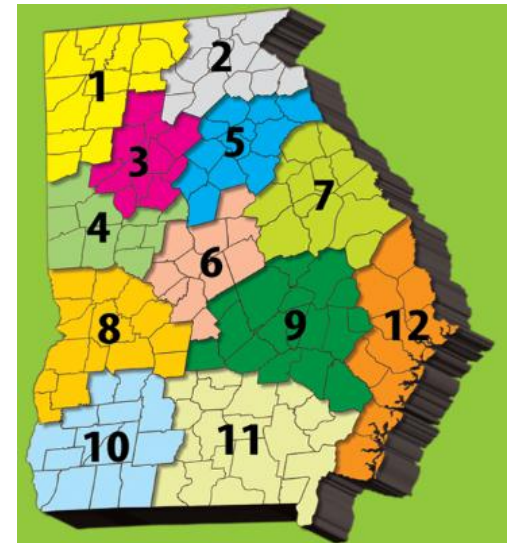


REGIONALISM: THREAT TO THE REPUBLIC

How Regionalism and Public Private Partnerships are tearing down constitutionally limited self-government and genuine free market economics.



**What is the United States of
America, a Democracy or a
Republic?**

Or, something else?

A REPUBLIC



Article IV of the Constitution "guarantee[s] to every State in this Union a Republican form of Government."

A **republic** is a [form of government](#) in which the supreme power rest with the people and representatives or officers for the people are officially granted alienable powers to represent them in "public matters" ([Latin](#): *res publica*) via a constitution.

