

-----Original Message-----

From: Vernon, Monica <mvernon@vernonresearch.com>

To: sibzianna <sibzianna@aol.com>

Sent: Wed, Feb 2, 2011 3:15 pm

Subject: re: LOST

AJ -- **When we set up the committee it was set up to express concerns and caution the council but with no authority. That was by design.** I've asked city staff to find the resolution so that you can read the language. Hope you are staying safe and warm. Best regards -- Monica  
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Cedar Rapids City Council

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**From:** "Ajai Dittmar~<http://cedarrapidsactivist.wordpress.com/>"; <[sibzianna@aol.com](mailto:sibzianna@aol.com)>

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Date:** Tue, 25 Jan 2011 18:39:47 -0500

**Subject:** LOST

As a member of the local option sales tax oversight committee I would like to express my concern- people have been led to believe members of this committee have some kind of 'oversight' when it comes to the local option sales tax but we don't- we only have opinions. The committee has no authority whatsoever I think that needs to be made more clear to the public. I also feel like the city council has their own agenda because they seem to make decisions without consulting the "oversight" committee first.

There have been significant delays in property buyouts that the LOST funds were supposed to assist with and not all the buyouts are done. It is hard to figure out how all of the existing LOST money has been spent. I would like to see an audit done on this money thus far. I would prefer it if we kept it local and had someone like Carol Martin look over the numbers to make certain this money is being used according to the ballot language before moving forward to extend this tax another twenty years.

While I want flood protection I know that the city's "Preferred Flood Protection Plan" is nothing more than a facade. I do not think spending \$80k on a 'special' vote to proceed with the city's 70 year old OUTDATED plan is the 'right' thing to do. What's the rush? Why not wait? We have elections coming up in November let the people see what you're doing with our money before you go asking for more!!

Beverly M. Dittmar