

Brooklet City Conflict of Interest Complaint

To: Lisa Tollison, City Clerk; City Manager; and Mayor
City of Brooklet, Georgia

Subject: Formal Complaint – Conflict of Interest Involving Councilman Brad Anderson and Supporting Council Members

Dear Ms. Tollison, City Manager, and Mayor,

I am submitting this formal complaint regarding a conflict of interest and ethical breaches tied to the September 18, 2025 Comprehensive Plan vote and subsequent actions.

Conflict of Interest – Councilman Brad Anderson

On September 18, 2025, the City of Brooklet voted 3–2 against adoption of the proposed Comprehensive Plan. The draft plan, developed through stakeholder meetings and professional planning guidance, did not designate the Highway 80 frontage where Councilman Anderson owns property as commercial.

Councilman Anderson owns **eight properties along Highway 80 within the tract located between the Brooklet Flower Shop and the Bulloch County Fire Station**. At this time, he has applied to rezone **one of those properties** from R-1 (Residential) to C-2 (Commercial). A rezoning sign has been posted on that lot confirming his active application.

This means the proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments and rezonings are not for broad community benefit but are narrowly focused on increasing the commercial potential and value of Councilman Anderson's personal holdings.

This creates two overlapping conflicts of interest:

1. Comprehensive Plan Conflict – By participating in deliberations and votes on the Comprehensive Plan amendment, Councilman Anderson stands to benefit from targeted changes affecting his eight properties. Under O.C.G.A. § 36-67A, such participation requires written disclosure, recusal, and non-involvement.
2. Rezoning Conflict – Anderson is simultaneously the applicant in a rezoning case involving one of his eight properties. This dual role as applicant and voting councilmember is a textbook conflict under O.C.G.A. § 36-67A and the Brooklet City Charter.

Because his rezoning application was filed before the September 18 vote, his financial interest was active at the time of the meeting. Any participation by him renders the vote voidable under Georgia law and subject to challenge in Bulloch County Superior Court.

Ethical Breach – Supporting Council Members

Although Councilman Anderson holds the direct conflict, it must also be noted that two other councilmembers voted with him on September 18, 2025 to block adoption of the Comprehensive Plan. By supporting an effort to delay adoption solely to reclassify property owned by one of their colleagues, these members have engaged in conduct that:

- Creates the appearance of collusion,
- Breaches their duty to uphold the stakeholder-driven planning process,
- Violates Brooklet's obligations as a Certified City of Ethics, which require avoidance of even the appearance of impropriety.

Requested Action

I respectfully request that the City:

1. Formally acknowledge that Councilman Anderson's conflicts of interest exist;
2. Declare the September 18 Comprehensive Plan vote null and void due to his participation;
3. Require Councilman Anderson to file written disclosure of his property interests and recuse himself from all deliberations and votes related to the Comprehensive Plan and his rezoning application;
4. Initiate an ethics review of the two supporting councilmembers for undermining the integrity of the process;
5. Take corrective action to restore public trust in Brooklet's government.

Call for Resignation

Councilman Anderson's actions — filing a rezoning application for one of his eight Highway 80 properties before the September 18 Comprehensive Plan vote, while simultaneously participating in decisions affecting those properties — represent a fundamental breach of public trust.

For these reasons, I respectfully call for Councilman Anderson's immediate resignation from the Brooklet City Council. His continued service undermines the credibility of this governing body and violates the principles of integrity, transparency, and accountability required of a Certified City of Ethics.

Sincerely,

Becki Hodges
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Brooklet, GA 30415
912-531-4598 / behodges1952@gmail.com

Enclosure:

1. Brooklet Character Areas Map (circled tract noting Anderson's eight properties between Brooklet Flower Shop and Fire Station)

Complainant:
Becki Hodges

Witness:
[Signature]

Lisa Tollison
City of Brooklet
Municipal Court Clerk