Government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

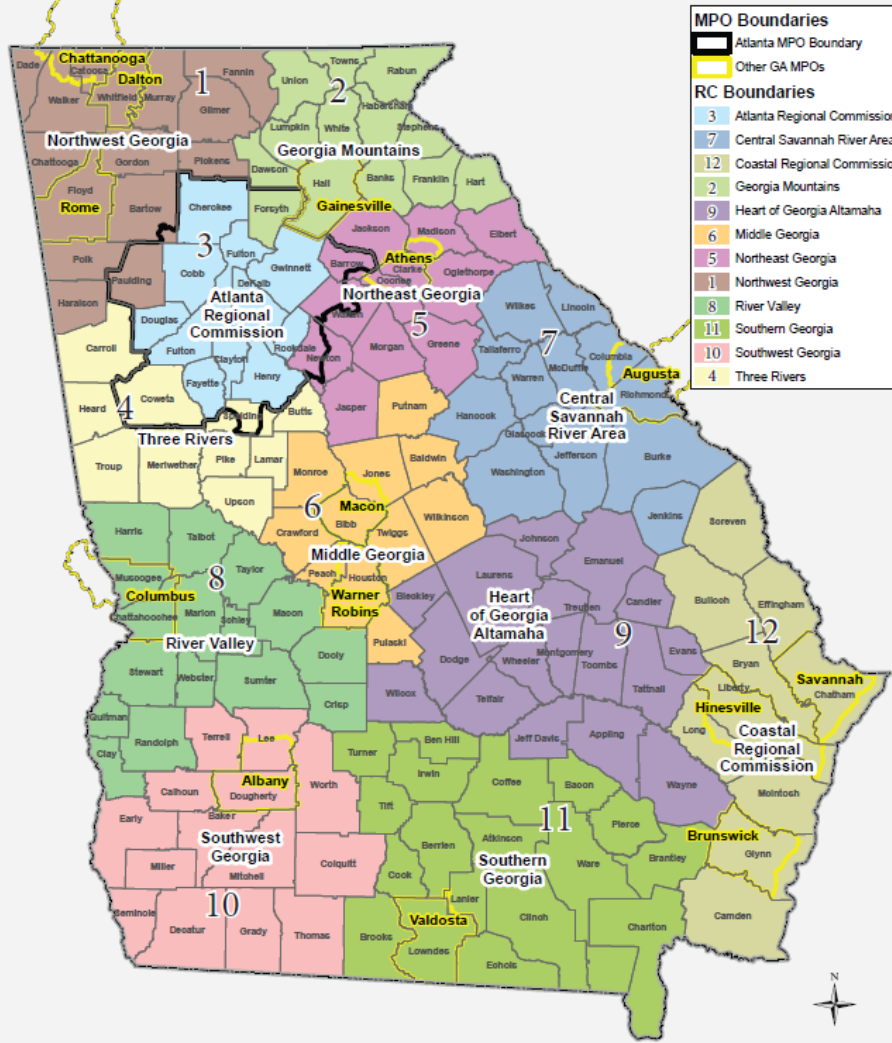
THREATS TO OUR FREEDOM

Regional Governance

- Driven by government, not by the people
- Diminishes power of local governments
- Increasing levels of authority for executive branch
- Authority is implemented through appointments
- Unelected and unaccountable bureaucrats wield power

- Examples:
 - Chattanooga Area Regional Council of Governments
 - Georgia Transportation Investment Act of 2010

Georgia Regional Commissions and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Boundaries



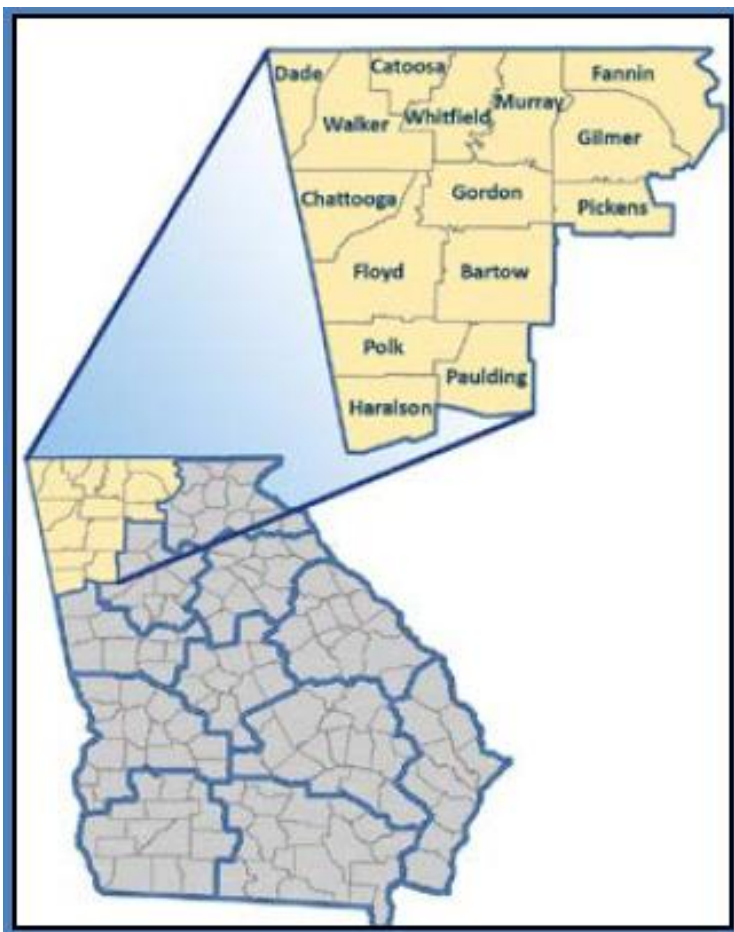
Georgia Transportation Investment Act of 2010

- Transportation Planning Director
- Regional Roundtable
- Executive Committee
- Citizens Review Panel
- 12 Regions
- 1 Mayor from each county
- 1 Commissioner from each county

