

February 13, 2018

## **For Immediate Release**

### **La Plata Liberty Coalition Launches Campaign to Update District Land Use Plans. To Help The County Planning Board and Commissioners “Get It Right”**

La Plata County, Colorado - The La Plata Liberty Coalition (LLC) is a group of concerned citizens who oppose much of the new proposed La Plata County Land Use Code Module 1(LUC), released in late November of 2017. The proposed code did not get much attention until Commissioners Brad Blake and Julie Westendorff participated in an informational meeting January 9th at the Oxford Grange, sponsored by the AG community, where more than 400 people showed up. Due to the overwhelming response the Commissioners sought a larger venue. On January 16, 2018, a Commissioner’s Court public hearing took place at the La Plata County Fairgrounds. Over 1,000 people attended the hearing. Comments by 50 speakers were heard and the overwhelming majority were against the new LUC proposal.

A small group of non-partisan, concerned citizens, met before and after the January 16th meeting and decided to form the LLC. We are a coalition of citizens from La Plata County made up of large and small landowners, new and longtime residents, sportsmen, conservationists, ranchers, farmers, and business people. We joined together out of a deep concern for the excessive and unnecessary, restrictive regulations imbedded in the proposed LUC. We favor less government involvement in our personal freedoms and preservation of our property rights.

Our group is NOT officially affiliated with any other groups, or movements. We have NOT accepted any funding from, nor provided funding to any other organization or effort. We are a group of individuals that is completely voluntary, informal and with no defined organizational structure. Just a diverse group of concerned County residents.

We support the need for an updated code that is more efficient and less expensive, so long as the new code does not abuse our property rights. The LLC desires to work together with the County Planners and Commissioners in an effort to produce a revised code that meets the needs and has the approval of the citizens of La Plata County. To that end the LLC helped formed District Land Use Plan committees, to update some plans that have not been updated since the 90’s. The new plans will be presented to the Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners. Through this process we will help the County update the policy basis for new Code reflective of our community.