IF YOU BELIEVE

 **THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR WASHINGTON D.C.**

 **TO FIX OUR PROBLEMS IN AMERICA**

 AND THAT THE

 BEST WAY TO FIX AMERICA IS IN OUR OWN COMMUNITIES,

 Then please read and share this plan for rebuilding America in this short email.

 If we fail to plan, we plan to fail.

 We cannot walk away from this life and leave the problems that we now have,

 up to our children to solve.

 We must take care of this ourselves.

 Americans are problem solvers.

 This is a problem that, by working together, “we the people” can solve.

 All that we need is the tool.

 This is the communication tool that we can build in each community.

 This is how we build a **“Technological Townhall Meeting”** system in each community.

MY NAME IS DAVID FRANK. This email is not about me. It is about giving all of us an equal voice at deciding what kind of country that we all want to live in. Over the last 62 years on this planet, if have seen my community go down the toilet. Possibly you have seen your community do the same?

 I have talked to many people and almost everyone feels the same way that I do.

 We can no longer afford to subsidize a government that no longer works for

 “we the people.”

 We need to continue to subsidize things that “we the people” care about,

 but can no longer afford to finance things in our lives that we do not believe in.

WE CAN NO LONGER AFFORD TO SUBSIDIZE A DYSFUNCTIONAL GOVERNMENT IN WASHINGTON D.C. AND STATE CAPITALS. WE MUST KEEP OUR MONEY IN OUR OWN COMMUNITIES TO FINANCE THE THINGS THAT “WE THE PEOPLE” BELIEVE ARE IMPORTANT FOR OUR WELL BEING.

COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY WILL ALLOW OUR COMMUNITIES TO BE REBUILT AND FIXED BY IDEAS COMING FROM “WE THE PEOPLE.’

THE POSTAL SERVICE AND THE PHONE COMPANIES HAVE ALREADY FIGURED IT OUT. THEY HAVE REMAPED AMERICA WITH AREA AND ZIPP CODES.

 ‘**WE THE PEOPLE’ CAN NOW DO THE SAME.**

SATELLITE AND COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY WILL NOW ALLOW US TO RE-MAP AMERICA SO THAT IT LOOKS LIKE A HONEYCOMB. EACH COMMUNITY CAN NOW LOOK LIKE A HEXAGON. EACH HEXAGON WILL HAVE A NUCLEUS MADE UP OF A BROADCASTING STATION TO SEND YOUR IDEAS OUT TO THE COMMUNITY FOR MAKING YOUR COMMUNITY BETTER. THEN CITIZENS CAN VOTE ON THESE IDEAS WITH ANY TOUCHTONE PHONE. THEIR CALLS WILL GO INTO A COMMUNITY COMPUTER CONTAINING THEIR “CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS.” THE VOTER WILL BE VERIFIED BY THE COMPUTER. HE/SHE WILL ABLE TO VOTE ON AN ISSUE BY PRESSING ‘1' FOR ‘YES’ OR ‘2' FOR “NO.” HIS VOTE WILL BE COUNTED AND HE WILL BE PREVENTED FROM VOTING MORE THAN ONCE. IT IS NOW POSSIBLE THROUGH PRESENT DAY COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY TO HAVE ISSUES RAISED, DEBATED AND VOTED ON, OF, BY AND FOR THE PEOPLE. IT IS NOW POSSIBLE TO BRING OUR PRESENT DECISION MAKING SYSTEM INTO THE 21ST CENTURY.

THIS NEW COMMUNICATION TOOL NEEDS A SYSTEM THAT ALLOWS ISSUES TO PRESENTED TO THE COMMUNITY IN A FUNCTIONAL WAY. THE SYSTEM IS OUTLINED BELOW. THIS SYSTEM IS THE MODEL “T” THAT WILL GIVE THE CITIZENS IN EACH COMMUNITY A ‘VOICE.” THE “T’ STANDS FOR ‘TECHNOLOGY.” THIS IS THE TOOL NEEDED TO GIVE THE PEOPLE A VOICE, AND THEIR VOICE WILL GIVE THE PEOPLE A “CHOICE.’

