



"Jobs, Homes & Property Rights "

March 31, 2011

Mr. Mark Lovelace, Chairman
Board of Supervisors
Humboldt County
825 Fifth Street
Eureka, California 95501

Subject: Citizens' Advisory Committees
 General Plan Update

Dear Chairman Lovelace and Members of the Board:

A diverse group of people calling themselves HELP (Humboldt Economic and Land Plan), formed over 7 years ago. We did so because County planners were ignoring much of what the vast majority of the citizens of Humboldt County were saying they wanted reflected in the General Plan Update. Instead of updating the existing Framework Plan, your Planners have been rewriting the Plan for over 11 years with their own personal agendas woven throughout the draft document.

As more and more members of the public have become aware of the injustice being perpetrated on its citizens, there is a loud and poignant message being sent to each of you -- that this fraudulent update process must be stopped and redirected in such a manner which will not only reflect the will of the people, but comply with your own section 1500 policies adopted when the existing General Plan was approved in 1984.

It is clear. An overwhelming number of your constituents have written you letters and signed petitions urging you to have Citizens Advisory Committees formed, before proceeding further with the update process. Three (3) City Councils, three (3) Community Services Districts, and three (3) Chambers of Commerce have also made very strong cases for the formation of County Citizen Advisory Committees:

- The City of Eureka
- The City of Fortuna
- The City of Rio Dell
- The McKinleyville Community Services District
- The Humboldt Community Services District
- The Garberville Community Services District
- The Eureka Chamber of Commerce
- The Fortuna Chamber of Commerce
- The Garberville Chamber of Commerce

The question is, will you ignore the masses and continue to support your agenda-driven staff? Or will you represent your fellow citizens and respect their demands? It comes down to whether you acknowledge the democratic system this Country was founded upon (A Republic),

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or will you choose the dictator-style governance that suppresses it's people, and continue to allow the abuse of power which has brought us to this point.

It has been suggested by at least one County official, that CAC memberships should be comprised of County officials. This approach would defy the whole purpose of "Citizen" Advisory Committees. As is the case with CACs throughout California cities and counties, the CACs must be comprised of members of the public only, without involving elected or appointed officials, or County staff. County staff should provide a support service, only at the request of one or more of the CACs.

Humboldt is at a critical crossroads. It is up to the five (5) of you to assure the correct path is taken. We urge you to establish Citizen Advisory Committees now, and then listen to what your voters are saying they want in the new General Plan.

Sincerely,

Kay Backer

Kay Backer, representing
Humboldt Economic & Land Plan

cc: Board of Supervisors
Planning Commissioners
Phillip Smith-Hanes, County Administration Officer
Wendy Chaitin, County Counsel
Carolyn Ruth, Assistant County Counsel
Kirk Girard, Community Development Services Director
Michael Richardson, Senior Planner
Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board
Siana Watts , Planning Commission Clerk

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