
The Framework For Citizen Involvement

Oregon Statewide Goal 1 - Citizen Involvement (CI) calls for citizen involvement programs, but who is to design such programs and carry them out? The answer to that is a combination of local and state committees, commissions, and agencies. The most important is the local committee for citizen involvement, or “CCI.” In Josephine County (JO CO) this committee is called the Josephine County CIC.¹



Hugoites

Ultimately, the responsibility for any citizen involvement program lies with the local governing body (i.e., the city council, board of county commissioners, or county court). The governing body usually delegates that responsibility to several organizations: the local planning department, the planning commission, a variety of committees — and the advisory group known as the Committee for Citizen Involvement (CCI). That is exactly what happened in JO CO where the CCI is the county CIC with one hat and the JO CO Rural Planning Commission with another hat.

1. Josephine County Ordinance 93-13.
2. Oregon Citizen Involvement Advisory Committee (CIAC). July 1992. *Putting the People Into Planning*. Salem, OR.
3. Hugo Neighborhood. 2006. *Common Citizen Involvement Issues & Problems in Oregon: 2006*. Hugo, OR.

Common CI Issues & Problems

“The county rammed that rezoning through without listening to the citizens!” We tried to get citizens involved, but nobody came to the hearing!” “That citizen’s group had no right to oppose my subdivision!” “The members of the JO CO Board of County Commissioners (BCC) had their minds made up before anybody began to testify!”

Such complaints are common in JO CO. Sometimes they are justified, sometimes not. Either way, they offer dramatic evidence that CI in land use planning often is controversial. The main issues in the county that underlie such controversy are described in this brochure series..

Nine CI issues and problems common statewide were identified by the Oregon CIAC^{2&3}. In addition to the statewide list the following CI issues and problems are specific to Josephine County.

1. **Common CI Issues & Problems In Josephine County: 2006**
2. Local Government Support For Citizen Involvement Program
3. Citizen Involvement Committee
4. Rural Planning Commission
5. CACs & NAs
6. Public Notice
7. Strategic Litigation Against Public Participation (SLAPP)
8. Findings
9. Party And Standing
10. Points of Order
11. Incomplete Land Use Applications
12. 150-Day Rule
13. Conditions of Approval
14. Over The Counter Decisions
15. Quasi-Judicial Hearings
16. Appeal Fees
17. Riparian Public Involvement Process
18. Oregon CIAC Involved Locally
19. Monitoring & Enforcement

JO CO CIC & Rural Planning Commission

Goal 1 requires each city and county to maintain a CCI. In a world full of communities, you may wonder why Goal 1 calls for yet another. The answer lies in the fact that most planning committees, except the CCI have, multiple responsibilities. Some of these responsibilities detract from and even conflict with CI. Having a CCI — a committee for citizen involvement as its only responsibility ensures that citizens are not forgotten in the planning process.

The CCI is a watchdog and an advocate for CI. Goal 1 states the CCI’s duty: to help the governing body develop, implement, and evaluate the local CI program.

The CCI usually is (and should be) a separate independent committee. In some small cities and counties, however, local officials have been unable to find enough people to serve on all the committees and boards necessary to conduct community affairs. Some communities have, therefore, had the planning commission take over the responsibilities of the CCI.

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



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

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Common Citizen Involvement Issues & Problems in Josephine County: 2006

Brochure 1 in
Josephine County
CI Issues & Problems Series



November 2, 2006

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