Funding mechanism for Regional Governance

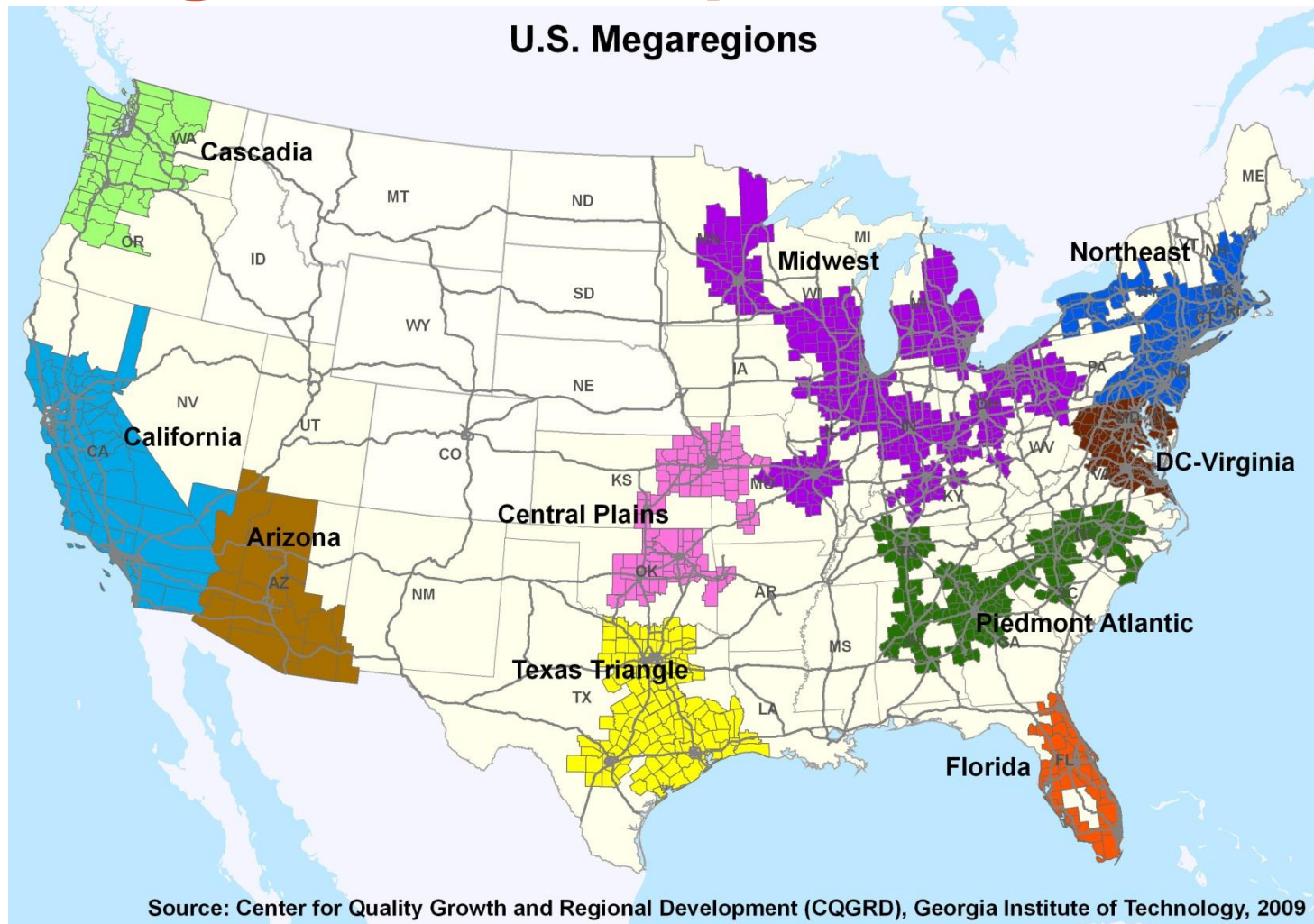
Region 1 – Northwest Georgia

**TIA/TSPLOST Total Tax
Over 10 Years \$1,487 Billion**

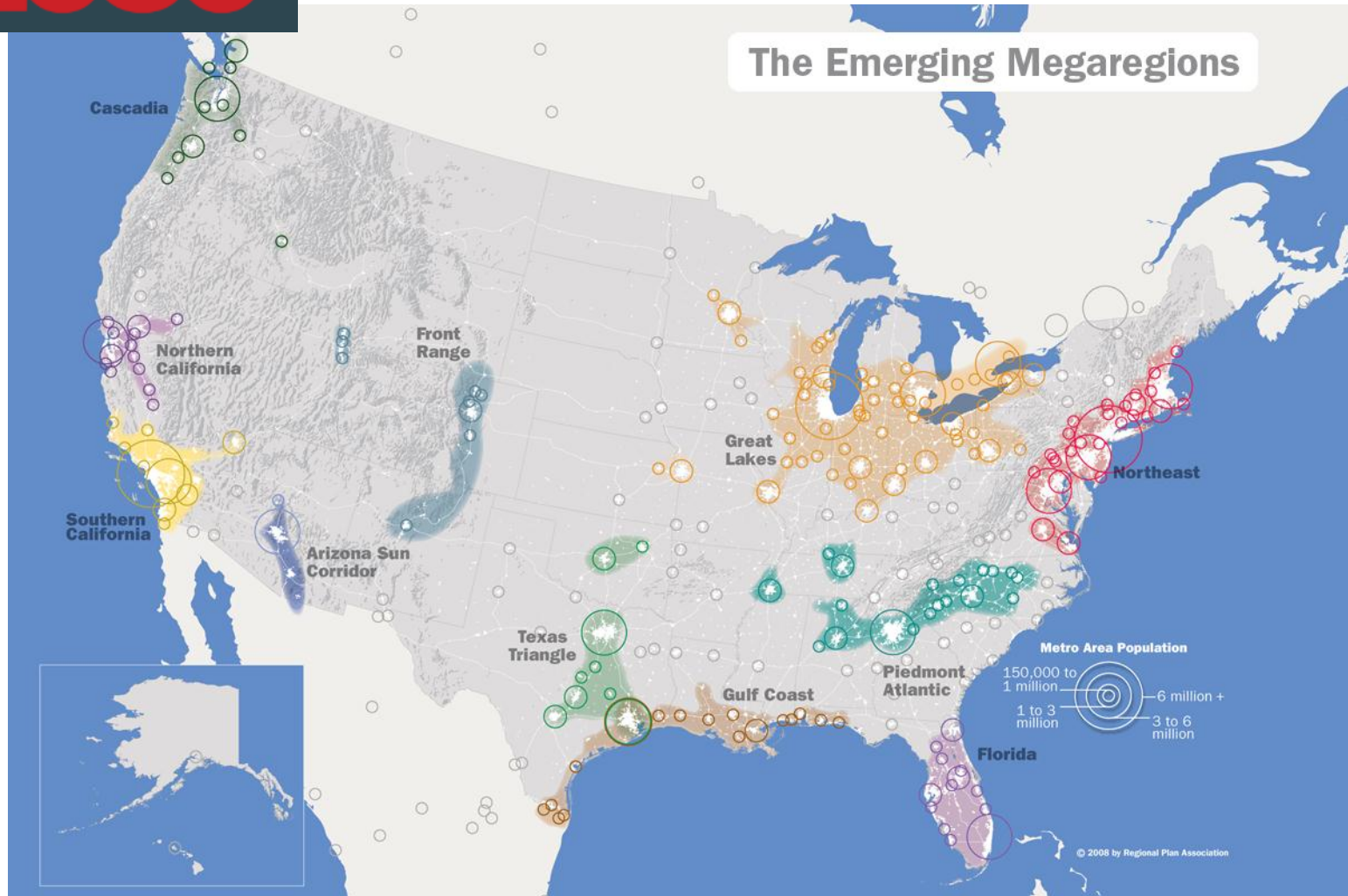


- Bartow
- Catoosa
- Chattooga
- Dade
- Fannin
- Floyd
- Gilmer
- Haralson
- Murray
- Paulding
- Pickens
- Polk
- Walker
- Whitfield

GA TECH: Center for Quality Growth and Regional Development



America 2050



T-SPLOST is TOP DOWN - not "LOCAL"

- **Transportation Planning Director** - Appointed by Governor
- **Regional Roundtable** - Appointed by legislature
- **Executive Committee** - Elected by Roundtable
- **Citizens Review Panel** - Appointed by Speaker of the House (3) and Lt. Governor (2)
- **Only 2 of 36 members are from any county, so there is no accountability for decisions.**

Project Selection “TOP DOWN”

- Local governments submits “potential” projects to DOT
- GDOT Planning Director ensures conformity with approved criteria and creates a “long list” of projects
- GDOT Planning Director collaborates with Executive Committee on Regional project selection and price on each project
- Roundtable approves (rubber stamps) list
- GDOT is contractor on all projects statewide

The taxpayers vote the Tax DOWN

That is the ONLY LOCAL CONTROL in the TIA!

