

Resolution to Protect Citizens' Property Rights

The undersigned elected officials and/or community planners officially engaged to create planning programs for the community of _____ do hereby agree to the following:

- That planning involves and affects regulation of private property rights.
- That individual property ownership constitutes an asset of unique value, as well as the foundation of individual liberty for American citizens.

Recognizing that value, we agree that all citizen's private property rights shall be placed in the highest priority of consideration during the planning and zoning process; and, In the event that any part of the planning and zoning process or recommendations resulting from the process shall potentially negatively impact any property rights, property owners or the value of their private property, those affected property owners shall:

1. Be provided full, timely disclosure notifying the property owner or owners of the potential that their private property rights may in some way be infringed or the value of their private property may be thereby affected, and,
2. Be provided an opportunity to join official discussions and deliberations on proposed policy.

In the event of property loss or usage by the private land owner due to planning restrictions or zoning changes, the affected private property owner shall be fully compensated in a monetary amount equal to the fractional fair market loss of the original value of his property as a result of such zoning or other related restrictions on the fair legal use of his property. Further, all affected property owners shall be notified of the potential impairment to their rights by this government body before beginning any program that effects the following:

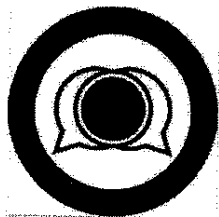
1. Reconfiguration of zoning that intensifies or in any way adds restrictions to existing rights,
2. Implementation of conservations easements or Trading of Development Rights,
3. Acceptance of grant money by the above named government entity or their assigned planners, whether from non-profit organizations, governmental or private funding sources.

Finally, it is agreed that no government representatives or their assigned planning agents, will come on to private property for any planning purpose without the written consent of the owner.

Signed: *(Elected Officials)*

Signed: *(Planning Firm)*

Here is a valuable Research Document prepared by Pat Wood, head of Citizens for Free Speech. If you are able to fill in all of these items you will have a comprehensive file of your community, the plans and a list of the players you are dealing with.



City Survey

Getting to Know Your Community

Start a special binder to contain the following information. The more detail that you have, the better! Leave space for notes and take the binder with you to all meetings that you attend. This is critically important research that will help you understand your community.

City name

Overall demographics

- Total population
- City size in sq. miles
- Ethnic makeup
- City map

Locate and print these documents

- State constitution
- County Charter
- City Charter

Number of precincts

- Information on precinct captains (Name, phone, email)
- Precinct map

Information on Mayor and City Council members

- Name
- Party affiliation
- Age
- Male/female
- Years in office
- Previous elected positions
- Biography
- Contact information including email, phone, address
- District
- Committee memberships

Information on Key City officials & Info

- City manager

Legal counsel
City planner
City clerk
Building permits & standards

Information on County Commissioners

Name
Party affiliation
Age
Male/female
Years in office
Previous elected positions
Biography
Contact information including email, phone, address
District
Committee memberships

Information on State assemblymen and senators

Name
Party affiliation
Age
Male/female
Years in office
Previous elected positions
Biography
Contact information including email, phone, address
District
Committee memberships/chairmanships
Caucus memberships

Information on city judges

Name
Party affiliation
Age
Male/female
Years in office
Previous elected positions
Biography
Contact information including email, phone, address

Names of all local boards

Education
Water
Planning
Zoning
Energy
Fire

Where are meetings held for various events?

Calendars of Events (when and where), links to web calendars)

- City counsel
- County
- Board meetings
- County meetings

Pending legislation/ city resolutions

List of all active city projects

General Plan for City/County

City Memberships

- Regional Councils of Governments (See NARC)
- ICLEI
- Nat'l Council of Mayors
- League of Cities
- Other NGOs

County Memberships

- Nat'l League of Counties
- ICLEI
- Other NGOs

City budget (current and past)

City chamber of commerce / Visitor and Convention Bureau

Any other things that profile your city and/or affect its future

Where and how to make public records and FOIA requests

Environmental programs

List of libraries with public use meeting rooms

- Room size
- Who to contact for booking

Information on Council of Governments membership (COGS, see narc.org)

- Location and contact information
- Your representative on the council
- Other council members and their information
- Website
- Scope of operation
- General plan

NGO's working within your city/county system

- Environmental groups