

What mandate? - Both Frank Mayhew's "Attitude - Denton Record-Chronicle (TX) - March 30, 2015 - page EDIT01

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Both Frank Mayhew's "Attitude adjustment" [DRC, 3-17] and Ed Soph's "Stand up for us" [DRC, 2-17] reverberate the common theme that the "People have spoken" through the **Denton** fracking ban, implying the vote represents a mandate.

Thus, the **Denton** fracking ban is the final word that trumps Texas law, the U.S. Constitution and the judicial process, and admonishes elected officials to rebuke their oath of office to uphold the Texas Constitution.

Frack Free Denton described the neighborhoods of Vintage and the Meadows at Hickory Creek (located in Precinct 4003) as the top reason to ban fracking in **Denton** because wells were drilled and fracked within 200 feet from homes there.

The election results showed a different consensus. Precinct 4003 voted against the ban by a 2-1 margin. The 1,794 votes against the ban as opposed to 952 votes for the ban represented the widest margin in the city.

Conversely, the largest support for the ban came from Precinct 4007, which includes part of the UNT campus. There, 1,452 voters supported the ban while only 347 opposed it. Wendy Davis won Precinct 4007 by a 3-1 margin but Gov. Greg Abbott carried **Denton** County by 30 points. This is a mandate?

Referendums should not be used to destroy representative government but to correct it when it becomes misrepresentative. Mayhew's and Soph's challenge that elected officials march in lock step with **Frack Free Denton** is akin to a tyrannical direct democracy, not a representative republic.

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