

My Turn

Selling Taos

Seth Brown

The Taos News, 12/4/2014

Like Pavel Lukes says [”In support of the airport expansion,” Nov. 20] an expanded airport is a major factor for those who are selling Taos. Manby had a similar vision; then the people rose to oppose him, so he had to fake his death and move to Mexico. Those who support airport expansion are the real minority who are positioned to profit from building a city here.

The recent airport forum was attended by councilors Fritz Hahn and Judy Cantu who both voted to oppose airport expansion. Ninety percent of those who packed the council chambers of the forum were opposed. The other two councilors and mayor didn't bother to attend. Can you guess why?

Our little group of people who work for a living (I live in a house without running water and use an outhouse) seek to expose the deception surrounding the airport. We have spoken to quite a few people at Taos Pueblo. We have found no one there who supports the airport plan. Our petition effort also revealed a strong majority of the other two parts of our culture who oppose the airport.

What could be the reason for such strong opposition for so long?

Go to Google earth and look at Phoenix, Arizona, an area similar to Taos because two rivers emerge from the mountains there.

Many thousands of acres of orchards existed there 100 years ago fed by the the natural flow of water. Developers, real estate agents and their politician friends had a different vision for those orchards so now they are gone. The city could have been built on the vast desert surrounding the irrigated land but the controllers are not sane. Those who developed Phoenix plant orange trees in openings in the pavement to show off the lost natural attributes of that place. The orange trees are an ultra-bitter variety to prevent the temptation of picking them to eat. Hypocrisy rules planet earth.

Do young people want the real estate boom to explode again in Taos so they can have jobs converting the farmland in Taos into a big city? I talk to them and most dream of being able to grow food here but the farmland is way too expensive. They know very well that expanding the airport is to open a pipeline to the wealthy who will and are buying up their dreams of building a community based on growing food in this beautiful watered valley.

Imagine how our sacred mountain feels about how some are planning to exploit the the three cultures and its gift of water and valley soil.

Pavel Lukes is not in touch with young people or people with deep roots in Taos who are trying to cope with taxes.

He caters to those who can buy us out and enslave us to an agenda that seeks to bury this beautiful land beneath a city for big profits.

Big change is coming very soon to our financial system.

I had a premonition in the 1960s that it would save Taos.

Seth Brown's family moved to Taos in 1945.