From: Valan
To: Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject: Public Comment on enthogens
Date: Tuesday, April 19, 2022 11:12:52 PM

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

I am writing to indicate my strong support for making the criminalization of enthogens the lowest priority in Missoula. Enthogens include psychedelics and other traditional plant medicines that have been safely used by Indingeous cultures for thousands of years to achieve spiritual and mental wellness. We also have decades of high-quality scientific evidence showing both their safety and effectiveness at treating a wide variety of difficult to treat mental illness. In fact, Psilocybin has been designated a "breakthrough" treatment for severe depression by the FDA. There have also been very successful clinical trials showing how targeted treatment with psychedelics and therapy can greatly reduce alcoholism.
Many folks safely using enthogens are simply trying to treat their severe mental illness or improve their wellbeing and face dragion charges for using natural compounds that are much safer and do much less harm than alcohol. Many other cities have taken this step and can redirect police and prosecution resources to more pressing issues. As a city we should be focused on reducing harm and keeping people safe, not enforcing arachic laws based on outdated stereotypes that have been thoroughly debunked by clinical trials.

Thank you,
Valan Anthos