Please use it!

No More “Home Rule”

- Home rule is just local self-government. The State Constitution of Georgia advocates home rule. The core principle is that local authorities or populations seek a measure of freedom from the state legislature.
- This new era of regional governance and taxation will end the autonomy local counties have possessed to control their own destinies.
- If we develop a Regional Transit Authority and approve the 2012 TIA referendum, problems created by another county will become **your** county’s financial burden.

Regional Equity – from each county according to ability to each county according to need.

What does “soviet” mean?

- A soviet is a system of councils that report to an apex council and **implement a predetermined outcome**, affecting a region or neighborhood often arranged through a **process of facilitated consensus**.
- Members of a soviet council are chosen by virtue of their **willingness to comply with that outcome** and their **one-mindedness with the group**
- Soviets are the operating mechanism of a **government-controlled economy**, whether it be socialism or **public/private partnerships**

THREATS TO OUR FREEDOM

Public Private Partnerships

- Often touted as growing jobs or economy, in reality:
- Basically government sanctioned monopolies (cronyism)
- Increases government power through
 - Additional taxation (HOT Lanes, Toll Roads)
 - Policy enforcement (implement regional or sustainable policies)
 - Eminent Domain proceedings
- Examples:
 - Kelo vs New London
 - Cherokee County – Ball Ground Recycling

KELO VS. NEW LONDON

News & Issues >
About.com Civil Liberties
Part of The New York Times Company

Home Civil Liberties Issues & Views Your Rights Activism

Summary of Kelo v. New London (2005) - Supreme Court Eminent Domain Case

By Tom Head, About.com Guide

See More About: [property rights](#) [kelo v new london](#)

The Big Question:

Can the government constitutionally claim homes and other private property for "public use," even if the government itself will not be using the property?

The Fifth Amendment and the "Public Use" Standard:

The Fifth Amendment concludes with the words: "...nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation." This phrase is referred to as the "takings clause."

Ads

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Civil Liberties Ads

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- [Supreme Court Decision](#)
- [Court Cases](#)
- [Supreme Court](#)

Background of the Case:

In 1998, the drug company Pfizer built a new plant in New London, Connecticut. To take advantage of additional business the plant might bring in, the City of New London attempted to purchase 115 houses in a nearby area in order to sell it to commercial developers. 15 residents resisted, so the city cited eminent domain and claimed the land.

The Supreme Court's Verdict:

In a 5-4 decision, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of the City of New London.

[Full Text of the Supreme Court's Decision in Kelo v. City of New London \(2005\), with Concurrence and Dissents](#)

The Majority Ruling:

- City partnered with private developers
- Used eminent domain to take property
- Developers were to build mixed use
- City was to get higher tax base
- Property now vacant
- Landmark Supreme Court Case

BALL GROUND RECYCLING



Print this page Close

Cherokee recycling firm files for bankruptcy

By Jeffrey Scott
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

5:43 p.m. Tuesday, May 29, 2012

A Cherokee County recycling company facing eviction by the county filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganization Friday, a move that may allow it to stay open for business.

Ball Ground Recycling owes the county, its partner in the plant, about \$1.7 million. The company had been given a 10-day eviction notice to pay the county \$60,000, or vacate the property. The deadline was Tuesday afternoon, said Board of Commissioners Chairman Buzz Ahrens, who hand-delivered the 10-day eviction notice to company owner Jimmy Bobo.

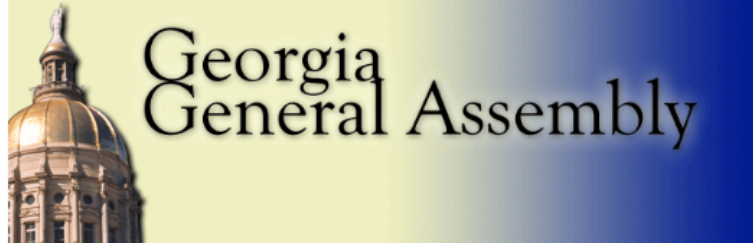
The recycling plant has become a huge controversy in the county in recent weeks as some citizens questioned the commission's decision in 2005 to form a partnership with Bobo.

