

04 June 2007

TO : Blaine City Council members
AND *PROSPECTIVE* council members
Blaine City Hall
FAX 332-8330

RE : YOU are the community's leader—(*not* hired help)

We have had several calls—including from city staff members—congratulating us on “our victory”. I am not certain that it is warranted, or it may in fact be premature, since we have not received a check for \$5 to \$10 million dollars—*YET!*

What the community has learned from our tribulation is that the most important matter that faces Blaine is the quality of its leadership. Each council member was elected to represent Blaine taxpayers. *YOU*, as a City Council, were entrusted with the leadership of the community. You cannot hire anybody to do the job of watching out for your neighbors, your family and your friends. It cannot be done by a planner from out of town, nor by a city manager that would leave within moments of a pay cut, nor by a director of development.

You need to be involved in directing every decision.

I commend you on your ability to deal with the airport issue. It wasn't easy, but it was predictable, given the history and cost issues.

The issue of growth is less important than the issue of providing opportunity : Each of you will be encouraged to take instrumental positions on behalf of our new businesses.

If not you, who will ?

Blaine could have a bright future, *if and when* we discern that the leadership is emanating from the right source : The city council on behalf of the citizens.

Sincerely,

*THANKS
for your support*
Joel Douglas

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