

POLITICAL ACTION CHECKLIST

There is no longer an excuse for private property owners to continue sitting on the sidelines when affirmative, political action is required, including:

1. Active Participation in “Neighborhood” Associations & Civic Groups
 - Attendance at meetings in mandatory
 - Civic association leaders must be held accountable for more than neighborhood maintenance and improvements
2. Voter Registration and Get Out The Vote (“GOTV”) Drives
 - Attend and/or monitor Planning Commission meetings
 - Attend and/or monitor city, town and county council meetings
 - Vote them out of office if unaccountable to the public
3. Early Retention of Professionals to root out Eminent Domain Abuse
 - MAI designated Appraisers
 - Accountants & Economic Feasibility Consultants
 - Lawyers & Lobbyists
4. Willingness to monitor state and local development plans before approval
 - Filing objections to development plans before planning commissions and/or city, town and county councils
 - Gathering “impact testimony” to build a true “administrative” or “legislative” record that challenges, opposes or contradicts municipal findings in favor of purely economic development takings
5. Legal Action against municipalities, developers, etc.
 - Grass roots organizing
 - Does the proposed taking disproportionately affect a particular class of people (e.g., ethnic minorities or the elderly)
 - Building a “war chest” to litigate, if necessary

Source: *“Private Property Rights Under Siege”* at pp. 8-9