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A Resolution By The East Polk Committee Of 100 Opposing Amendment 4, An Amendment To The Florida Constitution That Would Require Voters To Decide All Changes To A City Or County's Comprehensive Land Use Plan

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has experienced tremendous growth; and

WHEREAS, the challenges presented by growth require that local governments embrace smart growth policies aimed at protecting our State's quality of life, engendering greater economic prosperity and equitably planning for the common good; and

WHEREAS, smart growth requires careful planning and direction combined with a clear effective means of engaging the peoples voice; and

WHEREAS, the East Polk Committee of 100 understands that Polk County's elected leaders must always empower citizens and never abandon government's primary responsibility for creating sound public policy; and

WHEREAS, the Amendment 4 initiative seeks to place a constitutional amendment before Florida's voters to amend Article II, Section 7 of the Florida Constitution, (Title: REFERENDA REQUIRED FOR ADOPTION AND AMENDMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT LAND USE PLANS); and

WHEREAS, if Amendment 4 passes, Polk County citizens would be expected to vote on each and every separate Comprehensive Plan amendment; and

WHEREAS, Amendment 4 will impede progress on smarter growth policies aimed at improving citizen input, enhancing public participation and engaging every community; and

WHEREAS, Amendment 4 will further disenfranchise millions of Florida's already fatigued electorate, paralyze local governments and potentially cripple local businesses; and

WHEREAS, Amendment 4 poses a grave threat to Florida's unique quality of life; and

WHEREAS, East Polk Committee of 100 has dedicated itself to advancing smarter growth and recommends defeat of the proposed Amendment 4 to the Florida Constitution; and

WHEREAS, East Polk Committee of 100 urges citizens to vote "no" on Amendment 4 when it appears on the 2010 ballot

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EAST POLK COMMITTEE OF 100

This 8th day of January 2010



Robert Dodd, Chairman



Jack Barnhart, Executive Director