

# Declaration of Dependence: Marshall Brown

1. This declaration is a civic charter.
2. The city is a micro-region. Micro-regions do not create false divisions between downtown, suburb, and countryside. Micro-regions are constellations.
3. Micro-regional territories are flexible. The movements and desires of citizens produce geography. Geographic evolution is necessary over time.
4. The micro-region is a site of common struggle among all citizens. Each becomes many when I surrender to US.
5. The law of the chimera: Mine must contribute to ours. Citizens are a collective and collegial body. Progress is a right of citizenship that accrues mutual benefits. The collective is both one and many—a superorganism.
6. A genuinely independent society forms through laws and practices of spatial solidarity.
7. Land resources will be cultivated and secured by collective stewardship. Ownership is secondary and temporary. Quality holds more value than quantity. Land speculation and zoning are prohibited. No more dividing into parts. We need wholes.
8. Nature is an inescapable myth of human creation which can neither be conquered nor destroyed.
9. Two centuries of urban planning have failed because urbanism is not a problem to be solved. This charter rejects all reductionist practices, ideologies, and systems based on solutions. The complexity of urban reality is irreducible. Uncertainty is inevitable because change is constant. Therefore we renounce control and commence negotiation. Transformation is a horizon.
10. This journey forward is also a renewal of the American space, time, and territory. In this new country, movements will be unpredictable, ambitions unlimited, and futures undetermined.

