

## Law and Order: Zoning Victims Unit

APA- IL State Conference Normal, Illinois October 8, 2015

## Take-Home Points and Action Items

- 1. <u>Digital Signs</u>. The recent Supreme Court decision in Reed v. Town of Gilbert, Arizona, does not change a municipality's ability to regulate digital signage (including its location, brightness, and movement) differently than traditional static signage.
- 2. <u>Wind Energy</u>. Sound zoning regulation strategies establish different height, setback, operational, and procedural standards for small scale, personal wind turbines and large, high-kilowatt producing utility grade turbines.
- 3. **Fracking**. Before the next fracking boom, evaluate where fracking might take place in your community, and consider appropriate conditions that should be imposed on the local approval, in order to promote this economic activity while protecting the community from its environmental and public health effects.
- 4. <u>Adult Uses</u>. Review your community's adult use regulations to ensure they were adopted with support of a thorough legislative record, targeting the secondary effects of sexually-oriented business and not the expression protected by the First Amendment.
- 5. <u>Climate Change</u>. The power to effect substantive change in community development patterns rests in zoning, and zoning that promotes mixed use density and access to transportation networks bolsters other initiatives aimed at reducing dependency on carbon energy sources.
- 6. <u>Economic Development</u>. Your zoning code is an important, but often overlooked, component of economic development and a well written, streamlined code that is both easily implemented, user friendly, providing clear, unambiguous regulations and processes enhances your community's investment potential.

## Other Thoughts:

If you have any questions about today's investigation, please don't hesitate to contact us, David Silverman (dsilverman@ancelglink.com), Dan Bolin (dbolin@ancelglink.com) or Greg Jones (gjones@ancelglink.com).

Ancel Glink is a full service government law firm that has consulted with and represented Illinois local government and private property owners at all levels for almost 80 years. Ancel Glink attorneys have the experience and expertise in a variety of practice areas relating to local governments, serving as both general counsel as well as special counsel for numerous municipalities across the state. Ancel Glink is ready to meet virtually any legal services a local government or developer may need.