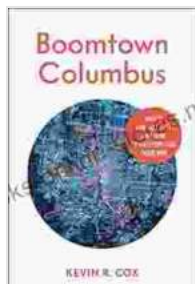


The Sunbelt City That Developers Built: How They Got Their Way in Ohio



Boomtown Columbus: Ohio's Sunbelt City and How Developers Got Their Way by Kevin R. Cox

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 3634 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 274 pages



In the early 2000s, the city of Sunbelt, Ohio, was a sleepy town with a population of just over 10,000 people. But all that changed when a group of developers came to town with plans to build a massive new development on the outskirts of the city.

The developers promised that their project would bring jobs and economic growth to Sunbelt. They said that the new development would include a mix of residential, commercial, and industrial space, and that it would create thousands of new jobs.

The city council was eager to believe the developers' promises. They approved the development plans without much scrutiny, and soon construction was underway.

But the developers' promises turned out to be empty. The new development did not bring the promised jobs or economic growth. In fact, it actually made things worse for Sunbelt.

The new development was built on land that was not suitable for development. The soil was unstable, and the drainage was poor. As a result, the new homes and businesses were constantly flooding.

The flooding also caused damage to the city's infrastructure. Roads and bridges were washed out, and the city's water supply was contaminated.

The developers were supposed to pay for the cost of repairing the damage, but they refused to do so. They said that the city was responsible for the damage, because it had approved the development plans.

The city was forced to sue the developers. The lawsuit lasted for years, and the city eventually won. But by that time, the damage had been done.

Sunbelt is now a cautionary tale of unchecked growth. The city's leaders were too eager to believe the promises of developers, and they failed to do their due diligence.

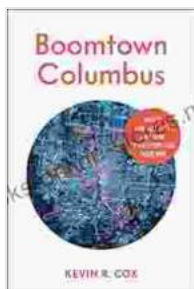
As a result, the city is now facing a number of serious problems, including flooding, infrastructure damage, and economic decline.

The story of Sunbelt is a reminder that growth is not always a good thing. When growth is unchecked, it can have devastating consequences for a community.

Here are some of the lessons that can be learned from the story of Sunbelt:

- Don't believe everything that developers tell you.
- Do your own research before approving development plans.
- Make sure that developers are held accountable for their promises.
- Don't let growth get out of control.

If you are a city leader, it is important to keep these lessons in mind. Unchecked growth can be a dangerous thing, and it is important to take steps to protect your community.



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