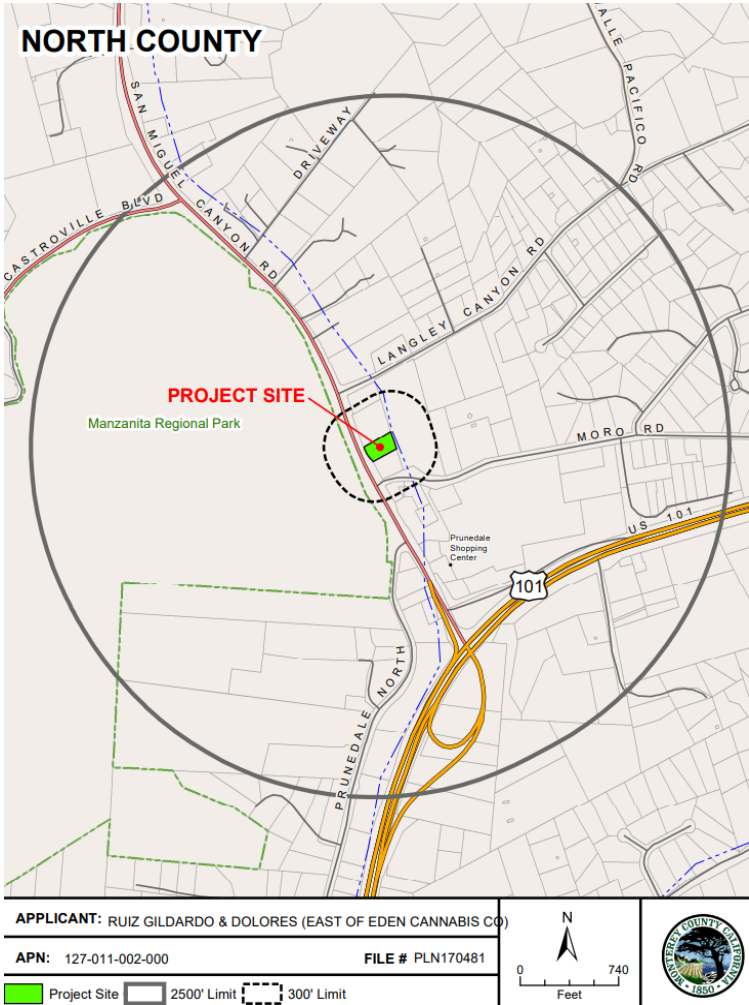
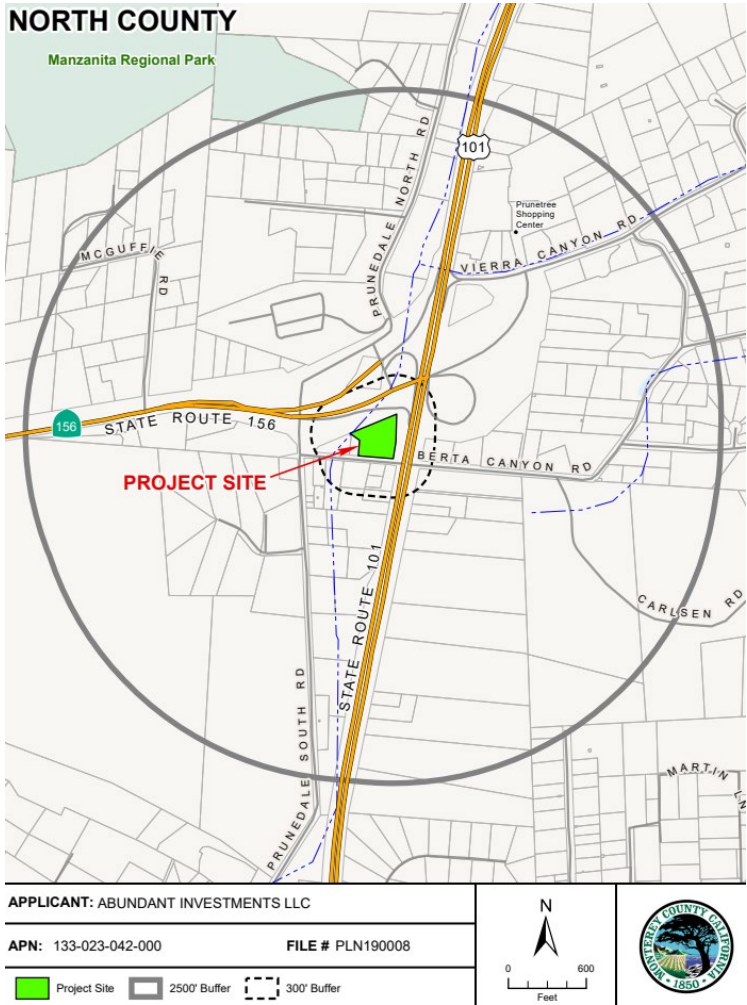
Facility Name	Location	Type
Smoke Stacks (East of Eden)	Moss Landing	Dispensary
One Plant (Higher Level)	Castroville	Dispensary
Big Sur Canna Botanicals	Carmel	Dispensary
White Fire (East of Eden)	Prunedale	Dispensary
Synchronicity Holistic	Carmel	Dispensary
Cali Love	Salinas (North County)	Dispensary
Santa Cruz Naturals	Pajaro	Dispensary
One Plant	Salinas (North County)	Dispensary



