

*The other side of the story...*

# The Biggest Mystery of 2017

Last year had its mystery and intrigue. But the biggest mystery remains a mystery.

Why was the Big-Growth takeover of Jackson Hole ignored? In a small town where most everything gets reported, the will of the voters was 'reversed' and it went unreported.

In November, 2016 voters said NO to the extra 1-cent sales tax for housing and the START bus. Even though the vote-yes lobby spent a lot of money and put up a fancy website, voters still said NO. It was a rejection of the Big-Growth 'vision' our electeds had for Jackson Hole.

In May, 2017 our electeds tried again. They loaded up the SPET ballot with four big-ticket items, \$34-million for housing and the bus. All four were defeated. Voters again said NO to the electeds 'vision' for Jackson Hole.

In a show of political arrogance that's hard to stomach, our electeds ignored all five defeats. Their 'vision' was made official when they passed the Housing Supply Plan last fall. It calls for building another 2,800 subsidized units. It will produce massive growth and cause many more problems than it solves.

Why is there such a divide between the voters and the electeds? Do our electeds even care that they don't represent the majority?

Who do they represent? It's not the voters. It's not wildlife; they keep taking away access to needed habitat. And it's not the truly needy.

Simply put, the Housing Plan is a taxpayer funded business subsidy. Those 2,800 additional units will grow town by over 70%.

Our electeds are a part of the "One-Voice" that runs Jackson Hole. The Chamber of Commerce, our elected officials, and the media speak with One-Voice. And they want growth, higher taxes, more tourists, more building, more everything.

That 'vision' is killing us. We're choking on traffic and our quality of life is declining. Voters want a livable Jackson Hole. That's why they said no to the 1-cent tax back in 2016.

---

## *Voters want a livable Jackson Hole*

---

The One-Voice needs to wake up. Jackson Hole is steadily becoming less livable. Voters see what's happening, that's

why they voted NO five times on housing and the bus.

The game is rigged. Politicians need to stop using consultants to manipulate policy. Using taxpayer dollars to fund consultants hired to defy the will of the voters is wrong. Anyone that's watched paid experts testify in court has seen them contradict each other. Consultants deliver the answer that was paid for.

Local government should be relying on voter input and voter polls, not bought and paid for consultants. What's going on is crooked.

Over time, manipulation has replaced election results as the guiding light for our electeds. And local media makes sure that 'defying the voters' never becomes an election issue.

There's plenty of blame to go around. Integrity is lacking in many places and on many levels.

Hopefully, 2018 will see some new candidates for office and local government will start respecting the will of the voters again. Heaven help us if those candidates don't show up.