

4-28-08

It has been a year since I got involved with the Building Industry Advisory Committee. I thought with my experience in working with the building and planning departments and having been a county employee, in several departments, I could offer solutions in helping these departments in serving the public. Once involved I started interviewing many of the county staff. I also had many discussions with the contractors and clients that I represent. I've spent time talking with the fire marshals' that have jurisdiction over the majority of the county. I have probably donated over 100 hours in this process. I worked with the Builders Exchanges to put a list of recommendations that was given to the DSD director & the Board back in June of 07. We just got to #1 of that list at our last meeting a few weeks ago. I am handing you my unedited list of recommendations that I gave to the President of the Northern Builders Exchange when he was putting these recommendations together. At the time I thought it would be the end of my involvement. I guess not so...

I think David Storer has identified many of the problems, but I do not agree with the recommendations. It has felt that decisions were made without our input.

I would like an extension on this decision. I would like to see a more effective discussion on ways that we can accomplish the goals we are all trying to reach. The BIAC has offered some great suggestions and have given free offers to help in some of the processes. Much of this seems to have been ignored.

My suggestions besides the ones I have given you are,

1. For planning - Much misunderstanding takes place for those buying properties as to the uses that are permitted on that land. The county has developed a great system for finding information on parcels. It would be good to expand that information for other issues such as what actual special uses will or will not be allowed and what are the fire safety requirements. Also those buyers should be advised of the time and cost involved in a discretionary project. It would be good to get this information out to real estate agencies to let potential buyers know what they might face in regards to that property. This could save time, money and possible bankruptcy. The county also needs to go back to a flat fees system. It is difficult to budget for a project with the current system.

Submitted by Sue Taylor

at Board Hearing of 4/29/08
43

2. Come up with which oaks are important for protection and remove the burden for small property owners outside of these important corridors. Also simplify the mitigation process.

3. I would like to see Planning and Building separated. I would also strongly advise against combining DOT with those 2 departments. I have good reasoning but not enough time here to explain.

4. You need 3 directors that can communicate with each other and the public. This is what they are paid to do. If they don't want to do this then find someone that does. Don't hire an additional administrator because this is not happening.

5. The BIAC and I have lots of ideas of how to make those departments work and if you are really interested my number is on the handout.

Thankyou

Any Questions?