

## Fact Check: Is the Annie Fleeting video accurate? No.

Opponents of Amendment 4's latest online video against Florida Hometown Democracy is a dramatic piece of work, courtesy of skilled political spinners and lots of money, and it is designed to scare people away from getting their right to vote. Let's check the facts:

The video features Annie Fleeting, who claims that regulation has dashed her dreams of building a luxury resort on St. Pete Beach. There are lots of scary-looking images of abandoned lots and graffiti.

The truth is that when Fleeting and her developer-husband, Robert, announced they were going to construct high rises on the beachfront several years ago, local residents demanded input.



A familiar Florida battle began: residents tried to hold onto their quality of life while speculators spread money and political influence around, trying to make more money off the public's million-dollar views. Developers created a so-called "citizen's group" called "[Save Our Little Village](#)." "Save Our Little Village" was shepherded by [Cornerstone Solutions](#), a political consultant group run by [lobbyists for the National Association of Homebuilders](#) and the [Florida Association of Homebuilders](#).

Campaign contribution reports show that "Save Our Little Village" was financed by developers and resort companies. To get people in St. Pete Beach to swallow more high rises, "Save Our Little Village" proposed ballot initiatives to change the town's plan to allow more development. Then the developer-backed "Save Our Little Village" sued the city.

"It's ludicrous for developers to make a video that blames the failure of this high-rise project on our Constitutional Amendment, which hasn't even passed," said Florida Hometown Democracy founder Lesley Blackner. "The developers are really rattled that people might actually get the chance to vote and interfere with their sweet deals. They will say anything at this point."

###

CONTACT: Wayne Garcia, Amendment 4 Communications Director 813-468-1925

GET THE FACTS: Florida Hometown Democracy Amendment 4 adds one step to the existing land-use process: a citizen vote. Local city or county commissions will study, hold public hearings, and vote as usual on proposed changes to the local comprehensive land-use plan. If your local commission approves a plan change, you will veto or approve it on the next regularly scheduled Election Day. It's that simple. To get the truth about Yes on 4/Hometown Democracy, go to its website at [www.floridahometowndemocracy.com](http://www.floridahometowndemocracy.com).