

Tyranny by Contract™

The federal government is using grants and contracts to create law that they may not constitutionally enact. By including required outcomes in contracts linked to grants, they have bound the States or local governments to enact laws with power that is denied the federal government.

All across America local governments and State governments are entering into grant agreements with the federal government. The promise of “free” money is too hard to resist for many elected officials. In return for that money, the agreements are defining outcomes that must be achieved. These outcomes include actions, laws, results, restrictions, or agreements that are not in the best interest of the taxpayers, voters, or property owners. These results are not in the enumerated powers of the federal government, and as the tenth amendment states “The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.” By including these clauses in their grant agreements, they are inciting action by the States that the federal government can not legally perform.

One recent example is the \$2 million grant agreement for the Tomorrow Plan in central Iowa. The Grant included the following language”

Furthermore, the Partnership has identified eight mandatory outcomes for the Project, which will:

- _ Create regional transportation, housing, water, and air quality plans that are deeply aligned and tied to local comprehensive land use and capital investment plans;
- _ Align federal planning and investment resources that mirror the local and regional strategies for achieving sustainable communities;
- _ Increase participation and decision-making in developing and implementing a long-range vision for the region by populations traditionally marginalized in public planning processes;
- _ Reduce social and economic disparities for the low-income, minority communities and other disadvantaged populations within the region;
- _ Decrease per capita vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and transportation-related emissions for the region;
- _ Decrease the overall combined housing and transportation costs per household;
- _ Increase the share of residential and commercial construction on underutilized infill development sites that encourages revitalization, while minimizing displacement in neighborhoods with significant disadvantaged populations; and,
- _ Increase the proportion of low- and very low-income households within a 30 minute transit commute to major employment centers;

These mandatory outcomes were defined in the grant agreement which also included the following language to continue the contractual ties:

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTICIPATING ENTITIES

Per the Cooperative Agreement signed with HUD, and within the framework of the 28E Agreement governing the MPO and its members, the following Consortium members are signatories to this Agreement:

This is no accident. Instead it is a well planned attempt to regulate in areas where the federal government does not have authority.

Here is language taken from the MPO web site page announcing the grant that supports this position:

“The Interagency Partnership on Sustainable Communities (Partnership) is a collaboration between the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Department of Transportation (DOT), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). These entities joined together to offer the *Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program*, which seeks to help implement the Partnership's six livability principles. In its first year, the grant program offered a total of \$100 million. The purpose of the grant program is to support metropolitan and multi-jurisdictional planning efforts that integrate housing, land use, economic and workforce development, transportation, and infrastructure investments.”

This federally planned and executed collaboration is injected into our communities through grant language, intended to implement a federally determined result. Creation and implementation of the **“The Interagency Partnership on Sustainable Communities”** is an extra-constitutional power grab by the federal government. This action is also in perfect alignment with the United Nations “voluntary” plan known as Agenda 21.

Other examples are easy to find. Grants from private foundations include language that defines the results they wish to accomplish. It is fair to say that the majority of outcomes defined in these grants would not be chosen by the residents, taxpayers, property owners or voters.

Explore the contracts and agreements that your local government is signing and ferret out the clauses that have been inserted to accomplish the grantor’s objectives. You may be surprised at what you find.

If you identify specific language that threatens our property rights, you may post a summary on our contact page.

Ernie Rudolph

©2013 Ernie Rudolph, All rights reserved