

For Immediate Release

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**COMMUNITY GROUP FILES LEGAL ACTION AGAINST
EL DORADO COUNTY APPROVAL OF
THE GENERAL PLAN AND ZONING ORDINANCE UPDATE**

January 14, 2016 - Placerville, CA

On Wednesday January 13, Rural Communities United continued its efforts to protect rural character by filing a case challenging the County's massive rezoning and gutting of the voter approved 2004 general plan. Rural Communities United is an organization of local residents who seek to protect the County's rural character for current and future residents.

The case was filed to protect rural groundwater supplies, fire safety, and traffic circulation. The case alleges that the mass rezoning of thousands of parcels fails to respect the 2004 general plan protections for the County's rural resources. According to the case filed in El Dorado County Superior Court, "These planning blunders have transformed El Dorado County's general plan and zoning ordinance into the antithesis of orderly planning."

The case was also filed to protect the rights of local citizens to fair hearings. The case scolds county planning commissioners and supervisors for not giving fair hearings to those who expressed concerns regarding the effects of the rezones on their homes and neighborhoods. According to the case, the County's deliberate indifference to the rights of its residents has, "caused good people to question their faith in the integrity of their government."

The case will likely be heard by a judge later in the year in El Dorado County Superior Court. Ellen Van Dyke of Rural Communities United said, "We hope to inspire people throughout El Dorado County to protect the things that make this a great place to live."