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## Common CI Issues & Problems In Josephine County

A common theme to all the citizen involvement (CI) issues and problems in Josephine County is a CI program that can be improved.<sup>1</sup> According to the Oregon Citizen Involvement Advisory Committee (CIAC) the first 10 of the following CI issues and problems are common statewide.<sup>2</sup>

1. Common Land Use Issues & Problems
  2. Funding
  3. Staffing
  4. Time
  5. Legal Constraints
  6. Apathy
  7. Technocracy
  8. The Need for Predictability
  9. State and Federal Mandates

### 10. The Overburdened Citizen

11. Oregon Citizen Involvement Advisory Committee



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1. Josephine County Ordinance 93-13.

2. Oregon Citizen Involvement Advisory Committee (CIAC). July 1992. *Putting the People Into Planning*. Salem, OR. Web Page - <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~pppm/landuse/docs/toc.htm>

3. Rohse, Mitch & Ross, Kim. 1992. *Putting the People Into Planning*. Funding. by DLCDC for CIAC. pps. 44 - 45. Salem, OR.

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## Oregon CIAC Observations On The Overburdened Citizen & Suggestions

**CIAC Observations On The Overburdened Citizen.**<sup>3</sup> “Each year, cities and counties in Oregon make 10,000 to 20,000 land use decisions. Neither state nor local officials, however, have the power or resources to review or enforce all of those decisions.”

“Many cities and counties have few staff for zoning enforcement. Local district attorneys often are reluctant to prosecute land use cases, given the large number of criminal cases they face. The state does not hear about many local decisions: many need not be reported to any state agency. And the state does not have as much power to intervene as many people think. For example, the Department of Land Conservation and Development cannot overturn a local land use decision. DLCDC can only appeal such a decision to LUBA, just as a citizen could.”

“The result of all this is that much of the burden for enforcing Oregon's planning laws falls on the shoulders of everyday citizens. The citizen who objects to a local decision may have no recourse but to file an appeal to LUBA. Such an appeal is likely to take about four months and cost several thousand dollars.”

“A second and related problem is that local government in general and planning in particular depend on the work of lay citizens in a multitude of committees and groups such as planning commissions. Smaller communities often cannot find enough civic-minded volunteers to fill all the positions on the planning commission, CCI, parks committee, landmarks committee, and other lay groups. Serving on such committees takes time away from families and jobs.”

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## More Information

**The Overburdened Citizen** — continued.

“It is often boring or stressful or both, and the “pay” -- perhaps two bits a mile for travel to meetings and a certificate of appreciation when one leaves the committee — is hardly attractive.”

**CIAC Suggestions.**<sup>3</sup> “Work to empower Oregon's citizens. Strive to give them easy access to all aspects of planning. Provide information, training, and incentives for them to serve on committees and commissions. The success of planning in Oregon's 277 cities and counties depends on the work of such citizens.”

**More Information.** Would you like to learn more? Contact a member of the Hugo Land Use Committee.



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**Disclaimer.** This brochure is as much about providing information and provoking questions as it is about opinions concerning the adequacy of findings of fact and land use decisions. It does not provide recommendations to citizens and it is not legal advice. It does not take the place of a lawyer. If citizens use information contained in this paper, it is their personal responsibility to make sure that the facts and general information contained in it are applicable to their situation.

## Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society's Mission

This information brochure is one of a series of documents published by the Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society (*Hugo Neighborhood*). It is designed to be shared with neighbors for the purpose of helping protect our rural quality of life by promoting an informed citizenry in decision-making. The *Hugo Neighborhood* is an informal nonprofit charitable and educational organization with a land use and history mission of promoting the social welfare of its neighbors.

### Land Use & History

The *Hugo Neighborhood's* land use mission is to promote Oregon Statewide Goal 1 — Citizen Involvement, and to preserve, protect, and enhance the livability and economic viability of its farms, forests, and rural neighbors. It will act, if requested, as a technical resource assisting neighbors to represent themselves.

Its history mission is to educate, collect, preserve, interpret, and research its local history and to encourage public interest in the history of the Hugo area.

Volunteer membership dues are \$10.00 annually per family and normally used for paper, ink, envelopes, publications and mailings. Make checks to the *Hugo Neighborhood* and send them to our Treasurer. Send us your e-mail address if you want to know what we are doing.

*Hugo Neighborhood Association*  
Web Page: <http://jeffnet.org/~hugo/>  
Edited by Mike Walker

### Hugo Land Use Committee

Wayne McKy, Member  
Land Use Committee  
*Hugo Neighborhood*  
6497 Hugo Road  
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526

Mike Walker, Member  
Land Use Committee  
*Hugo Neighborhood*  
3388B Merlin Rd #195  
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526

Hal Anthony, Member  
Land Use Committee  
*Hugo Neighborhood*  
3995 Russell Road  
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526

## The Overburdened Citizen



Brochure 10 in  
Statewide CI Issues & Problems Series



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Land Use Committee  
Hugo Neighborhood Association

Members of the CAC/NA Coalition