

# King County Property Owners' Bill of Rights

## 1. "Private land shall not be taken for private use."

Problem: The recent US Supreme Court decision *Kelo v. City of New London* has a profoundly damaging effect on property rights nationally. Most people don't know it should have little or no effect on Washington residents.

**SOLUTION: A MOTION FOR KING COUNTY AND THE US GOVERNMENT ABOUT PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS**

## 2. "Rural CAO burden will be shared."

Problem: Under the CAO, rural landowners are held to more stringent requirements to protect the environment than urban residents. We should all pay for a clean environment, not just people in rural areas.

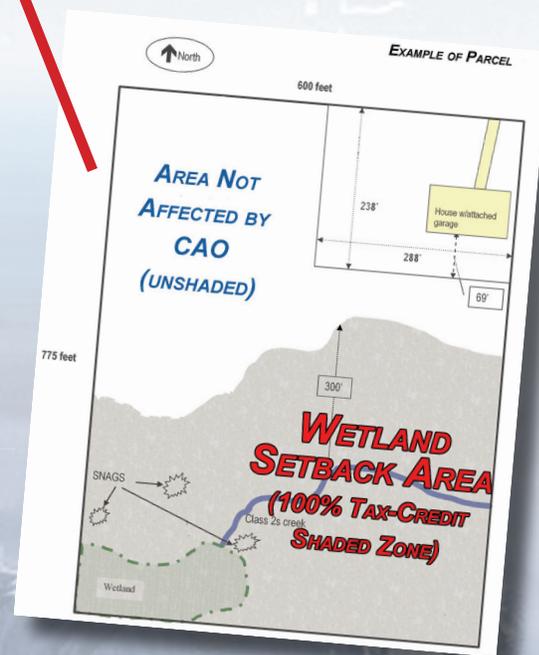
**SOLUTION: 100% TAX CREDIT ON PORTIONS OF RURAL LAND GREATLY AFFECTED BY CAO.**

## 3. "Citizens will determine land-use decisions."

Problem: DDES is a runaway agency. An internal DDES customer satisfaction survey shows over 50% of the people are unhappy with its performance. DDES is being run the wrong way.

**SOLUTION:  
CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE TO OVERSEE DDES**

\* REFORM DDES \* REDUCE LEGAL COSTS \* STREAMLINE PROCEDURES \* STOP MISINFORMATION \* BI-PARTISANSHIP  
ENSURED BY SUPERMAJORITY VOTE \*



## 4. "Fix problems out of court first."

Problem: Since 1997, King County has paid out over \$25 million in settlements involving eminent domain cases. The legal liability to our taxpayers is too high.

**SOLUTION: \* ESTABLISH MANDATORY REVIEW OF EMINENT DOMAIN PROCEDURES \* CREATE CHECKS AND BALANCES \* PUBLICLY REPORT FINDINGS \***

## 5. "Stop the misinformation."

Problem: DDES does not have a data control officer. Updates to 'best available science' and good peer-reviewed data must be publicly reviewed. Scientific information must be objective and accurate.

**SOLUTION: \* CREATE A CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER RESPONSIBLE FOR DATA \* ALLOW PUBLIC CHALLENGES TO 'BEST AVAILABLE SCIENCE' \* REPORT CHALLENGES TO THE COUNCIL \***