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## The Value Of “Notice” To Neighborhood Associations (NAs)

**Notice.** In 2006 Josephine County (JO CO) gave “notice” of land use applications to two citizen advisory committees (CACs). It used to give notice to 15 CACs and approximately 20 NAs.<sup>1</sup>

The *Hugo Neighborhood* believes notice, especially hard-copy notice, is a core element of Oregon Statewide Goal 1 - Citizen Involvement, and the opportunity for citizens of “neighborhood or community organizations” to be involved in all phases of the planning process. Doing away with hard-copy notice is like eliminating the “law” to provide notice to adjacent owners of property proposed to be developed.<sup>2</sup> JO CO did away with notice to NAs in 2003.



### Hugo Neighborhood CI Beliefs

1. Public participation is the act of sharing in the formulation of policies and proposals which affect the lives of all citizens. Local governments have a responsibility for encouraging public participation in all phases of the planning process for the betterment of local decision-making. Participation must include a process which involves the public in an active role.
2. Public participation through neighborhood and community organizations can produce benefits for the orderly development and the environment of this state and for the health, safety, order, convenience, prosperity, and welfare of the people of this state.

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## “Actual” Notice Of Decision For A Permit Without A Hearing

**Actual Notice.** Governing bodies are required to give notice of a permit decision without a hearing to four categories of persons.<sup>3</sup>

1. Owners of Property Adjacent to Property Subject to Application
2. Adversely Affected Persons
3. Aggrieved Persons
4. Recognized Neighborhood or Community Organizations

### Neighborhood or Community Organization

**Recognized.** ORS 215.416(11)(c)(B) provides:

“Notice [of a decision made without a public hearing] shall also be provided to any neighborhood or community organization recognized by the governing body and whose boundaries include the site.”

Two counties had enacted historical local provisions regarding community organizations: Linn County and Lane County. At least two counties, Clackamas and Josephine, had historically adopted provisions addressing neighborhood organizations.

Friends of Linn County was recognized by Linn County in 1998 as a community organization; recognition was withdrawn in 2001. A request by Friends of Douglas County for recognition was denied 2001. A request by LandWatch Lane County for recognition was rejected 2001. A Friends of Polk County request for recognition was denied on 2002. A Friends of Yamhill County request for recognition was rejected in 1996 or 1997. A Jackson County Citizens League request for recognition was considered and tentatively granted, but rejected in the final county decision.

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## More Information

**Hugo Neighborhood Proposes JO CO Recognize Neighborhoods And Community Organizations.** In order to encourage public participation in all phases of the planning process for the betterment of local decision-making, JO CO should consider reimplementing notice to NAs and under ORS 215.416(11)(c)(B) recognize community organizations.<sup>4</sup>

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



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1. Citizen Involvement Program Josephine County (Josephine County Ordinance 93-13); Hugo Neighborhood. 2002 (updated). *Role of JO CO's Citizen Involvement Committee*. Hugo, OR.; Hugo Land Use Committee. 2003. *Citizen Involvement Committee*. Hugo, OR.; Hugo Neighborhood. 2004. *Josephine County & City of Grants Pass CAC Programs*. Hugo, OR.
  2. Hugo Land Use Committee. 2003. *The Value of “Notice.”* Hugo, OR.
  3. ORS 197.830(3), ORS 215.416(11)(a), ORS 215.416(11)(c), and ORS 215.422(1) & (2); Hugo Land Use Committee. 2004. *Actual Notice Of Decision*. Hugo, OR.
  4. Hugo Land Use Committee. 2006. *Notice Proposal For Neighborhoods & Community Organizations*. Hugo, OR.

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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.

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## 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.

*Hugo Neighborhood Association*

Web Page: <http://jeffnet.org/~hugo/>

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### Hugo Land Use Committee

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## Notice To Neighborhoods & Community Organizations

Brochure 6A in Josephine County  
CI Issues & Problems Series



**November 19, 2006**

**Land Use Committee  
Hugo Neighborhood Association**

**Members of the CAC/NA Coalition**

Brochure 6A in Common CI Issues & Problems in Josephine County:  
2006 Series - HNA&HS 2006  
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Problems In JO County\BROCHURE\_6A\_Notice To Neighborhood & Community  
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