

## OURTREACH TO ORGANIZERS

**Subject: ORGANIZING THE DEVELOPMENT OF TELEVISED TOWN MEETINGS [YOUR CITY].** (*Minneapolis is used as example only*).

**Date:** February ..., 2026

**To:** skilled organizers, community leaders, funders, and...

**Dear :**

I am reaching out to encourage you to collaborate in dramatically up-leveling the conversation among citizens in the [YOUR CITY] metropolitan area with the development of televised town meetings that include rapid polling feedback from citizens using their mobile phones. This is a **non-partisan, independent, and non-profit initiative** to dramatically strengthen the conversation of democracy. We are all in these times of great change together, and our goal is to foster a more robust, vigorous, and inclusive democratic process [n YOUR CITY] in response to urgent challenges. Today, an estimated 94% of the people in the [YOUR CITY] metropolitan area own smartphones, their feedback can be virtually instant and inclusive with televised “town meetings.” No one gets left behind!

**As Background:** these resources for televised town meetings have been developed by Duane Elgin over the past 45 years. In the 1980s, he co-founded the nonpartisan

nonprofit "Bay Voice" in the San Francisco Bay Area. In 1987, he collaborated with ABC-TV to produce a live televised town meeting. It was presented in prime time, watched by over 300,000 viewers, and included six, live telephone-based votes from a scientific sample of citizens during the hour-long gathering. In 1980s, it was very challenging to use telephones to create Televised Town Meetings. Times have changed with instant feedback using mobile phones and the internet!

The attached materials provide a clear pathway to give citizens an urgently needed, collective voice **within a few months!** It is important to note:

- **Non-Partisan:** This process is designed to be entirely non-partisan, offering a vehicle for all points of view.
- **Advisory Only:** This is **not** a form of direct democracy. The polling is advisory, designed to show the "pulse" of public sentiment to leadership.

**The Proposal and Gift** I am eighty-three years old and *cannot organize and run this project*. Instead, I am looking for a three to five individuals to establish an *independent, non-partisan, non-profit organization* to take these materials and run with them.

To support this, I offer:

1. **Full Methodologies:** Everything required to launch the initiative is enclosed.

2. **Domain Names:** I have reserved domain names for major cities and states across the country. I am prepared to gift the local domain name to serious initiatives.
3. **Limited Involvement:** I am available for limited support via Zoom calls to help guide the implementation team during the startup phase.

**Next Steps** *The challenge is no longer technology; rather, it is the organizing required to employ it at a metropolitan scale. I have enclosed the materials a small team would need to begin to launch the electronic town meeting process. I invite you to *take the critical next step of designating a team provide independent, nonpartisan leadership.**

I wish you well in bringing these widely understood tools into the service of a more robust democracy that serves [Your City] in these challenging times.

Sincerely,

**Duane Elgin** Author & Futurist , Citizen Voice activist

Duane Elgin

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