

Freedom Matters

We are a free people in a republic, under a constitution which limits the powers of government to those necessary to secure the unalienable rights of each person to their life, liberty and property. We dedicate this paper to saving and preserving our freedoms.

An Opinion Newspaper
Dane County, Wisconsin
Vol. 4, No. 6
Saturday, April 24, 2004

Smart Growth: Agenda 21 in Drag, Part 6: The UN Role -- Conspiracy or Politics?

by Bob Bowman

At a panel discussion of Wisconsin's comprehensive planning law, in 2003 in Madison, Wisconsin, one of the panelists who helped enact that law ridiculed its opponents by claiming that they make it out to be a United Nations conspiracy to alter the United States. As if the very idea were absurd, titters of laughter erupted, scattered across the audience of some 50 or more, which included numerous local elected officials.

Such is a favorite tactic of comprehensive planning advocates, whenever a United Nations role in this endeavor is mentioned. They brand that idea as a "conspiracy" theory, and of course, in leftist circles, no right-thinking person believes in conspiracy theories. Such theories are laughed off, as if crackpot ideas. Still, as in the incident above, the laughter sounds nervous.

It is tempting to characterize that tactic of ridicule as an act of intellectual chicanery, and for some practitioners, I think it is. As often as not, however, I suspect it is an act of self-delusion. You see, comprehensive planning is so intellectually unsound that those who praise it are either socialists or have too many lights out in their upper story (but I repeat myself).

To illustrate, if I were to claim that the Democrats were plotting to increase the minimum wage set by law, would leftists accuse me of promoting a "conspiracy" theory? Not likely. Instead, they would accuse me "of playing politics." In a word, most people have no trouble distinguishing political parties and political maneuvers, and do not mislabel them as "conspiracies."

Well, the U.N. role in comprehensive planning has all the features of politics. It is international politics, but we are familiar with politics at that level. The U.N. and its commission and conferences are full of it.

Readers of *Freedom Matters* were entertained in parts 1 - 5 of this series by our citing of published documents that detail a U.N. role in comprehensive planning via "sustainable development." The culminating document -- Agenda 21 -- resulted from a 1992 U.N. world summit conference. We then amused you with the role of President Clinton's Council on Sustainable Development and its 1995 report: *Sustainable America, a New Consensus*. Lastly, we let you enjoy the full text of a 1998 Wisconsin-Bavaria Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which specifically stipulated that the two states would implement Agenda 21.

So you know there really is a U.N. role in these developments. Comprehensive planning (i.e., smart growth, by its 5th avenue name), was not conceived, born or invented in Wisconsin, nor even the U.S. but by a U.N. commission. So call its U.N. origin for what it is, a political movement, for that U.N. role exists in as real a manifestation as the Democrat Party exists, or as partisan politics in Dane County exists.

International politics, and U.N. politics, does not always intend the U.S.A. any good. Often, it intends us harm. Our nation is the object of both fear and envy from abroad, for we are the last superpower left. We may not be a superpower for long. As we stifle our own enterprise with onerous regulations, stultifying "planning" and welfare statism, we are faltering and falling from the only truly progressive course, the embrace of capitalism and free market dynamics.

So when someone tries to ridicule the idea of a U.N. role in comprehensive planning (smart growth) as a conspiracy theory, tell them no, it is politics, international politics, and that they ignore politics at their peril. Cite the U.N. invention of the concept of "sustainable development," its enshrinement in Agenda 21, its implementation at our federal level by presidential orders, its furtherance at our state level in Wisconsin via the MOU with Bavaria, and our implementation of that MOU via the blueprint for socialism that is our comprehensive planning law.

Property rights web sites: < <http://www.fairnessinlaw.org/> >
< <http://www.takebackwisconsin.com/> >
< <http://www.propertyrightsresearch.org/> >

Help *Freedom Matters* with gifts, ideas, or articles to publish. Make check payable to: Freedom Matters, Inc.

Readers' Bulletin Board. e-mail us your comments. Include your name, for publication by *Freedom Matters*

Published by Freedom Matters, Inc.
Cross Plains, WI. 53528
Bob Bowman, President; Michael Byrne, Editor

To subscribe or unsubscribe, e-mail rebshar@chorus.net, or call (608) 831-6653. Our subscriber list will not be sold or revealed.

Back Issues of *Freedom Matters* are available, as e-mail.