



**Community Battle Over Healthy Local Economy**

**COUNCILMEMBER DISTRICT NO. 3**  
**(four year term)**  
**Vote for One**

Jerry Heimlicher

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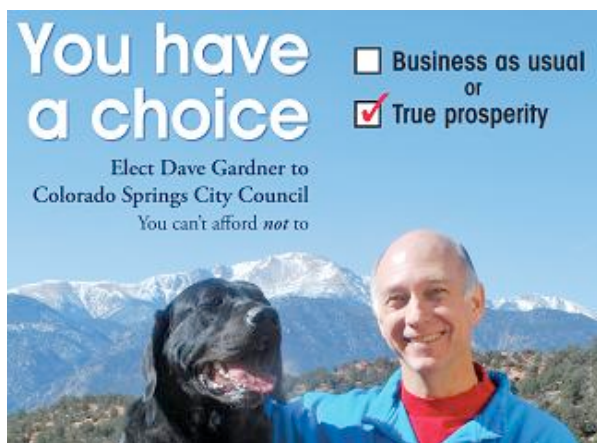
**Is your community ready to drop the last century's "grow or die" model of prosperity and embrace the 21st century sustainability model?**

I often ask, "How can we expect to achieve global sustainability if our planet is full of communities acting unsustainably?" In my own city of Colorado Springs, Colorado, I've been trying to inject prudent, rational, long-term thinking into what was rarely even a debate about my community's addiction to growth.

I haven't updated you in 3 months because I've been very busy acting locally. [I'm running for city council](#) to get my community into a recovery program for growth addiction.

My city, like most - and even the United States, is facing a funding crisis. Instead of rampant consumption, citizens are now being very thrifty, and of course housing starts are way down, causing sales tax revenue to plummet. Instead of enjoying the quick hit of sales tax revenue from new construction, the city is now stuck serving subdivisions that have never provided the tax revenue necessary to serve them.

The local Ponzi scheme has collapsed. I feared our elected officials would want to solve the problem by repeating the mistakes that got us into this mess. Sure enough, they are trying to re-inflate the housing bubble. They have a tax increase on the ballot - not to provide essential services, but to gamble on antiquated "economic development" schemes to steal employers from other communities and rev up growth. They believe growth will solve all the problems it actually created.



So my time has been consumed helping my community understand: depending on physical expansion and population growth as a prosperity engine is an outdated strategy that no longer works. If you're at all curious, feel free to [check out the campaign](#). I'm including a few noteworthy links in this update.

We'll see if the voters in my city are ready to embrace a more enlightened, sustainable approach to community prosperity. And in the process, we're collecting some fascinating footage for the documentary. This battle in Colorado will appear in our documentary, [Hooked on Growth](#), as part of the saga of an everyday citizen's efforts to take on city hall in his quest for true sustainability.

- Dave



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If 3,000 supporters like you sign up for a recurring monthly donation of just \$10, by the time our film is released in one year that will cover 100% of the out-of-pocket costs of producing [Hooked on Growth!](#)



**Thanks for your help,**

Dave Gardner & All the Growthbusters at Citizen-Powered Media

Citizen-Powered Media is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation producing the documentary Hooked on Growth: Our Misguided Quest for Prosperity. Donations are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law. [For more information about the organization and the Growthbusters documentary project, visit www.growthbusters.com](#)