

# County planning panel mulls cannabis proposal

**By Nick Baptista / The Valley Springs News / August 28, 2019**

It will take at least one more meeting in front of the Calaveras County Planning Commission before the proposed commercial cannabis cultivation ordinance reaches the Board of Supervisors.

The planning panel began the public hearing process Thursday, but fell short in completing full consideration of the proposal and passing it on to the Board of Supervisors.

The Planning Commission will resume consideration of the proposal at 9 a.m. Sept. 12.

County Planning Director Peter Maurer said the Board of Supervisors had tentatively set aside a Sept. 17 meeting as the date to consider the proposed commercial cannabis ordinance. However, it was unclear whether that date was feasible now since the staff and the board are still working on finalizing the associated “Cannabis Background Clearance Badge” ordinance.

The proposed badge ordinance calls for cannabis workers to undergo background checks, while the proposed commercial cannabis ordinance would end the existing ban and once again regulate those activities.

The county for two years had an emergency ordinance that allowed commercial cannabis growing, but a ban was imposed in 2018.

District 2 Planning Commissioner Tim Laddish said in his talks with Board Chairman Jack Garamendi it was more important “to get things right than we hurry them.”