In 2006, the commission formed the Resource Recovery Development Authority to sell \$18.1 million in bonds to fund moving Bobo's recycling plant from a location on Blalock Road, where neighbors had complained about the noise and pollution from the facility. The plant, which recycles waste wood and converts it to landscaping mulch, employed about 100 people during the county building boom.

When the economy tanked, so did the company's business. That left county taxpayers on the hook for about \$100,000 a month in bond payments to the Bank of New York. The bankruptcy filing lists Resource Recovery Development Authority as the company's single biggest creditor. The company owes RRDA \$1,724,641.88. The next largest debt is \$20,000, owed to an auditing company.

- **County partnered with private business**
- **Issued \$18.1 M Development Authority Bonds**
- **Poor economy caused business to fail**
- **Cherokee taxpayers paying \$100,000/mo. Private Profits / Public Loss**

H.B. 475



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[Previous Sessions](#) | [Georgia Code](#) | [State Departments](#)

12 LC 28 5945S
House Bill 475 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)
By: Representatives Powell of the 171st, Roberts of the 154th, Rynders of the 152nd, Cheokas of the 134th, Meadows of the 5th, and others

transportation; to provide that a development authority shall have the unfettered authority to determine which definition of the term "project" applies to a particular project and that a project which involves a public body is comprised of both public and private components integrated to produce the desired purposes and will promote and develop trade, commerce, industry, or employment opportunities; to provide that such decision by the authority shall not be subject to review; to provide that a development authority shall have the authority to issue bonds to purchase or acquire a completed project and carry out such further construction or equipping that it may desire; to provide that an authority may issue bonds to construct, purchase, acquire, or equip a project for any purpose permitted by such chapter; to provide for

purchase, acquire, or equip a project for any purpose permitted by such chapter; to provide for severability in the event a portion of this Act is found to be unconstitutional; to repeal

Votes

Date	Time	Vote No	Yeas	Nays	NV	Exc	Description
02/02/2012	11:40AM	House Vote #454	132	028	010	010	PASSAGE

WHY SHOULD WE CARE?

- Being implemented at every level of government (national, state, county, and city)
- Grants offered to lure local gov'ts into accepting these policies.
- Pleasant-sounding names camouflage top-down, centralized planning programs
- Public acceptance is baited by touting the programs as growing jobs or the economy.
- Visioning or Consensus Building Workshops are used to get public buy in to predetermined outcome.

Delphi Technique or Consensus Process

"The goal of the Delphi technique is to lead a targeted group of people to a predetermined outcome, while giving the illusion of taking public input and under the pretext of being accountable to the public."

- 1) Always Be Charming – Smile, be pleasant, be courteous, moderate your voice so as not to come across as belligerent or aggressive.
- 2) Stay Focused – Write down your question, the facilitator will attempt to dodge questions they don't want to answer. Stay focused on the question.
- 3) Be Persistent – Facilitators may shift the focus to another topic.
- 4) Don't go alone. It's best to sit separately.
- 5) If the facilitator doesn't answer the question, someone else should ask again.

Who is Promoting?

- Governor
- Speaker of the House
- Construction firms
- Developers
- People who benefit from the taxes
- Chambers of Commerce



American Planning Association



Lifting Up What Works®

PolicyLink



So What's the Problem?