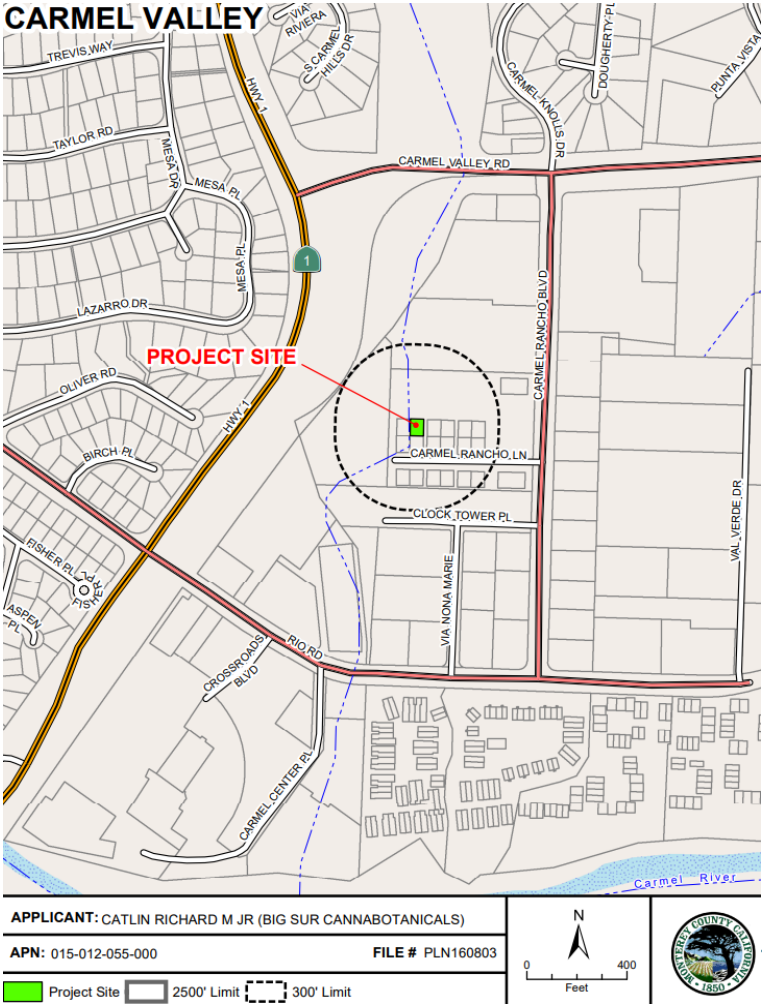
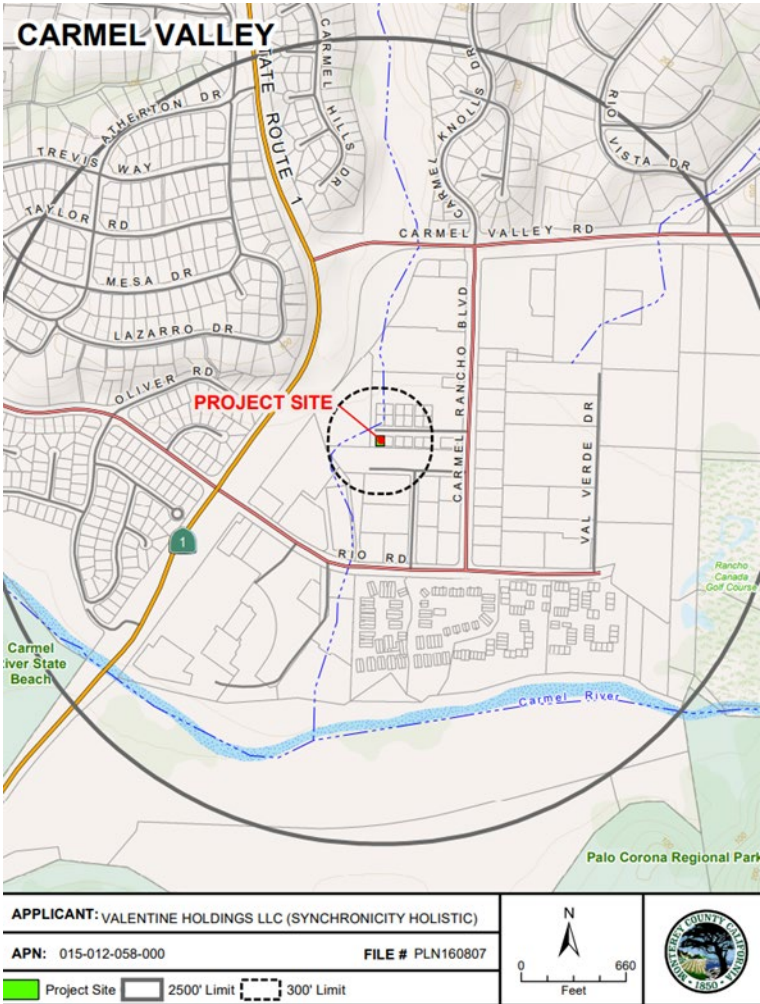
Cannabis Retail Locations