IF YOU LIKE THIS CONCEPT AND THE PLAN OUTLINED BELOW, PLEASE HELP US MOVE THIS IDEA ACROSS THE COUNTRY. **PLEASE FORWARD THIS EMAIL TO EVERYONE ON YOUR EMAIL LIST AND ASK THEM TO DO THE SAME.**

 *THE POLITICIANS CANNOT FIX AMERICA BUT*

 *“WE THE PEOPLE’ CAN.*

RAISING THE PEOPLE’S VOICE

When taxes are forced upon the public without elected officials asking the public for their input, isn’t that TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION? The problem is that there has never been a way to ask everyone how they feel about taxes and other issues—until now. The area group, for "One Voice Now", has figured out a user-friendly way to make "asking the public" a tangible reality.

Here is the basic idea:

1) YOU THE PEOPLE raise the issues to make your community better.

2) YOU THE PEOPLE watch debates on those issues on TV.

3) YOU THE PEOPLE vote on those issues with any touch tone phone

(the calls will be received by a computer to safeguard against one person voting twice).

Fixing America starts locally. The fix isn’t in Washington, Indianapolis, Lansing, or any other state capitol. The people in each locality, communicating and working together, provide the only way to build a bright future for our children and theirs.

Here’s a more detailed description of how the issues will be raised, debated, and voted on. The process is as follows:

1) After the computer system is in place and people start receiving their voter I.D. number, the computer will pick ten people every week at random. The reason for this is we need a filtering system for our issues. We do not want to watch or debate issues that do not have merit. The ten people picked will be replaced every week for the same reason that the judicial system replaces a jury after every issue—to lower the chance of influence and bribery affecting the system. This will give people an opportunity they would never have had under the former arrangement.

2) When the people of the community have ideas that they believe will make things better, they can present them to the ten members chosen through this random filtering system. If the majority of the ten believe that the idea in question should be considered by the community at large, the presenter goes to the next step.

3) The next step is videotaping the presenter and his/her issue, after which the issue is presented over an area TV station for a period of ten days. There will be two phone numbers shown on the video presentation. One number people can call and be part of a "lobbying group" for the issue and the other number they can call to lobby against the issue. When they call either one of those numbers, information will be given as to where and when these two lobbying groups will come together and prepare.

4) Thirty days later, there will be a debate by these two lobbying groups. The debate will be videotaped and replayed over the television station for ten more days. A new phone number will be provided on the video broadcast – a local number registered voters can call. Their calls will go into the computer.

5) When calling to vote, the computer will ask them to press 1 for English and 2 for Spanish. The next prompt will ask the voter to press 1 if they are registered and 2 if they are not registered. Those pressing 2 will be informed on how to get registered. The next prompt will ask for their personal ID number and another fact to verify the voter’s identity. Then the caller will be asked to enter the number of the issue they wish to vote on. Finally, the caller will press 1 for "yes" and 2 for "no." Their vote will be counted and they will be prevented from voting more than once.

6) Every time the debate is replayed, there will be an updated tally of the "yes" and "no" votes. At the end of the ten days, not only will the people in the community understand the issue in its entirety, but the outcome will come from the people.

7) The resulting information will be given to our elected officials so they can make much more educated and informed decisions. Those officials who do not vote with the people will be held accountable, since the people will be updated on who voted for or against a given issue. At regular election time, the people can then make a much more informed decision as to which candidates best serve the well–informed populace.\*

The new system will empower our local officials to better serve the people, and empower the citizenry to have more input in, and better knowledge of, local government and which way their elected officials vote on key issues. It will empower our local officials to pass laws we want passed (and even take laws off the books that no longer are needed). We could finally get busy fixing our communities and stop waiting for politicians to try and do it with little in the way of broad, meaningful public input.

This is the communication tool we have been waiting for to bring our community into the 21st century. We can use our voice and our knowledge to reinvent our failing educational system, our crumbling roads and our troubled penal, tax, judicial, and economic systems, etc.

\*(This article is an excerpt of a guest "perspective" article that appeared in The Herald Republic quarterly, Summer 2005 edition.)

Our website is “onevoicenow.org’

From: David A. Frank

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Author of: “300 Million Minds Changing America Piece by Peace”