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High's Tom Smithgall contradicts Cooper Carry architects!

Architects Cooper Carry in three separate interviews maintained that the owner's representative instructed them not to separately meter the convention center and the hotel. Tom Smithgall and Mark Fitzgerald of the High Group were identified by name as instructing them.

NewsLanc asked to interview Smithgall concerning the reasons for combining the metering of the facilities. Here is his reply:

"I have returned from vacation and will ask the owners about their arrangements. When I get that, someone will likely respond. Thanks for your interest in our facility."

So the architects say they did what Smithgall told them to do, and he acts as though he doesn't know anything about it!

Will the publicly owned and subsidized CC again be shortchanged by Penn Square Partners?

Records show City and LNP behind surveillance program

The following information was submitted to *NewsLanc* by a reliable source:

"One of the active opponents of the cameras made an open records request to the City for all communications with LCSC. I don't think they delivered them all, but what we've found out is a bit surprising given the statements by the Mayor.

"253 cameras planned, not 165.

"Mayor's office has been deeply engaged in planning and decision-making .Mayor has asked

LCSC to review its policies given the recent media attention and concerns.

"The stated purpose of the cameras in a few of the docs? To make the city appear safe in time for the convention center.

"LNP [Lancaster Newspapers] provided a \$2 million no-interest loan."

No matter how noble the motivations, this is further indication of the need for legislation on the state or federal level to regulate and control surveillance programs.

CNN / TPM TV: The following are excerpts from a Lebanon, Pennsylvania town meeting with Sen. Arlen Specter. (*Editors note: The footage showed members of the audience verbally abusing U. S. Sen. Arlen Specter, as they have been doing to other senators and congressmen at public meetings across the country over the proposed health care legislation.*) [Continued on back]

WATCHDOG: For those of us who have studied history, this is scarily reminiscent of Germany in the late 1920's and early 1930's before Adolph Hitler became Chancellor. It also happened to Rome circa 100 BCE and lead ultimately to the demise of the Roman Republic.

LETTER: In defense of conduct at 'town meeting'

I read with interests your characterization of those you disagreed with regarding the health care debate – lunatic fringe.

Our Republic form of government, with our elected officials making decisions, means that citizens have zero direct power over laws that will greatly affect them.

The current wave of major laws being passed by congress since last fall have been breathtaking in terms of their staggering long term effect on the

citizens that must live with those decisions. Without exception, the bills passed by congress haven't even been read by the majority of people voting on them!...

Democracy is not clean. It's messy and the sloppiness is part of the process. Oh that we would have had some of that messiness with the convention center project. Instead we had the polite citizenry being led as sheep to the slaughter!

LETTER: In response to "In defense of conduct at 'town meeting'"

I would submit to you that the founders of this country preferred representative government because of exactly the kind of behavior that video depicts.

Perhaps you could enlighten us to which "major laws" you're referring? Presumably, you refer largely to the TARP financial rescue packages

and the bailouts. I think it's even more instructive to ponder what kind of "breathtaking" consequences there would have been had congress and the fed merely sat on their hands. Say, the possible collapse of the global financial system? At the very least, an extraordinarily severe and prolonged economic depression...

LETTER: Because they wanted it that way

[Concerning "**Tom Smithgall contradicts architects Cooper Carry**",] unless you have a video, Tom (and Mark, and Nevin, and Dale) will deny they had any hand in this foolish and shortsighted decision on behalf of taxpayers with their company...our "partner".

That said, the record of this project has shown that Penn Square Partners has been in control since day #1. They have demanded, cajoled, and imposed their will, at will on the LCCCA and the public. If there is only 1 meter, something that can only serve to benefit their "private" hotel operation, it is because they wanted it that way, period...end of story!

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