

# COMMON SENSE;

ADDRESSED TO THE

## PEOPLE OF GREATER ST. LOUIS

“Society in every state is a blessing, but government even in its best state is but a necessary evil; in its worst state an intolerable one.”

*Thomas Paine, “Common Sense,” 1776*

Governments exist in America by the consent and direction of the people they govern. When a tiny percentage of the people participate in elections, our leaders are captive to minorities of activists either from the right or from the left. Over 70% of elected officials across the U.S. are effectively elected to office by winning primary elections where as little as 16% of the electorate participate. One of the goals of “Common Sense St. Louis” is to educate St. Louis regional voters that they have the power and ability to chart the course of their local governments.

Ensuring that local governments in St. Louis City, St. Louis County, St. Charles County and beyond are functioning in their “best states,” our effort will be to educate and inform regional voters about the issues, policies, and governmental actions that are either beneficial or detrimental to the people. Ours is a long-term effort with clear objectives and measurable results.

- Through education, increase voter participation in Primary Elections and General Elections.
- Educate the public about the actions of their governments through an ongoing information campaign utilizing traditional and digital communications methods.
- Create an environment that encourages Common Sense candidates to seek public office.

Common Sense lies in the wisdom of the many rather than the few. Governments that must be responsive to the broader interest of the community as a whole inevitably function more rationally in the mainstream of community consensus. Stronger political leadership will produce more efficient and effective government and, over time, identify leaders who can work collaboratively to provide basic services, tackle the growing regional crime problems, create a local environment favorable to economic growth and community contentment.

Join our effort to restore common sense leadership to the St. Louis region. When the people engage in selecting transformative leaders, real transformation will occur.