

The Roadmap and Vision for the 51st State

We are riding the wave started by the courageous decisions of liberty-minded County Commissioners throughout the state. “We the People” have been awakened and inspired. Folks are attending meetings, talking to their neighbors, circulating petitions, contacting their elected officials and hope is rising.

The essence of the movement is “Restoring Liberty.” WE have given away our liberties by electing the wrong representatives and WE THE PEOPLE are responsible for restoring our liberties. The question is – how do we do we restore liberties that have been lost?

Liberty has been undermined by both the federal and state governments. Here is a diagram of the essence of the current model of government:



We have a very powerful federal government who overshadows the state governments who overshadow local governments who are **abusing** the liberties of We The People.

These are the foundational concepts we must adhere to:

- The primary goal of government is to protect the individual’s right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness
- We must avoid Federal entanglements, where possible - recognizing the all monies receive from the Federal government come with ties
- Local government is most accountable to its people and is most likely to be held accountable for taking away an individual’s liberties
- State governments must be limited in their powers and delegate authority to local governments, as much as possible
- State legislative model must use Phillips County proposal to avoid urban areas overshadowing rural areas in the future
- INTERNAL – status quo – no gaining of advantage through this process...

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Below is a diagram that better reflects the model of governance for the 51st State:



In this model, We The People have the most authority. Local governments have the most governmental authority, as granted by We The People. State governments have less authority than local governments, and the federal government is limited to the powers enumerated in the U.S. Constitution.

In order to accomplish this, we need to have a roadmap to get from where we are to the end result. Here are the short-term and long-term goals:

1. Education for those counties that are voting this fall
2. Education for those in counties that have not yet decided to participate
3. Policy committees
4. Declaration convention
5. 2014 legislative agenda
6. State legislative approval
7. State constitutional amendment
8. Constitutional convention for the 51st State
9. Congressional approval

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Education for those counties that are voting this fall

For those counties that have the 51st State question on November's ballot, it is critical that we help them understand the vision for the new state. We aren't asking them to vote for the 51st State. That vote will really be cast when we asks folks to approve a change to the Colorado state constitution to exclude the counties from the boundaries of Colorado. The ballot question simply asks the question "Shall the Board of County Commissioners of Phillips County, in concert with the county commissioners of other Colorado counties, pursue those counties becoming the 51st state of the United States of America?"

Education for those in counties that have not yet decided to participate

We believe if we continue to educate folks and commissioners in other counties throughout Colorado and adjacent states, more counties will choose to be a part of the process. People are hungry for liberty and we believe the vision we have for the 51st State will appeal to folks across the political spectrum. We will be asking these counties to pass a resolution with this type of language (being drafted) "The Commissioners hereby choose to participate in the discussion related to the formation of the 51st State of the United States of America."

Policy committees

Policy committees have been or are being formed to research and develop a vision for what our new state would look like as well as address areas of concern related to the divorce from the current State of Colorado. Proposed committees will discuss items such as taxation, property, water rights, education, and federal entanglement. These committees will exist through the constitutional convention and beyond during the transitional period as the state is being formed. Once the new state is formed, these committees would dissolve and the continuation of the research and implementation of the principles will transfer to the state government.

Declaration Convention

The Declaration convention is scheduled for early January 2014. This will be where the policy committees report their work and help delegates form the 'grievances' section of our modern day Declaration. Each county that has decided to 'opt in' to the discussions would be eligible to send two delegates to the convention. The delegates could be people on the policy committees or different folks. The delegation would include no more than one elected official.

The primary purpose of the Declaration Convention is to draft the modern day declaration, but other things may also be scheduled including feedback on the research related to the WY annexation idea. Another topic may be the 2014 legislative session.

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Next steps:

1. CCI - September
2. Formation of policy committees:
 - a. Property (land, water) – Chuck and Roni Sylvester (Weld)
 - b. Agriculture – Doug Rademacher (Weld)
 - c. Transportation – Trent Bushner (Yuma)?
 - d. Education – Mike Freeman (Weld), Clair Orr (Weld),
 - e. Energy – Barb Kirkmeyer (Weld), John Kinkaid (Moffat)
 - f. 2nd Amendment – John Cooke (Weld)?
 - g. Law Enforcement - ?
 - h. Finance -
 - i. Banking -
 - j. Healthcare – Scott Rankin (Weld)
 - k. Legislative strategy – Sean Conway (Weld)
 - l. Federal Entanglement - Scott Guenther (Larimer)
 - m. Declaration convention – Kyle Farner (Weld)
3. Regular conference calls – every other week ?