My name is John Greene, and I am the CEO of The Greeneway Wellness Foundation. This evening, I am speaking in reference to Applications / Petitions Agenda Item #4.

Throughout the last ten months, the Greeneway Wellness Foundation has conducted an exhaustive search to identify a property that is suitable to site the City of Cambridge's only licensed medical marijuana dispensary. During our search, we have scrutinized dozens of locations. Our goal throughout the process has been to ensure that our dispensary complies with the spirit and intent of the regulations set forth by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the City of Cambridge and integrates seamlessly into the surrounding community.

I am pleased to inform you have we have submitted a letter of intent to lease a property at 61 Mooney Street. The property is located at the end of an industrial zone in a building that was previously utilized as a high-security pharmaceutical production plant. The property has existing infrastructure that includes a safe and secure access and egress and a loading zone that is shielded from public access. Our proposed usage is compatible with the nearby industrial uses and the location is over 500 feet away from any facility where children commonly congregate. 61 Mooney Street is located near existing bus routes and close to the Alewife T station, and has ample parking available on site.

Although the property is located approximately 0.2 miles outside of the Medical Marijuana District Overlay (MMD-1) adopted by the City Council, I feel confident that it complies with the criteria that the Community Development Department set out when creating the zones. The owner of the property that we seek to lease also owns the six acres of industrial property abutting 61 Mooney Street. He is amenable to our use and completely supportive of our plan. In October 2013, he wrote a letter to the Cambridge City Council petitioning that 61 Mooney Street be included in the Medical Marijuana Overlay District.

Throughout the last three weeks, I have been canvassing the nearest neighborhood to our site to ensure that every community member has the opportunity to speak with me personally and share any concerns they may have. The response has been positive – so much so, in fact, that we are submitting a citizens petition to amend the zoning. I look forward to continuing this community outreach throughout the coming weeks and speaking with the Council further throughout this process. If you have any questions about our site, please do not hesitate to ask. I would welcome the opportunity to tour the site with any Councillors, municipal officials, or nearby residents.

Thank you.