#1 - Local, State, and Federal office holders Oath of Office

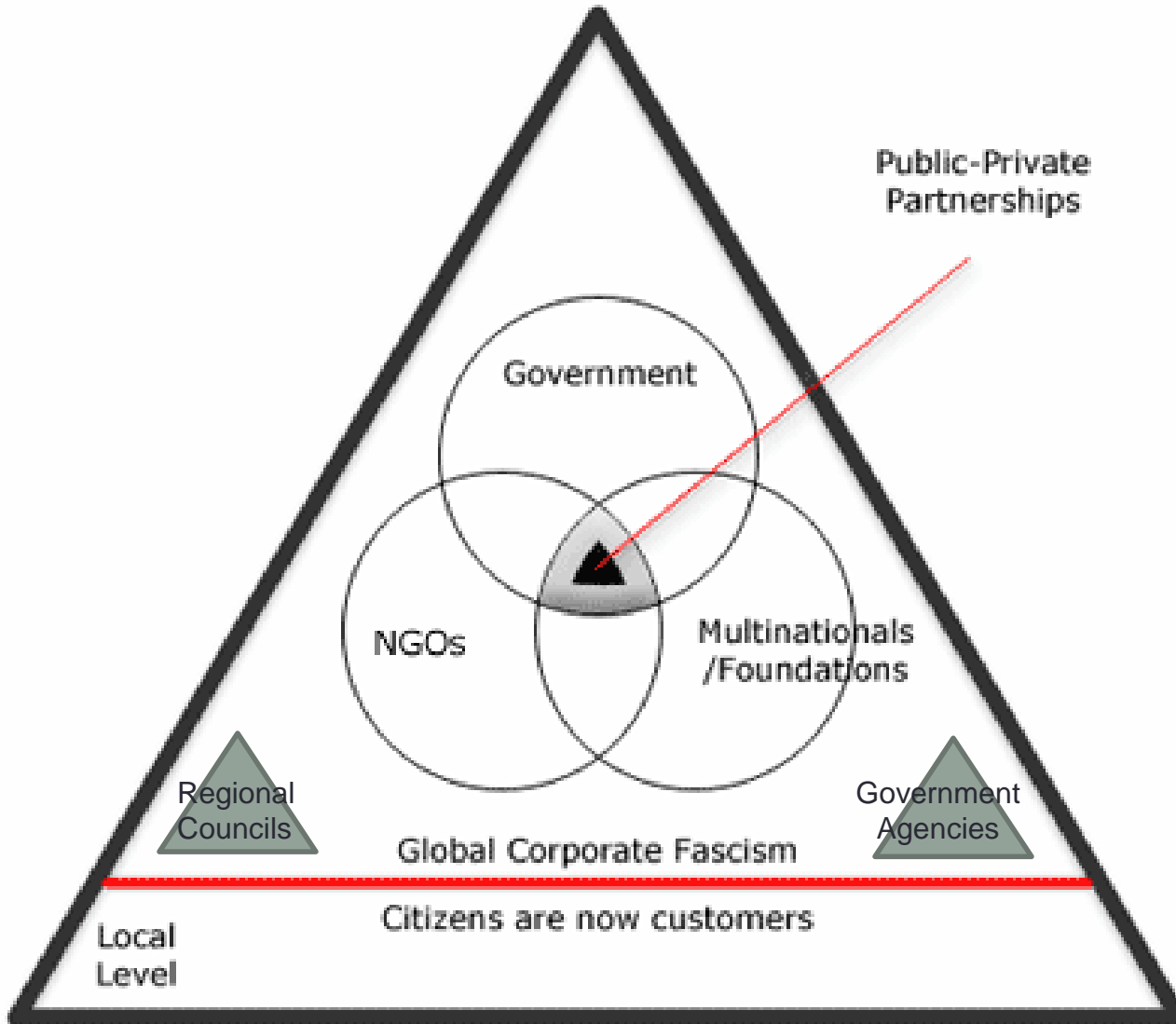
I will support the Constitution of the United States; and that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to State of GEORGIA, and support the Constitution and Laws thereof; and that I will, to the best of my skill and judgment, diligently and faithfully, without partiality or prejudice, execute the office of _____, according to the Constitution and Laws of this State.

#2 – Regional councils and transportation planning boards are appointed positions and are unelected and unaccountable to the people.

#3 – Regional governance is incompatible with Americans' Unalienable Constitutional Rights and Values.

#4 – Public/Private Partnership economic model negates our free market system. Introduces new Communitarian model.

COMMUNITARIANISM



Negates
Natural Rights

Against
Genuine
Free Market
Capitalism

Unelected and
Unaccountable
Technocrats

Top-down
centralized
control

AMERICA

FREEDOM
of--Conscience
-- Expression
-- Association
to-- Trade

FREE
ENTERPRISE

PEACE
through--Individual Liberty
--Private Property
leading to--Prosperity
--Abundance

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

MIXED
ECONOMY

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

UN AGENDA 21

COLLECTIVISM

GOVERNMENT
CONTROLLED
ECONOMY

REGIONALISM

UN CHARTER

GLOBALISM

WHICH PHILOSOPHY OF RIGHTS?

