

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-2

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SUGAR CITY, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF IDAHO, EXPRESSING THE SUGAR CITY COUNCIL'S SUPPORT FOR URBAN RENEWAL AGENCIES, AND REQUESTING THAT ACTION BE TAKEN BY THE IDAHO STATE LEGISLATORS AND INTERIM COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO PROVIDE THEIR FULL SUPPORT BY CONSIDERING AND ADOPTING MORE FLEXIBLE AND EFFECTIVE TOOLS THAT ALLOW FOR SUCCESSFUL ADMINISTRATION AND EXECUTION OF URBAN RENEWAL AREAS IN THE STATE OF IDAHO.

WHEREAS, the City of Sugar City and its Council Members extend their gratitude for the service heretofore provided by the Idaho Legislators and Interim Committee Members for their support of urban renewal areas, and economic development in general; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sugar City and its Council Members respectfully request increased support by Idaho Legislators and Interim Committee Members as urban renewal legislation is presently being considered for significant amendment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sugar City and its Council Members wish to provide the following recommendations in order to provide more flexibility and effectiveness in preparation for future legislative sessions and code adoption:

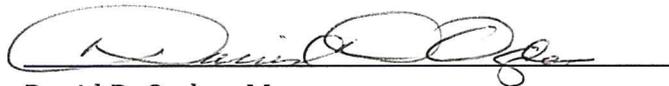
1. Urban renewal law should be more flexible, with more options and opportunity, not less;
2. Urban renewal law should be reformed to help Idaho be more competitive by expanding its purpose as a fully functional and streamlined economic development tool;
3. Urban renewal law should allow greater local decision making and be more user friendly, with less bureaucracy and less impediments; and
4. Urban Renewal Board members should not be required to be elected, for various and significant reasons. First, requiring elections could change it from an independent public body, corporate and politic, into a political subdivision of the State of Idaho. This would make said governing body subject to Article VIII, Section 3, of the Idaho Constitution, which would require a 2/3 vote of the electors, of the political subdivision, to vote on any debt instruments that exceeds the income and revenue of the agency for that year. Such a change may not be legal under the current laws of the State of Idaho, nor be conducive to efficient operation of an economic development tool such as this. Therefore, Urban Renewal Agency Boards should be appointed by the local governing political body; and
5. Due to currently required public processes, Urban Renewal Plans and Agencies, should be officially acknowledged by the Idaho State Legislature, as plans and bodies that do have representation and oversight by the locally elected officials; and

6. There should be a minimum number of years set by law restricting any consideration to make changes to the urban renewal laws at the legislative level. The annual visitation of the urban renewal laws hinders the ability to convince potential investors that Idaho is not a risk. Additionally a bill should be specifically written to protect existing urban renewal plans, or tax incremental financing, and debt payment assurance, from future legislative changes.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUGAR CITY, that the City of Sugar City and its Council Members hereby support and encourage Idaho Legislators and Interim Committee Members to fully support urban renewal in Idaho and carefully consider ways to make this tool more flexible and effective in supporting good economic development in future legislative sessions and potential code adoption.

RESOLVED this 14th day of January, 2016.

City of Sugar City, an Idaho municipal corporation



David D. Ogden, Mayor

Attest:


Wendy Walker, City Clerk-Treasurer

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