

WCCA's Legislative Role

2016 Spring Conference

Genesis of this topic

- Responding to increasing frustration over legislative actions and WCCA's reactions
- WCCA – WCA relationship...refresher for some and news to others
- Overview WCA's legislative role & the legislative process
- Get input from you on what role WCCA should play...status quo...lesser...greater...ideas

WCCA's Primary Purpose

- Provide representative organization of land use and code administrators
- Provide ongoing education, mutual support and professional development
- Keep general public accurately informed

Our purpose must remain a focal point in how we define our legislative role

Trends

- Increased number of land use related bills being introduced
- Shorter periods for public input
- Combination makes it hard to be proactive, so must be reactive
- Increased difficulty to effectively communicate and gather membership input

Trends – volume & process

- Increasingly difficult to predict potential impacts of proposed legislation
- Increasingly difficult to incorporate necessary changes in local ordinances or codes...and at state agency level
- Adds frustration internally and at the “front counter” ...

Is this you?



WCCA's Legislative Role

- Monitor – 2nd VP
- Disseminate to membership – via DR's, Googlegroups, etc.
- Provide input – written and verbal testimony
- Technical resource for WCA in its lobbying efforts
- *WCCA is not a registered lobbying organization nor does it employ a licensed lobbyist*

WCCA & WCA Relationship

- We benefit from each other....
- WCA has historically relied on WCCA for technical input and analysis
- WCCA has historically relied on WCA for lobbying in addition to providing testimony but... WCA has many interests to represent so ours may not always be the priority... but...
- Relationship has strengthened over past several years and both want this to continue

When it comes to legislation...

- The key to political influence is building and maintaining relationships
- Relationships keep you “at the table” on issues of importance to the organization...this takes strategy
- Our influence is the ability to make laws work as the “front line” contact with the public

Although this is not a position of strength, it does not mean our influence is weak.

Discussion for later in session...

- Is WCCA's role adequate and on par with the organization's purpose?...or
- Should it change and how?
- What can we learn from the past few legislative sessions to prepare for the next?

We'll look for your input after Dan's overview of WCA and the legislative process.