Nature <i>Source</i>	Individual Rights <i>US Declaration of Independence</i>	Community rights <i>UN Declaration of Human Rights</i>
Purpose of Government	<p>Protect the natural or unalienable rights of each individual.</p> <p><i>“That all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights ...”</i></p>	<p>Control the individual for the greater good of a global community.</p> <p><i>“Rights and freedoms may in no case be exercised contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations...”</i></p>
In short	<p>You're born with rights, government exists to protect them.</p> <p>You and the product of your labor belong to you.</p>	<p>Government grants, restricts, or withdraws your rights according to its needs.</p> <p>You and the product of your labor belong to the community.</p>

POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

At its core

US CONSTITUTION AND BILL OF RIGHTS

AMENDMENT V

“nor shall private property be
taken for public use without just
compensation”

Man's rights are inherent to his
nature as a man. As such they are
unalienable.

UN DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

ARTICLE 17 SEC 2:

“Property shall not be arbitrarily
taken”

Mans rights are granted
by other men; as such, they can be
taken away by men.

Constitution vs. Communitarian

Source →	Constitution	Communitarian
Greatest Concern	Freedom from Tyranny	Regional equity & Social Equity
Strategic Vision	Protect Life-Liberty-Property	Environment, Economy, Equity
Role of Government	Protect unalienable rights given by God	Government acts as God
Legislative Focus	Protect Human Rights	Protect earth from humans
Growth Template	Highest & Best Use via Free Markets	Smart growth; New urbanization

Constitution vs. Communitarian

	Constitution	Communitarian
Scientific Threshold	Proof Required	Lack of certainty not a basis of inaction on environment
America's Middle Class	Single family homes; cars; prosperity	Unsustainable
Role of Suburbia	American Dream	Unsustainable
Value System	Equality of opportunity; individual rights	Globalism – Good of many outweighs good of few
Role of Free Market Capitalism	Source of wealth & opportunity	Source of Social Injustice; to be steered by government

WHAT CAN WE DO?

- Educate yourself in the principles of liberty
- Educate yourself on true free market capitalism
- Educate yourself on Regionalism & PPP's
- Learn about the Delphi Technique used in consensus and visioning meetings and how to counter it.
- Attend local city council and county commission meetings.
- Attend Regional Commission and TSPLOST / TIA meetings.
- Engage your neighbors. Spread the word.

COUNTER STRATEGY

- Stop the creation of non-elected regional government councils that are difficult to hold accountable.
- Stop local governments from taking state and federal grants that come with massive strings attached to enforce compliance.
- Remove outsider organizations and stakeholder groups that are pressuring your elected officials to do their bidding.

Protect your freedoms and future:

- VOTE **“NO!”** on July 31st – Regional Transportation Referendum
- Review your city/county master/comprehensive plans and budgets
- **Rededicate your community to preserving constitutional property rights.**
- **Deprogram** city, county and state leaders or replace them
- **Deprogram** planning and zoning members
- Say **“No”** to Regional Governance
- Say **“No”** to Public Private Partnerships
- **Speak-up** and **Speak-out** against legislators and agencies who propose schemes that will slowly choke-out political and economic liberty.

Acknowledgements & Resources

www.valdostateaparty.com – Diane and Nolen Cox
Steve Brown, Fayette County Commissioner

www.freedomadvocates.org – Michael Shaw

www.americanpolicy.org - Tom DeWeese

www.sovereignty.net – Henry Lamb and Mike Coffman

www.postsustainabilityinstitute.org - Rosa Koire



IN DEFENSE OF LIBERTY

*"EXTREMISM IN THE DEFENSE OF LIBERTY IS NO VICE;
MODERATION IN THE PURSUIT OF JUSTICE IS NO VIRTUE"*

AGENDA 21

EDUCATION SYSTEM

GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

HOME

LIBERTY

MONEY SYSTEM

STATE SOVEREIGNTY

THRIVE

Download & Contact Info

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info@InDefenseOfLiberty.tv

QUESTIONS ???