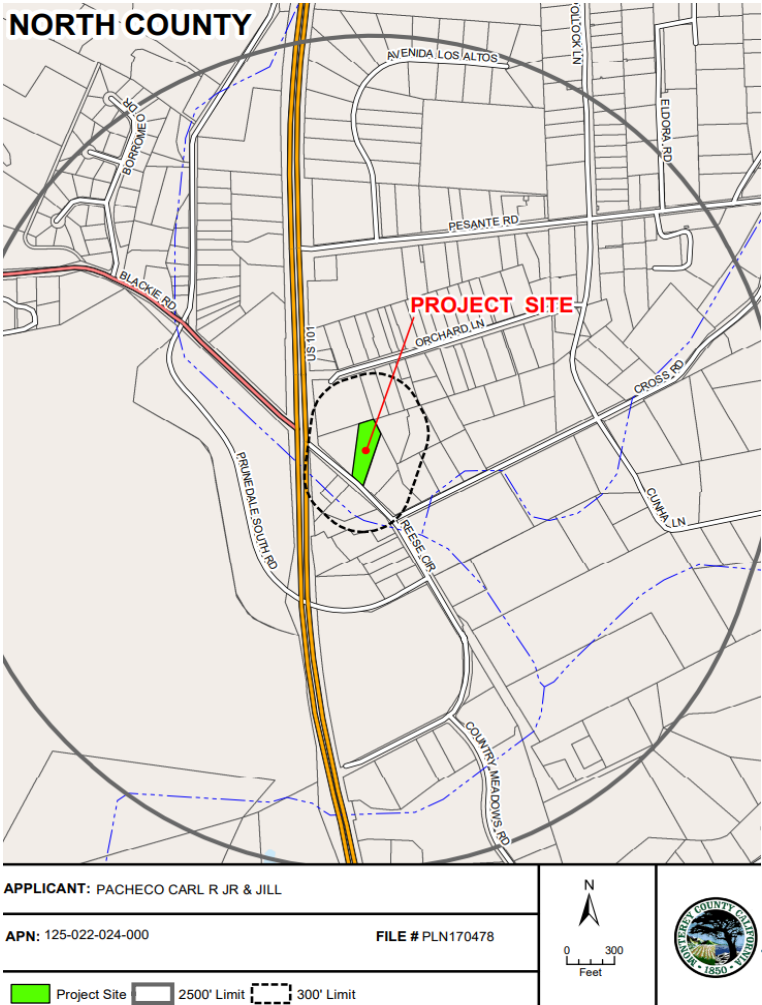
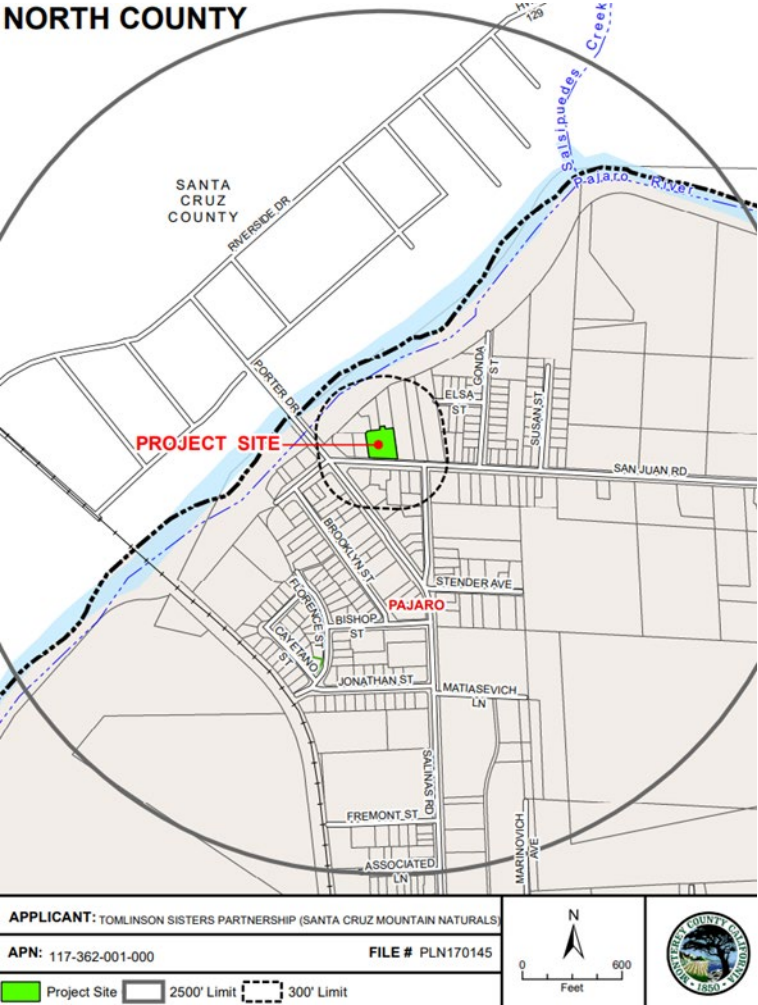
Cannabis Retail Locations



Cannabis Retail Locations



Cannabis Retail Locations



Key Policy Areas that Require Discussion

- Land Use Compatibility
- Safe Indoor Environment
- Safe Operational Regulations
- Discretionary Permit Options



Public Outreach

Options

- Land Use Advisory Committees
- Planning Commission Workshops
- Community Workshops
- Industry Outreach



Recommendation

- a. Receive a presentation related to developing an ordinance to allow Cannabis Lounges as an allowed land use; and
- b. Direct staff to conduct public outreach activities in relation to developing a Cannabis Lounge ordinance for the coastal and non-coastal areas of Monterey County.

