

Glendale Continues Underhanded Tactics

June 18, 2015

This week, the City of Glendale sneakily called for and held a special City Council meeting to consider some ‘emergency’ measures. The focus of the meeting was to vote on calling for a special election this August to create a Downtown Development Authority (DDA) in the area where the City has proposed the [‘Glendale 180’ Project](#).

The most appalling aspect of Glendale’s DDA proposal is the boundary. It purposefully excludes the property owned by the Kholghy family and where their successful business, [Authentic Persian and Oriental Rugs](#), has been located for over 25 years.

If the Kholghy’s nearly six-acre property were included in the proposed DDA boundary, then the Kholghy’s and their tenants would have been ‘qualified electors’ and able to vote on creating a DDA and on issues impacting the DDA. Only ‘qualified electors’ can sit on DDA’s board also.

This underhanded move by the City of Glendale further disenfranchises the Kholghy family in their fight to develop, or determine the future of, their property as they see fit.

The kicker is that even though the Kholghy’s are excluded from the DDA, they are still subject to the Glendale Urban Renewal Authority (GURA). GURA has statutory authority to condemn property due to blight, which is an extremely low bar, citing minor issues such as potholes or peeling paint, and utilize eminent domain to take the property.

Essentially, the City of Glendale is stacking the deck so that everyone within their DDA boundary will vote the way Glendale wishes – to initiate the DDA without scrutiny. At the same time the GURA has initiated the process to utilize eminent domain on the Kholghy’s property and take it for the City. Once the City owns the property, they can decide to ‘join’ the DDA and become a part of it to take advantage of special funding.

It is hard to believe that a City can ‘play favorites’ – condemning their private property and turning it over to another private interest – but that is exactly what Glendale is attempting to do right in front of our eyes.

For more information, to express your support or join our fight – please visit <http://glendalelandgrab.com>.