

**Subject:** Proposed New Hill Waste Water Treatment Plant

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**Date:** Mon, 19 May 2008 13:59:34 -0500

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Dear Council Members,

Attached, please find the davisndhighhouse.org's (DHH) position on the proposed site for the New Hill Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Briefly, we believe that continuing to try to force this site on the New Hill Community will cost taxpayers more money in the long run than immediately selecting a better site. Expenses are already way beyond budget because of delays. Thus, we feel that it is more fiscally responsible to start planning on a new site, and using Cary's influence on our neighboring municipalities to do the same, as soon as possible.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Respectfully yours.

Karl Thor on behalf of DHH

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Dear Council Members;

Davisandhighhouse.org (DHH) recognized that irresponsible growth is a regional problem that requires regional solutions. Therefore, we formed a “Regional Outreach Committee” to recruit additional members, organizations, and politicians to learn more about regional growth and help achieve our goals.

In discussions with elected government officials from Chatham Co., Apex, and Cary, the proposal to locate a Water Treatment Facility (Sewage Facility) in New Hill, NC, was repeatedly, independently, and without solicitation raised as an example of an “irresponsible growth” issue that DHH should address. Our review of the issue supports their suggestion.

Therefore, DHH respectfully requests that you review this issue (background information assembled by New Hill Community Association [NHCA] is available if you would like to receive it) and asks you to provide us with your opinions on the proposed Water Treatment Facility (Sewage Facility) location in New Hill, NC for the following reasons:

1. The composition of the Cary Town Council is substantially different from when the New Hill location was originally proposed.
2. Some council members felt that the 2005 process for site selection was “rushed” by Mayor McAlister to meet an arbitrary deadline.
3. The NHCA has provided DHH with compelling and abundant evidence that the New Hill location is a poor choice.
4. Interviews with current and former members of Cary Town Council, Apex Town Council, and Chatham County Board of Commissioners; as well as reviews of associated Apex and Cary meeting minutes tend to corroborate the NHCA position.
5. The Independent Weekly contacted DHH in regards to a story it is writing on the issue.
6. Concerns about the rights of minorities that are raised by NHCA members and other non-Cary government officials, if true, would tarnish the entire Research Triangle’s and, especially, Cary’s (and presumably Holly Springs, Apex, and Morrisville) reputations. In light of related issues concerning Evans Road widening and the NC Triangle Parkway Kitts Creek Connector issue in Morrisville, a perception of insensitivity for original, less privileged, minority residents’ rights for the benefit of growth-related prosperity for the more privileged, would be difficult to deny. There seems to be a trend here of minorities suffering to make this the #1 place to live and do business.
7. The project has already exceeded proposed costs by a substantial amount (50%?), in part due to delays in starting, which will only be exacerbated if indeed there is merit to NHCA concerns that would cause a re-location of the site at a later time. (In other words, if New Hill is a poor site, we are

financially better off selecting a different site now as opposed to fighting for a couple years.)

The current estimates of an increase in cost if we choose today to move the site are about \$3 MM. Since this would not produce a noticeable increase in Cary residents' water / sewage fees, we feel that our residents are willing to pay an extra dollar or 2 to do "what's right by our neighbors". The alternative, continuing to fight residents' justified opposition, is likely to cost Cary residents substantially more.

Thank you again for your time and consideration.

Respectfully yours,  
Karl Thor  
DavisandHighHouse.org

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