

My name is Catherine Gibson, I live in Whitmore Park, and I thank you for this opportunity to speak on my own behalf to Project No. PL 202200098 located at 196 Massey Road with the already in place signage of THE JOINT Cannabis.

I strongly object to granting a permit for a retail operation for the following reasons: It is too close to the Montessori School on the adjoining strip mall. There are residential homes across on both Grant Drive and Grant Road. There are two schools---Ecole Massey School and Campbell Collegiate---both of which have main doors that open onto Massey Road. Many of the students pass by 196 Massey on their way to and from school and there are a great number more who visit the mall at noon hour and after school. At least one of the two churches is within the buffer recommended for schools, like most churches they have either child care and/or “substance abuse anonymous” regular sessions. The churches were there first and have served the community of Whitmore Park well. They have opened their doors to all ages and have provided a safe and welcoming space for anyone who wants to come. Do not make them have to close down these services because of being too close to a cannabis outlet.

History Background: When Whitmore Park came into existence late 1950-early 1960, the very mall area at 2104 Grant Rd/ 196 Massey Road had a good-sized grocery store, a full-service garage, a drug store, a bank, a hair styling salon, a convenience store, a restaurant and possibly more. The mobile library wheeled in a couple of days a week. In short there was everything one would find on main street in most Saskatchewan towns EXCEPT for a Pool Grain Elevator (which was not needed) and a Community Drop-in Centre which was and continuous to be BADLY NEEDED. It was not long before the grocery store morphed into today’s Safeway at Southland, all but the gas pumps moved to Victoria Ave near Park, some time later the gas pumps also left, the bank is long gone as is the original drug store. In recent years we have gained back a professionally run independent pharmacy.

Today: Our health care system is strained, many people have to chose between eating or heating, others chose between putting gas in their cars or filling prescriptions, we are probably on the brink of World War III. The last thing we need is a purveyor of recreational and potentially mind-altering products and the second last thing we need is tying up valuable city council time in determining if they should permit it.

Thank you.

Catherine Gibson