

John Money compares the collaborative, inclusive process of for the IT 1994 policy statement to the exclusive, unilateral process of today

“The communities spoke, they were heard, and the IT eventually developed a successful policy statement that has served our gulf island communities very well all of these years. **But today?**”

To the Executive of the Islands Trust, all Trustees, and the Islands 2050 Staff,

In the successful 1994 policy statement run up there were TWO years of town hall meetings in all the communities to build consensus.

There was no fear of "loud voices" (and believe me there were many).

At the beginning, people were very, very upset, but after a few years of town hall meetings, the policy statement was altered and tweaked to reflect the needs of each community many times. Island Trust Planners, local Trustees and Advisory Planning Commissions (APC) spoke to the communities about how it would affect their community plans and altered the policy statement many times at requests from these meetings until finally a consensus was worked out that everybody could live with.

The communities spoke, they were heard, and the IT eventually developed a successful policy statement that has served our gulf island communities very well all of these years.

Sincerely, from a Trustee for 21 Years & Islands Trust Executive for 6 Years,
John Money