



PART-TIME RESIDENTS ADVISORY BOARD

September 7, 2010

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

WHEREAS, the Town Council has stated that it:

Desires to solicit the input of part-time residents on a variety of issues to assist the Town Council in the establishment of Town policy; and

Believes that part-time residents can provide broad-based experience and knowledge of the issues; and

Believes that input from part-time residents is important on issues before the Town; and

Established an advisory board consisting of part-time residents to provide a mechanism of communication and education between part-time residents and the Town,

the Part-time Residents Advisory Board strongly urges Council to consider the following as it reviews the proposed Town of Snowmass Village Resolution No. 36, Series of 2010.

Putting aside the reasoned dialogue that should be occurring in this democracy regarding the substance of proposed Amendment 60 to the Colorado Constitution, it is necessary to first address the Council's proposed public and official statement on this issue. The language in proposed Resolution 36, Series of 2010, the 3rd "Whereas" clause at lines 21-26, only serves to undo the progress made by this Council, and previous Councils, in uniting a once divided community and forging and improving the relationship between the town, its permanent residents, and its part-time residents.

For this Council to publicly and officially state that if non-resident property owners are given the right to vote on property tax issues and support of community institutions, they "could affect the ability of the community to maintain and protect its institutions...and other community facilities" and that "services could be severely compromised" is *untruthful, inflammatory, offensive, and divisive*.

Part-time residents, in Snowmass Village and across the state, choose to be part of the community in which their property is located and provide significant public, private, in-kind, and financial support for the communities, facilities, institutions, and services, in addition to using and benefiting from most, if not all, of them.

As such, we strongly urge Council to delete the 3rd "Whereas" clause at lines 21-26 from the proposed TOSV Resolution No. 36, Series of 2010.

We also ask Council to respect the voter's intelligence and right to make choices for our community by fairly and fully informing them of the proposed ballot questions and any perceived community impacts that would result from passage or failure of same, rather than urging them how to vote. Not only would this be helpful to the voters on election day, but it is in keeping with the spirit and intent of the Fair Campaign Practices Act.

Sincerely,

Part-time Residents Advisory Board

Victor Rauch, Chair; Colleen Doyle, Greer Fox, John Barrett, George Bletsas, Mery Butler, Mel Blumenthal