

March 13, 2019

Mayor Lisa Helps & Council City of Victoria 1 Centennial Square Victoria BC V8W 1P6

Sent via email

Re: The Original FARM, 3055a Scott Street, Local Government Recommendation

Dear Mayor and Council,

We are writing in response to the public consultation pertaining to The Original FARM at 3055a Scott Street required to obtain local government referral for our provincial cannabis retail license. The Original FARM has been an outstanding part of this community since 2015, constantly engaging with our neighbours positively and addressing concerns in a mutually beneficial way. We are happy to have received the feedback we have on our application and wish to speak to some of the concerns raised.

The Original FARM has access to ample parking immediately surrounding our store providing many options to customers beyond residential parking (see attached Parking Plan). There are 11 short term street parking spots open to the public, 23 parking stalls allocated to the 3055 Scott Street Strata exclusively (lot managed by Robbins), as well as 17 parking stalls in the neighbouring strata outside the Royal Bank for overflow use (lot also managed by Robbins). With parking as much of a challenge as it can be in Victoria, we feel lucky to have access to as much as we do. The staff team at Original FARM have always been trained to follow local by-laws, including instructing patrons adherence to the signage pertaining to surrounding residential parking. The Original FARM owners have never told staff or customers to park in residential zones and instruct customers to park in the abundance of available parking stalls allocated for commercial use immediately surrounding our Scott Street store.

THEORIGINAL FARM

The Original FARM prides itself on limiting nuisance issues surrounding our stores through providing outstanding customer service, encouraging respect of our neighbours with proactive service and compliance training, as well as providing our customers a door person. Through our 3.5 years of operation, nuisance issues have never been brought to our attention by our neighbours and if they were, we would have found a solution to fix it immediately. FARM has avoided nuisance issues by setting clear expectations with customers. We cannot promise issues will not come up, however we can promise we'll take them seriously and they'll be dealt with immediately.

The above also pertains to comments surfacing regarding the youth in our neighbourhood. We have worked collaboratively with the neighbouring Karate school as years ago there was mutual worry of issues arising; however, they just never have. Parents see us as a professional operation that do not attract youth or draw their attention. We are just another business in the community and feel we have built a great relationship with our surrounding neighbours. In 3.5 years, we've never had any issues with youth from schools, this includes: loitering, children trying to get into the store, no issues brought to our attention by surrounding schools, and no issues with police regarding minors. We are extremely proud and have worked very hard to have a clean track record in our 3.5 years of operations.

We take great pride in our community and I think that's reflected in the way we do business. We look forward to being leaders in this new space and will continue to uphold our high standards.

Sincerely,

Allen Spillette

Co-Founder

The Original FARM

3055A Scott Street, Victoria

HIII SIIK MK 17 OVER FLOW PARKING SPOTS 3055A SCOTT STREET **PARKING PLAN** PRIVATE PROPERTY ADDITIONAL CUSTOMER PARKING **ACROSS THE STREET AT ROYAL BANK ROWS 1-17 Royal Bank** CLOSE UP VIEW (BELOW) REFERENCED IN PARKING SIGN SCOTT STREET 5 SHORT TERM PARKING 2 SHORT TERM PARKING 4 SHORT TERM PARKING and the THE ORIGINAL PRIVATE PARKING FARM 23 **PARKING** SPOTS E WI