

Hi, Fred Nelson for Community Comment.

Agenda 21  
Part 2

Two weeks ago, I spoke of "Agenda 21", a United Nations plan for World government during the twenty first century. I have found that many citizens are unaware of one of the greatest threats to their freedoms. The U.N. avoids the term "Agenda 21" and suggests the alternate names of "smart growth", "comprehensive planning" and "growth management". (Sound familiar?). The United States, as a sovereign nation, hinders U.N. plans for World government due to our Constitution, including the right to own private property, and our political structure. The U.N. understands that our nation's citizen type government starts at the local level in cities and counties so they turn their attention to influencing and watering down local governments. One way is to encourage city and county officials to join ICLEI (International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives). In 2009 the following elected officials endorsed ICLEI: County Supervisor Cliff Clendenen and Mark Lovelace and Marin County supervisor Susan Adams, now a candidate for Congress in our newly formed 2<sup>nd</sup> District. Encouraging the establishment of regional agencies is another way to diminish the role of county government. Regional agencies are usually managed by appointed officials, not elected. The less authority a city or county government has, the weaker the local government becomes. We have a primary election coming up in June. Included in this election will be a race for two seats on the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors. I suggest that you study the candidates and find out if they are aware of the implications of smart growth and "Agenda 21" and what they plan to do about it. Smart growth plans usurp property rights and constitutional rights. An example: Local officials, prodded by State Government, revise zoning laws to fit into a "smart code" zoning template. A massive reshuffling of property rights ensues. Farmers may lose sub-division rights; conservation land adjacent to population centers may be rezoned into commercial employment centers; and low-density land in small towns is re-designated as growth area and rezoned to accommodate diverse housing including high density apartments and condos. Finally, a healthy dose of federal or state sponsored housing initiatives is embraced to ensure communities are properly balanced. This creates highly urbanized population centers through otherwise-rural counties, while simultaneously limiting the availability of land for suburban and estate subdivisions which are considered an unsustainable waste of land by Agenda 21 advocates. Humboldt County has been working on a general plan update for a long time and it is still not settled. The Planning Department has grown, over the years, to a point where the County Supervisors have decided to split the department in two. Has this move unknowingly been influenced by Agenda 21? I can't answer that but it does raise the question in my mind. I urge you, the citizen, to wake up and educate yourself so that our area won't inadvertently be pulled into something that we might be sorry for in the future.

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