



“Jobs, Homes & Individual Rights ”

June 16, 2009

Mr. Jimmy Smith, Chairman
Board of Supervisors
Humboldt County
825 Fifth Street
Eureka, California 95501

Subject: RHNA (Regional Housing Needs Allocation)

Dear Chairman Smith and Members of the Board:

For two years, numerous letters, meetings, and testimony to the County and the HCAOG Boards have been devoted to the RHNA process in an attempt to persuade you and HCAOG to follow the law.

It is apparent your planning staff continues to ignore Government codes:

- California Government Code 65584.04 (a) states, “At least two years prior to scheduled revision required by Section 65588 [Housing Element revision], each council of governments, ..., shall develop a proposed methodology for distributing the existing and projected regional housing need to cities, counties...”;
- 65584.04 (c) states “Public participation and access shall be required in the development of the methodology and in the process of drafting and adoption of the allocation of the regional housing needs.”
- 65584.05 (a) states, “At least one and one-half years prior to the scheduled revision required by Section 65588, each council of governments ... shall distribute a draft allocation of regional housing needs to each local government in the region of subregion, where applicable, based on the methodology adopted pursuant to Section 65584.04.”

The public’s input has been ignored to date. This is simply unacceptable and unlawful.

If you approve and sign the proposed letter to HCD being presented to you this morning, you will be misrepresenting the facts. The draft letter states: ***“If a new RHNA Plan is adopted prior to July 15, 2009, we will have sufficient time to update the Housing Element accordingly.”***

The fact is, any RHNA plan adopted by July 15, 2009 can not possibly conform to State law.

Respectfully,

Kay Backer, representing
Humboldt Economic & Land Plan

Mr. Jimmy Smith, Chairman, June 16, 2009 cont'd

cc: Members of the Board of Supervisors
County Planning Commissioners
HCAOG Board of Directors and Executive Director
Loretta Nickolaus, County Administrative Officer
Kirk Girard, Community Development Services Director
Michael Richardson, Senior County Planner
Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board
Sharyn Lodes, Planning Commission Clerk
Lynn Jacobs, State HCD Director
Cathy Creswell, State HCD Deputy Director

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