

To the Chairman and Members of the local Government Committee,

With the landfill issue at hand, I am wondering what happened to democracy in America. When did a single city council, 7 people, inherit the rights of all citizens of 2 communities and an entire county approximately over 20,000 other citizens? A small group making decisions that will affect an entire county for the next 60 years, somehow seems wrong and un-American. I believe these are very strategic annexation decisions that affect the entire population of the county in one way or another. It may be the neighbors that are directly affected by the day to day activities, continuous traffic, wear and tear on the roads, county and state maintenance costs, unneeded risk of hazardous health issues, to property values. If Cherokee county was in need of a landfill because of needing waste disposal, then it would be a consideration, but that is not at all the issue. So for the Galena city council to try to acquire land from a different community strictly for profit for their own budget, is unjust, unfair and unnecessary. Many city municipalities need more funding for their budget and they don't annex land from another community to obtain those funds. I believe it is the duty of the local city government to be diligent in exploring all of their other options, instead of annexing land from a different community to fund their own town at the expense of so many. I believe in this case land annexation is the wrong choice for all of the reasons that have been stated.

Thank you for your time and consideration concerning this issue.

Sincerely,

Melissa Sanders

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