

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** June 23, 2015  
**TO:** Sedgwick County Board of County Commissioners  
**FROM:** Matt Goolsby, Chair, Metropolitan Area Planning Commission  
**RE:** County BZA Action

On behalf of the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission (MAPC), I am writing you in hopes of clarifying MAPC's action in not approving the recommendation to amend the Uniform Zoning Code (UZC) to coincide with the Commission's decision to split the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA).

To begin, the majority of the MAPC Commissioners voiced distress and concern for the decision made by the majority of the County Commissioners. I stress the use of 'majority' as neither the MAPC nor County Commission passed their respective actions unanimously.

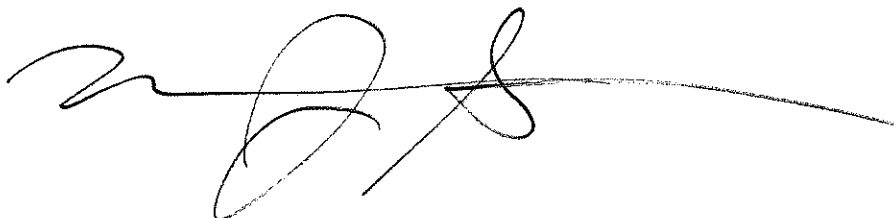
In an attempt to better understand the reasoning behind the decision to split the BZA, I reviewed the minutes of the Commission meeting. Upon review, I find many of the statements made by the Commission to be contradictory. It seemed that many of the Commissioners expressed the opinion that it is not appropriate for citizens who reside within the City of Wichita to set County policy. Confusion on this position stems from my understanding that three of the five County Commissioners reside within the corporate limits of Wichita.

As a way to help explain MAPC's reasoning for its action, I've listed four main points of discussion:

1. A joint BZA is an essential component to county-wide collaboration.
2. Residents of the City of Wichita (and all incorporated cities within the County) are also residents (and taxpayers) of Sedgwick County.
3. It is the consensus of MAPC that dissolving the joint Board is not only unwise, but diminishes efficiencies of the process.
4. On average, over the last ten years there have been less than 2.2 County-specific cases per year. This dearth of County-specific cases further supports the efficiency of a joint BZA that is able to coincide BZA meetings with MAPC meetings.

After reviewing the available information regarding this matter, I am led to the conclusion that the result of this decision not only diminishes collaboration and cooperation, but tends toward the more chaotic.

Thank you for your time and attention to this explanation. Please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the other MAPC Commissioners for further discussion and conflict-resolution.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Matt Goolsby', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.